

Stirling High School
Parent Council Meeting 24th January 2017

1. Apologies: FS, JM, MF, GO'M
2. Present: PL, PC, IW, AH, SP, RN, FA, WP, CH, HG, Azam
3. Discussion of the minutes from meeting on 15/11/16
 - PL asked IW re the Winter Fete. Profit = £831 -> Innovation Hub. Great atmosphere at the fete and agreed that there should be an annual Summer and Winter Fete. Having Enterprise Teams from other schools present worked well. Primary Cluster Schools could be involved in the Summer Fete. Second hand book stall, ice-cream stall and the café all did well too. There was a real sense of community as well as SHS YP having positive experiences of leadership opportunities.
 - FA, IW and RN discussed a link with volunteering opportunities for DoE with the Thistle Centre...beehives on the roof of the TC. IW suggested an event in the TC attended by store managers served by YP from SHS. By next meeting IW hoping to have idea from TC re Key Drivers. It was noted that Waitrose is a good employer of YP from SHS. Minutes agreed.
4. Funds – £1166.95 PL shared that he had received a cheque for £20 from Easyfundraising
5. Head teacher's Report
 - 3G pitch to be installed where current pitch is during the summer at a cost of £200k, huge investment. Community use in the evening for training.
 - Stirling City Deal – a short video was shared, this is now 'live' for the public to view. The City Deal offers prosperity to an economically stagnating Stirling. Tartan Centre, Digital Companies will operate from the Digital Hub – 4 GB City in Britain.
 - Councils' investment will cascade into many great opportunities for YP.
 - Curriculum Rationale – this was shared and will be available to view on the school website and Twitter. Parent/carer consultation and comments sought.
 - RN said that reading the CR helped him understand. Schools duty bound to publish a CR.
 - FA suggested that links could be made between the CR and the City Deal.
 - S4 and S1 Parent's Evenings had recently taken place. AH helps complete Parental Surveys. Parental comments are attended to by SLT.
 - Parental Engagement - How can SHS engage with parents who don't want to come to Parent's Evenings? Some YP are involved in enhanced transition where there are barriers to learning. Plan to meet with the parents of current P7 pupils in cluster primary Schools.
 - Pupil Equity Fund – PEF, the Government has pledged £120 million of additional funding to help close the poverty related attainment gap. The amount each school receives is dependent on the % of free meals; it equates to £1200 per pupil. PC to attend a meeting on 9th February to find out how much money SHS will receive and some ideas about what it has to be spent on.
 - PC already has an idea of employing an additional DHT of Pupil Support to help raise attainment/close the gap. This will involve home/school liaison, a range of different supports to ensure those YP from the poorest backgrounds are equipped for school to be ready to learn. Government is serious about closing the poverty related attainment gap. RN highlighted that the distribution of Chromebooks to all YP in S1 was a good example of equity. These funds land in the new financial year in April. There will be great financial accountability linked to the impact of the PEF with HTs having to report on how the money has been spent.
 - CH asked about the impact of the Chromebooks. AH shared anecdotal evidence that it encourages YP to take responsibility for their learning, good balance between use of

Chromebooks and paper/pencil. Chromebooks being used in school for classwork and homework. Already seeing the impact in an increased confidence in using digital technology. Plan is for S1 pupils in 2017-18 to receive Chromebooks also. AH shared that use of Chromebooks in S1 has freed up ICT devices to older pupils who are all accessing Google classroom.

- Senior Prizegiving – see attached appendix from AH. Move from April to September. Will provide more rigour using SQA Exams = definitive result. RN suggested that YP could share their destinations. Use of social media to help celebrate success.
 - Junior Prizegiving – 6th June. Certificates of Excellence (Top Pupil), Merits, Commendations (Effort throughout the year). Colour nominations now open and closing on 14th April.
6. Head Boy/Head Girl – not present due to prelim exams.
 7. Pupil Council – not on during prelim exams.
 8. Parent Council
 - PL shared some local Parent Council events.
 - Parental Engagement Strategy – Judy Edwards looking for parent volunteers.
 9. AOCB – Concern was raised generally about dog walkers using the grounds to exercise their dogs and the issue of dog waste. PC highlighted that SHS is an open campus and dog walkers can't really be stopped from using the playing field. SHS has links with Torbrex Community Council and opportunities to liaise with the community around a litter/waste pick could be arranged. Plans to introduce a Breakfast Club have been raised by the Parental Engagement Group.
 10. DONM – Tuesday 28th February at 7pm