

# Parent Council Meeting

**Location:** Earlston High School

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Meeting Commenced:** 7:00pm

**Time Adjourned:** 8:25pm

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Alice MacBrayne- Head Team	Catherine
Jacqui Millar	Susan Currie
Robert Millar	Siobhan Dawson
Annie Jones	Fiona Donaldson
Annabel Howell	Kate Farnsworth
Fay Lockie	Kath Lothian
Heather Thores	Stuart Macpherson
Gordon Craig	Pooee Pitman
Kate Richards	Dean Sewell
Ninian Grant- Head Team	Karen Wexelstein
Judith Bunton	
Damian Hayes	
Louise Cox	
Shaad Mehdi	
Lynne Morgan-Hastie	
Allan Dawson	
Anne Duguid	
Laura Anderson	
Justin Sinclair	
Ruth Magowan	

# **Headteachers' Report**

## **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- Parent Voice survey
  - 225 Parent responses
  - Hope for more responses 300-400 responses
  - Parents are unhappy with the time and quantity of parent's evenings
  - It would be useful for the parent council to talk more in-depth of responses
  - Look and compare from responses of previous survey
  - The questions are too generalised e.g. does that include ALL staff
  - Responses are broken down by year group
  - This would be a good exercise to run every year
  - What is the use of some of the questions?
  - Explain in detail what the question means
    - Help to reduce 'Don't know' responses
  - Some questions could only be answered from a pupil's' view
- 5 S5 and 10 S3 history ambassadors
- S1-S6 input in pupil parliament is spectacular
- Create a culture of staff leadership
  - Teachers are taking responsibility for school improvement
- We are managing to offer an array of extra-curricular activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh, sporting and the school show
- 'Nonsense' that we only believe in grades- we are passionate about the development of the whole child
- Continue plans for 2017-18 into 2019
- Attainment for ALL
  - Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap
  - Quality Improvement Awards Winner 2018
- Increased Leadership Opportunities
  - Pupil Ambassadors/Pupil Parliament
  - Staff leadership and development
- Achievement for ALL
- Focus on Wellbeing –
  - Growing in Confidence/See Me/Humanutopia Heroes

## **Action(s) to be taken**

- Add parent voice to next meeting's agenda
- Encourage parent responses at parent evenings
- Compare responses with responses next year
- Send out survey responses in December

# **Chairs' Report**

## **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- Raising teens with confidence
  - Was fun and interactive
  - Tanks to Scott and all the teams
- Great burns supper last year
  - Well attended
  - Shaad organised the burns supper last year
- Fundraising around mini-bus focus
  - Application was left open last minute
  - The funds are non-transferable
  - The decision was made to withdraw application
  - Thanks to Allan for all his hard work
  - Support Community council in the future
  - Try funding our own mini-bus with no strings attached
- Whether to split the parent council back into two groups, fundraising and the main parent council
- Swap shop
  - Good response
  - Organising the swap shop once a term would be great
- The transport meeting which was organised was very useful
  - Thanks to all contributions
- Thanks to the senior management team
  - Hope to continue relationship to better the school
- Thanks to the whole committee for their contributions throughout the year
- Fashion show
  - Selling tickets was a struggle, this may have been due to the day, as Thursdays are busy
  - Raised £630
    - £315 for the Doddie Weir foundation
    - £315 for the parent council
- Organise more events for the future

## **Action(s) to be taken**

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## **Treasurers' Report**

### **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- One event over the year
  - Burns supper
- Balance £6402.97
- Good to have a few more events
- Only the fashion show to be added to the account

### **Action(s) to be taken**

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# **Burns' Night**

## **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- Make two group decision now
- 4 people are interested in the fundraising group
  - Recruit from wider parent body if needed
- Is there an expectation for staff or senior management to attend fundraising group?
  - Head team to represent charities committee
- Initial co-ordinator to be Fay Lockie
- The rest of attendees are interested to take part in the main parent council body
- Not to change the calendar date
- It was a struggle last year to get tickets sold
- Change the night a bit by removing some traditional elements, but keeping the most important ones
- The night has been open to all
- Mr Haywood's band
  - Or we could use the speaker systems
    - This would keep ticket prices down
  - Or the music could be provided by the school folk band
    - Some may miss out on the rest of the night
      - Volunteers could play a part at the start, to welcome people
- Timings
  - 7-9pm then a break then to 10pm with 20-minute spill over for clean up
- ceilidh **with** supper rather than ceilidh supper may attract more attendees
- There are a few staff attending the night
- We could provide sandwiches as they are cheap
- In previous years there has been a lot of haggis waste
- To get invites out
- To target S4's as well?
- Sell tickets with Christmas dance tickets to encourage people to attend
- Self-service?
- £8 and £5 ticket price guidelines

## **Action(s) to be taken**

- Fundraising to be a standing issue on the agenda
- The head team to arrange a date to meet and sell tickets ASAP
- Start advertising
- Use current ticket template
- Interested in helping burns night
  - Fay Lockie
  - Ruth Magowan
  - Lynne Morgan-Hastie and her husband
  - Kate Richards

## **Election of Office Bearers**

### **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- Annabel Howell nominated as Chair
  - Everyone is happy for Annabel to be nominated Chair
- Allan Dawson and Gordon Craig nominated as Vice-chair
  - Allan not interested in Chair position
- Fay Lockie nominated as Treasurer

### **Action(s) to be taken**

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## **AOCB**

### **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- 'Respect is in action'
- Advertise the parent council swap shop at the first parents evening
  - Next parent's evenings are
    - 29<sup>th</sup> November
    - 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Keep lost property for swap shop rather than give it away
- Swap at the swap shop for something similar or a contribution
- Encourage parents to send in to the office; Study guides and uniforms for the parent council to collect and recycle
- To have a swap shop banner would be £35
  - S3s or S4s could design one
- S6 study suite
  - Slightly 'drab'
  - Looking for funding to decorate
  - No more than £100-£150
  - Located above the library
  - Nice idea to be student led
  - Everyone is happy with this idea
- Talk more about poverty proofing
- Heather Thores appointed head of poverty proofing
  - "will have legs"
  - We want to get it right
  - Wording needs to be important to convey an important image
  - Talk to young people about their thoughts and ideas

### **Action(s) to be taken**

- Provide before and after pictures of the study suite
- Invite PC Ballantyne to next meeting

## **Date for Next Meeting(s)**

### **Ideas- thoughts -main points**

- December is 'mad'
- Correspond remotely if needed
- January 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 is next meeting

### **Action(s) to be taken**

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