

Speyside Parent Council Meeting

Monday 22nd January 2024

Attendees

Patricia Goodbrand (Headteacher), Victoria Pickup, Julie Oyarzabal, Charlotte Kirkbride, Eve Montgomerie, Esther Burns, Miriam Loughran, Jane Clayton, Sarah Packham, Janice Gordon.

Apologies: Marc McWhirter (Deputy headteacher), Rob Montgomerie, Laura Ford.

Agenda

- Minutes from previous meeting - review and actions
- Headteacher update
- Parental/Parent Council Forum
 - School texting service costs and discussions
 - Breakfast club and lunch provisions
 - Parental and pupil involvement/ideas
 - PR, website & promotion of parent council
 - S5/S6 study leave query
 - Christmas dance feedback and query from S2/S3
- Fundraising plans and requests
- Finance update
- AOCB
- Date of Next Meeting

Minutes

- **Headteacher Update**
- **School texting service costs** - Mrs Goodbrand had no further update on this matter. Carried forward until next time. **(PG)**
- **Breakfast Club and Lunch Provisions** - Due to the fact that some pupils arrive late to school - particularly those on the Rothes bus - the possibility of grab bags, to ensure all students can still access a nutritious breakfast, was discussed. Any grab bags not taken at breakfast, could be placed within the Wellbeing Hub for easy access - after discussion with Sarah Thornhill. **(VP)**

- Discussions around whether pupils feel they have a safe place to eat their lunch, and if they felt comfortable accessing the facilities within the Wellbeing Hub, so it was agreed that it would be worth speaking to Sarah Thornhill to see what she thinks on the matter.

(VP)

- Charlotte and Marc McWhirter will arrange a date to discuss whether the food on offer is as nutritious as possible, and how to implement healthier choices for pupils, as this can have a significant impact on focus and behaviour. *(Date for this meeting now set for Monday 4th March at 2pm)* **(CK to feedback after meeting)**

- **Parental and Pupil Involvement** - To raise awareness of the parent council, it was agreed that there should be a couple of members of the council at a stand, for the P7 transition evening on Wednesday 13/3. **(VP, CK & JG)**

- **PR, Website and promo of Parent Council** - Everyone agreed that it was important to promote the parent council to pupils and parents to ensure that they understand the role that it plays within the school, and to highlight the benefits to all.

- Victoria raised the suggestion that it would be good to ensure that the parent council have a very visible presence at any school event, and it was agreed that she look into arranging some promotional materials. **(VP)**

- It was agreed by all to change the name of the group from the Parent Council to the Parent Partnership, to appear less formal.

- Discussion on the possibility of creating a Parent Council Facebook page to encourage parental involvement, however it was decided that it would be a better idea to use the school's own Facebook page to promote the council.

- A subgroup to decide on the wording for the promotional material was agreed. All agreed that it should be made clear that the parent council have paid for various things, such as; P7 ties, yearbooks, gardening club etc. so that people understand what they can approach the council for. **(EM & EB)**

- Promotional flyers and funding request forms to be created, and placed around the school, and mentioned within the pupil brief. **(EM & EB)**

- **S5/S6 leave query** - The question of why there were a couple of exams prior to the official study was raised, and Mrs Goodbrand said that this was due to being unable to fit all the exams into the two week period of study leave.

- **S2/S3 Christmas Dance feedback** - Feedback from S2 & S3 pupils that they would prefer their Christmas dance to take place in the evening, to make it feel more special. Mrs Goodbrand was very much of the opinion that it would be unfair to expect the staff to supervise another school event, when they lead busy lives too.
- **Fundraising Plans and Requests** - no new requests for funding.
- Discussion around keeping the application process as simple and accessible as possible, so it was agreed that pupils should submit their requests to the school office, and these would be passed on to the parent council for consideration - ahead of any meeting.
- Agreed that no more than one fundraising event should be held per term. Esther advised that there was pupil doing their Duke of Edinburgh, that may be interested in helping us to host a quiz to raise funds for future outings/trips. It was agreed by all that this would be arranged for sometime before the summer holiday. **(EB & all - with a possibility of creating a fund-raising subgroup)**
- It was also discussed whether or not parent council could have a strand or a focus of fundraising, specifically for school outings and trips. For further discussion, it would be helpful ahead of the next meeting to gain understanding on SHS and Moray Council's stance on this matter, in light of the cost of living. **(PG)**
- Fundraising matching from William Grant and Sons distillery to be investigated **(CK)** with discussions around applying for funding through Paul's Hill wind farm money.
- Meeting to discuss all fundraising matters - and the possibility of creating a fund-raising sub group moving forward - arranged for 21st March. **(ALL)**
- **Finances** - Rob and Eve to liaise with the bank to set up a new parent council bank account. **(EM & RM)**

AOCB -

- **Action items highlighted throughout.**

Next Meetings

- Thursday 21st March at 7pm - Parent Partnership Fundraising meeting
- Wednesday 8th May - next Parent Partnership meeting

