

Earlson High School Parent Council — Minutes of Meeting on 23rd November 2023

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Taken as read and approved

2. Volunteer for minutes of this meeting

The Head Team agreed to take minutes.

3. Election of vacant offices

Lynne Maclure volunteered to act as treasurer. Unanimously approved.

4. Head teacher update

Mrs McDonald gave an update on school matters:

- Staffing - interviews for new EHS head teacher
 - panel to include two parent council members, councilors and education officers
 - chaired by Mr Sinclair
- Staffing - other positions
 - New maths teacher
 - 2 attendance/pupil support officers joining the school
 - New chemistry teacher
 - School fully staffed except for one maths post although the timetable is being covered by current Maths staff and the post will be readvertised for next session.
- Query about the Celebration of Success photos. It was agreed that these would be reposted.

5. Head team presentation

Niamh, Sam and Darcy from the Head Team presented on what has been happening in the school and some future plans including:

- The Head Team conference
- Media Committee
- House events
- Staff coffee morning
- S6 uniform
- Prefects
- Faculty Ambassadors
- Christmas activities
- Future S6 events
- S3 trips

The Head Team then proposed a traditional Burns Supper and asked the PC for support in organisation. There was strong support to renew social activities including parents, staff, pupils and community, and interest in a Burns Supper, but practical difficulties for that including a shortage of volunteers and time was noted, particularly with Christmas and pupil exams. It was agreed PC members and head team pupils would discuss

off-line if time permits. It was recommended that if time permits Mr Woodcock should be asked to do a reading.

6. Anti-bullying policy

New anti-bullying material from SBC was shared. The school is looking to update their material including parental views. The following topics were raised:

- Reluctance for people to come forward due to stigma — email suggested as a potential solution
- Usage of CCTV
- Role and involvement of police
- Confidentiality of repercussions and consequences — means complainants may not realize what actions are being taken
- Request to understand current policy and what is changing in this update
- Request to understand current views of students and staff
- The school has compiled the Glasgow “Wellbeing” survey; it was suggested that this could be a useful starting point to inform the discussion on this topic at a future meeting
- Request to gather parent/guardian views for the school’s Anti-Bullying statement at the next meeting

7. AOB

- Suggested the PC could fund “thank you” Christmas gifts for staff. PC in unanimous agreement.
- Requests from pupils for more support with university and job interviews, and career progression more generally. PC to consider a subgroup to support these activities.
- Discussion of topics or activities the PC would like to focus on
 - Wellbeing and safety at EHS, including Glasgow Wellbeing survey
 - Course selection and pathways — possible presentation for subsequent meeting, including how the numbers of courses pupils take in different years might be changing
 - Interest in EHS staff perspectives on how the PC can be most helpful. Interest in new HT views of priorities

Next meeting: Wednesday 31st January, at the school and on-line.