

## Minutes Culloden Academy Parent Council

Tuesday 18th November 2014 – 7.00pm

Venue – Culloden Academy - Staff Room

### Present

Dr Vance – Head Teacher  
Mary MacFarlane - Chair Person  
Jan McCormack – CAPC Secretary  
Mairi Stewart – CAPC Treasurer  
Carol Piper – Parent Member  
Jill Robertson – Parent Member  
Helen MacDonald - Parent Member  
Caroline Campbell - Parent Member  
Jane Gill - Parent Member  
Gillian Spalding – Parent Member  
Evelyn Gray – Parent Member  
Mandy Woods - Parent Member

### Apologies

Jillian Walker- CAPC Vice Chairperson, Martyn Crawshaw - Parent Member,  
Kim Macdonald - Parent, Liz Green - Parent, Karen Philip,

### Welcome

Mary MacFarlane welcomed everyone to CAPC Meeting. Special thanks were conveyed to Lynne Fraser- Active Schools Coordinator – who had come along to inform the parents about her role in the school.

### Active Schools Coordinator Presentation

Lynne Fraser gave an in depth presentation on her role as Active Schools Coordinator and how she hopes to encourage more young people to be involved in taking part and promoting physical activity opportunities for Culloden Academy and the six feeder Primary Schools.

Lynne is looking to introduce a wide range of initiatives including a Sports Committee, Sports Awards, Sports Leaders, Parent Active School volunteers/support coaches, funding and encouraging external clubs to participate in the school. In order to find out more about these opportunities parents are encouraged to look at the Culloden Active Schools Facebook pages and contact Lynne on Lynne Fraser telephone 07795825603 or email [Lynne.Fraser@highlifehighland.com](mailto:Lynne.Fraser@highlifehighland.com)

Ideas from parent members included the organization of a Sports taster event to be organized by the Parent Council in conjunction with Lynne

### Head Teacher Report

Dr Vance informed the Parent Council that the annual Standards and Quality report was now available on the Culloden Academy website. Dr Vance referred parents to page 3 of the report which gave details of attainment for S4 to S6 pupils for 2014. Overall the results were an improvement on the previous year and described as a good solid performance.

### Budget

Dr Vance explained that it was expected that budget restraints would have a real impact over the next few years. Subjects with low uptake and or low success rates are liable to be dropped. At present there is not enough information from Highland Council to have a clear picture of the impact of the budget restrictions for the school, but Dr Vance is working with a range of people to receive the required information.

There was real concern from parents regarding the cut backs and discussions included restricted course choice at Higher and Advanced Higher and children taking courses at National 5 level, without the knowledge that they would be able to continue these qualifications, at the school, at Higher and Advanced Higher.

Dr Vance informed the parents that a range of discussions were taking place, including, with Highland Councillors and other schools to try and identify opportunities for providing our children with as wide a subject choice and prospects as possible.

### Study Leave

Study leave is to be re - evaluated in order to correspond with the new National Examinations.

### Staffing Changes

Dr Vance informed the Parent Council that Depute Tina Stones has taken up an Acting Head Teaching opportunity, which may become permanent. Robert Johnstone is to cover her Depute position at the school. Barbara Hanning from the Technology Department has also moved on. Vacant positions will be filled as soon as possible.

### Chair Person Report

Mary informed the Parent Council that all surveys completed for the Budget Consultation had been received and contained a good mix of views and comments. Every comment made by parents in their surveys has been included in the Chairperson survey report and sent to Highland Council. The surveys will now be assessed and included in the forthcoming budget discussions.

Mary asked parents to explore the idea of setting up a reserve to support educational projects that may be at risk due to budget restraints. It was decided that the money raised from the last Burns Night - £606.73 would now be set aside for such a fund. Discussions on how this fund would be used will be ongoing, however it was envisaged that the Parent Council would consider bids from Departments for the funding of trips and wider achievement opportunities such as the John Muir Award.

Parents discussed increasing their fundraising events from one to possibly three. Ideas included an ongoing raffle to be picked at Sports Day, ragbag bins, ink cartridge collections and parents organising an end of Summer term Showcase Event where pupils could showcase and promote the work they had compiled over the year. Fund-raising ideas to be communicated around the group by email prior to next meeting.

Parent Council Chairs Conference - Although unable to attend this year, notes have been requested and ideas will be shared.

Funding for Parent Council funds has now been processed. £1100.00 is to be transferred to the Parent Council fund.

### Burns Night Update

Carol and Evelyn were able to update the Parent Council, in Jillian's absence. More members were requested to help organise the event and also to be helping hands on the night. Email Jan (freindsofca@live.co.uk) if you are able to help and she will forward your emails onto Jillian.

To be advertised as a Burns Night Supper and Ceilidh

Date - Saturday 31st January

Catering - School catering staff have been invited to cater for the event.

Performance of poems - English and Drama Department to be approached to suggest pupils who would be able to help at the event. A parent is required to coordinate and support the pupils.

License has been applied for and received.

Head Boy and Girl to be approached to do the speeches.

Piping Club have agreed to support the evening.

Raffle prizes – never too early to start asking

Meeting Ended 8.30pm

NEXT MEETING:

## Monday 12 January 2015