

# Minutes of Marr College Parent Council Forum Meeting



**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

**Present** – Hilary Ramage – Chair/Secretary, Timothy Wight - Vice Chair, Kate Dunn - Treasurer, Graeme Hobson – DHT, Fiona Young – PT of Student Support, Moyra Elliot – PT of Literacy and Katherine Woodhouse - Minute Secretary

**Council Members** – Ady Allan, Clair Milne, Julie Cotter, Kaye Matthews, Lindsay Campbell, Lisa Anderson, Cllr Peter Convery and Cllr Bob Pollock

**Forum Members** – Nicky Penman

**Apologies** – Elaine McGregor-Sloman, Jackie Harvey, Karen Dunlop, Katie Atkinson, Mark Fitzpatrick, Shona Elder and Cllr Craig MacKay

	Action
1. <b>Welcome and Apologies</b> Hilary welcomed those in attendance and apologies were noted from those unable to attend.	
2. <b>Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising</b> The minutes of the meeting of 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 had been issued however, due to time constraints, were not officially approved. This will be dealt with at the next meeting.  <u>Matters Arising</u> <b>Sec 1 – Tour of New Building</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>RA to provide feedback regarding lighting of outside signage.</li></ul> <b>Sec 5 – Head Teacher's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>EMS to update on research into MCR Pathways.</li><li>Duncan has purchased 30 copies of the book "The art of being a brilliant teenager" at a cost of £240.</li></ul> <b>Sec 6 – AOCB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hilary to contact Carol Pritchard to arrange a meeting with Elaine to discuss funds that may be available to the school.</li></ul>	HR RA EMS HR
3. <b>Captains' Report</b> Graeme reported that as the Captains had attended Troon Community Council's meeting on Tuesday night, he had advised them that they could be excused from the Parent Council Meeting. As the Parent Council has only met one of the Captains so far, Hilary suggested it would be beneficial if they could attend the December meeting. The Parent Council is keen to assist them in any fundraising activities so it would be helpful if they could provide information on their plans.	GH
4. <b>Inclusive Education – Fiona Young &amp; Moyra Elliot</b> Fiona introduced herself as PT of Student Support and gave an overview of her experience in this field. Moyra introduced herself having recently taken up an acting post as PT of Literacy; however she has been at Marr for 18 years in a pupil support capacity. They gave a presentation on the definition of dyslexia and the school's approach to inclusive education. Some of the key points were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In 2013 a referral form from staff and parents was introduced. Upon receipt of this form the student support team collaborated and decided what the next steps would be then informed the student, parent and the person who had made the referral. They put together a student assessment profile – this process could take up to 10 weeks to gather evidence and decide whether the student needed support. Results were discussed and feedback given to the relevant people.</li><li>Currently using the same referral process, however the Guidance team and support</li></ul>	

<p>for learning have pooled resources to form the Student Support and Development team (SSDT).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Ayrshire assessments framework went live this year which includes many of the same assessments only on a bigger scale.</li> <li>• Students identified with barriers are placed on appropriate level of Stage 1 intervention. Information is shared with all parties and appropriate classroom strategies are suggested. Assessments are reviewed as these students should be capable of achieving national standards but have a need that stops them from accessing a qualification at the required level. Fiona works closely with staff to enable them to assist with access. The assessment process starts in primary school. Assessment arrangements are tailored to meet an individual's need therefore change for each person, however should reflect their normal way of learning and producing work.</li> <li>• A website called 'addressing dyslexia toolkit' is the first port of call for staff. A new website launching on 9<sup>th</sup> November called 'dyslexia unwrapped' is available for children and young people aged 8+. Hilary advised she would share this information on the Parent Council Twitter page.</li> <li>• Dyslexia Friendly schools in South Ayrshire – this term is being re-branded as "Inclusive Practice". Marr is going to embark on a journey to achieve the Bronze accreditation. However this does not mean that those schools that do not have the accreditation and award are not dyslexia friendly.</li> <li>• Next week is dyslexia awareness week and all staff will be wearing a blue ribbon to mark this. Staff will be focusing on some selected inclusive practice techniques.</li> </ul> <p>If anyone has any questions Fiona would be happy to address them and can be contacted at the school by e-mail or phone.</p>	HR
<p><b>5. Head Teacher's Report</b></p> <p>Graeme had a copy of Elaine's written report but was unable to discuss this due to time constraints. He will forward a copy to Hilary for circulation. Hilary asked if this could be provided in advance of the meeting in future so that it can be digested and any particular issues discussed at the meeting.</p>	HR EMS
<p><b>6. Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm. Graeme confirmed that 2 members of staff would be in attendance to talk about the school show.</p>	