

Culloden Academy Parent Council Minutes

9th November 2016

Staff room

7pm

Agenda Item		Action
1 Welcome and apologies	<p>Present: Liz Green, James Vance, Martyn Crawshaw, Karen Dowling, Carol Piper, Jane Gill, Gillian Spalding, Ellen Crawford, J.D. Bump, Jenny Urquhart, Jillian Walker, Christine Taylor, Caroline Campbell, Jill Robertson, John Mc?, Evelyn Gray, Lisa Thomson</p> <p>Apologies: Mary Macfarlane, Lynda Thomson</p> <p>Members present representative of all year groups except S4</p>	
2 Previous minutes and matters arising	<p>Minutes from November agreed by Caroline and Carol.</p> <p>No matters arising</p>	
3 School Report Dr Vance	<p>Report</p> <p>JV highlighted the <i>Scottish Government Governance review</i> of early years and schools education launched on the 13th of September 2016. When launching the review the Deputy First minister said:</p> <p><i>"Our guiding principle for the way our schools are run is simple. Decisions should be taken at school level. That will be our presumption and we will place it at the heart of this review. We want to empower our teachers – and our early years workers - to make the best decisions for children and young people. They have the expertise we need. They are the professionals charged with using the power of education to change a child's destiny. We will place them at the heart of a system that makes decisions about children's learning and school life within the schools themselves, supported by parents and the local community."</i></p> <p>JV recommended that Parents engage with this and also take any opportunity to feed into Highland Council consultations on Council redesign, council budget proposals and the 'Management of Schools' project.</p> <p>The recent litter campaign was a success- at the very least we have made a public statement that we do not blindly tolerate it. Neither can we fix all of society's woes with a poster campaign so we will continue to target pupils, messages and locations as appropriate.</p> <p>I was asked to clarify the school's engagement with School trips and am happy to do so. Between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 there were 220 trips- 32 of which involved overseas, residential or adventurous activities. This amounted to a total of 4570 participant days out.</p> <p>Post for school website requesting parent volunteers to support school trips to be drafted. Suggestion that STEM ambassadors could also support school was raised.</p> <p>http://www.stemnet.org.uk/ambassadors/</p> <p>Possibility of STEM ambassadors supporting recently developed lunchtime homework club to enable use of computers was also raised.</p>	<p>Liz, Dr Vance and Jane</p> <p>Dr Vance and Jane</p>

<p>4 New parent council staff member</p>	<p>Jenny Urquhart was introduced as joining Parent Council as a teacher representative. Jenny is one of the four Depute Rectors and has moved from Elgin Academy. Her background is in English. Jenny discussed her role in the school. She is leading the learning and assessment group, supporting teachers to share strategies. The school is beginning to use Google classrooms where pupils can access learning resources uploaded by teachers and also upload essays and coursework to their teachers. She shared with the group an example of how the school is supporting learning. Currently some senior pupils are working alongside staff in the Craft, Design and Technology Department to refurbish areas in the school.</p> <p>Jenny shared the experience of successful parental engagement in Elgin, an "It's a Knockout" tournament was run with help from The Rotary. It was raised that this is an organisation with which Culloden Academy currently does not engage. Lisa Thomson suggested she may be able to make an initial contact.</p>	<p>Lisa</p>
<p>5 Treasurers Report Carol Piper</p>	<p>Balance £3304.42 Grant from The Highland Council £770.65 Thanks were given to Jane Gill for auditing the finances. Evidence paper trail of financial transactions in final stages to complete audit process</p>	<p>Liz, Carol, Jane</p>
<p>6 Chair Report Liz Green</p>	<p>Report -<i>Highland Parent Council Partnership (HPCP)</i> - this forum continues with Liz as Vice Chair and representing Culloden - useful website with minutes of all meeting and upcoming events- www.highlandpcp.org.uk -<i>Annual Parent Council Conference</i> is on Sat 12th November 10am-4pm Charleston Academy - Liz attending and will report back - space for someone else to attend - contact Liz - the <i>Hi-Hope website</i> which is "an online resource listing what's out there for young people leaving school in the Highlands. It is aimed at the 14+ to 24 age group". It has a noticeboard with work experience opportunities for pupils still at school and lists a range of apprenticeship opportunities http://hi-hope.org/ Fundraising continues in order to provide new theatre lighting equipment. We raised £10,000 already and still need £8,000. - <i>Grants</i> - Submitted application to Macleod and MacCallum Community Grant scheme and applying for Awards for All. - <i>School Angel</i> - this has made £56 but nothing in past month. Discussion around how to promote this simple but potentially very profitable fundraising opportunity. Suggestion to canvas as many people as possible with business card with basic information, print run of 3000. Possible contact for distribution to be approached. Pupils may be able to design card, school staff to be requested to create alphabetical list of shops which participate and possibility of printing in school to be investigated asap. Aiming for fast turnaround for this to maximise Christmas shopping potential. Video of "how to" to be created for website, promotion at parents' evenings and info evenings etc. -<i>Uniform</i>- Suggestion of using Tesco Uniform ordering service which gives cash back to the school on eligible purchases was raised and to be given further consideration Duncan Forbes is using Culloden Academy theatre for their panto</p>	<p>Liz, Carol and Lynda</p> <p>Jillian</p> <p>Dr Vance, Liz</p> <p>Martyn and Gillian</p> <p>Dr Vance and Jillian</p>

	<p>this year. £1 donation from each child to be used to supplement the theatre equipment fundraising. Possibility of other school using this resource in the future was raised, suggestion this could be promoted where possible as it is also a useful transition experience.</p> <p><i>-Burns Supper</i> - sub-group will take this forward to organise this event again in 2018. It was suggested this may be an opportunity to make initial contacts with the Rotary.</p> <p>Parental engagement - Liz raised that succession planning was important to keep in mind. No Vice-Chair at present. Discussion around raising parental engagement. Suggestion of board for parents to pin ideas at parents' evenings which requires parent council representation - next S2 Nov 30th. Suggestion to use these opportunities to promote School Angel through live demo or showing pre-designed video clip</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Jillian, Evelyn, Carol and Lisa</p> <p>Liz and Jillian School staff or CAPC rep at meetings</p>
AOB	Nil raised	
Next Meeting	<p>Monday 30th January 2016 7pm in school staffroom All welcome</p>	