

Culloden Academy Parent Council Minutes

4th November 2015

Staff room

7pm

Agenda Item		Action
Welcome and apologies	Present: Caroline Campbell, Liz Green, James Vance, Martyn Crawshaw, Mary Macfarlane, Karen Dowling, Carol Piper, Mairi Stewart, Gillian Spalding, Reuben Green (pupil)	
	Apologies: Jane Gill, Liz Stuart, Jill Robertson, Jan McCormack, Jillian Walker, Kate Stephen, Steven Robertson, Helen Macdonald	
School Report	<p><u>Staffing.</u> Emma Weir joined us on Monday, Scott Allan and Vikki Forrester last week. DHT vacancy to be filled asap. Recent meeting confirmed that despite 1.8 FTE savings, we will be required to further reduce next session. Not sure where but likely to relate to courses etc.</p> <p><u>Sponsored Walk.</u> Good weather and in the main good behaviour but low uptake. Looking for ideas for alternating the walk with something else. Capacity to generate new events is being sorely tested.</p>	
Update on attainment	<p><u>Literacy:</u> In S4 there have been significant improvements in almost all areas since 2012. The percentage of S4 reaching Level 5 has risen from 39% to 58%. For males this figure is 32% to 58% which is a huge endorsement of the development work undertaken in the English department to engage males in Literature. Of concern is the fact that S4 females attaining Level 3 and 4 literacy has fallen- Level 4 by 5%. There is a need to ensure that the changes which worked for the boys have not worked against the girls.</p> <p><u>Numeracy:</u> There have been notable increases in S4 since 2012: the % cohort reaching Level 4 has improved from 74%-87% and those reaching Level 5 has improved from 32%-55%. This scale of improvement is even starker in males as the Level 4 figures have risen from 76% to 91% and the Level 5 % have risen from 30% to 60%.</p> <p><u>Positive destinations:</u> Has risen from 85% to 94% in last 5 years- now above VC, Highland and National average. 97.47% of females in a positive destination for session 2013-14 is a particularly welcomed statistic.</p> <p><u>Attainment at National 5:</u> A strong set of S4 results where there was only one subject in which our A-C % was lower than the National average and that was by 0.12% Special mention has to be made of Art where 71% of pupils attained an A compared to a national average of 37%, Biology where 49% attained an A compared to a national average of 27%, Design and Manufacture with 54% attaining an A compared to the national average of 34% and PE where 72% attained a Grade A compared to 58% nationally. There has been a significant reduction in the number of no awards which is pleasing.</p> <p><u>Attainment at Higher:</u> Many subjects enjoyed a very strong set of results with their S5 pupils. Art and Design had 68% of their cohort attaining an A compared to the national average of 32% and 100% passing, Drama with 55% of their cohort attaining an A compared to the national average of 37% and 95% passing, Human Biology with 60% of their cohort attaining an A compared to the national average of 26% and 95% passing and</p>	

	PE with 47% of their cohort attaining an A compared to the national average of 28% and 97% passing. In S6, 72% (16/19) of Higher Maths entrants passing compares very favourably with the national average of 55%	
Chairperson report	<p>Mary explained that due to personal reasons she was stepping down as Chair of the Parent Council. Liz Stuart, who was elected as Treasurer is also stepping down.</p> <p>Mary advised she had been in touch with The Highland Council and Vivien Johnston had advised that as there is nothing within our Constitution to cater for this situation it should be ok for the PC to co-opt a committee member as an Acting Chair until the next AGM or to convene an EGM.</p> <p>Lynne Fraser, Active Schools Co-ordinator has been liaising with Mary and will be submitting a Ward application to THC for lunch time and after school activities as she is aware there are funds available.</p>	
Election of new Chair and Treasurer	It was agreed to appoint an Acting Chair. Liz Green volunteered to take on this post. Carol Piper volunteered to take on the role of Treasurer.	
Bank mandate	Carol Piper will arrange signatories in order to collect the Highland Council Parent Council grant for 2015-16.	Carol Piper
School website	Reuben hopes to improve the accessibility of the school website and increase the current usage of approximately 120 views per day. He hopes to widen the audience with main target areas being pupils, parents and the community. Some suggestions were made and if anyone has any further ideas for development please e-mail the school at culloden.academy@highland.gov.uk . Please mark the e-mail FAO Reuben Green.	All
Careers Fair	It was agreed to postpone this event, scheduled for 20 th Nov. until next year and pass details of interested companies to the Guidance Dept.	Mary Macfarlane
Parent Council Conference	This is on 7th Nov. and Liz Green agreed to attend and to report back at the next meeting.	Liz Green
AOCB	<p>Liz to investigate 'School Angel' shopping portal which would donate money to the school each time a purchase is made. The possibility of the involvement of the Business Studies Department in this project was considered.</p> <p>A possibility of a book amnesty was discussed to recover lost textbooks and library books. Dr Vance to discuss logistics with Janitors.</p> <p>There was a short discussion around alternative formats for fundraising. The possibility of a longer walk for older pupils was raised along with the possibility of a fete/gala on alternate years.</p> <p>A question was raised as to whether there was a charitable donation made from the money collected from the sponsored walk. Dr Vance to find out.</p> <p>Printer cartridge recycling is being set up at the school.</p>	<p>Liz Green</p> <p>Dr Vance</p> <p>Dr Vance Reuben Green</p>
Next Meeting	Monday 11th January 2016 7pm in school staffroom. All welcome.	