



Kinross High School Parent Council
 Kinross High School
 Loch Leven Community Campus
 Muirs
 Kinross
 KY13 8FQ

Kinross High School Parent Council Monday 9th December 2019

Attendance	Apologies
Sarah Brown Andrew Baxby Chris Struth Lynn Caldwell Richard Pinn Kay Mitchell Gemma Toon Laura Alexander Catriona Culley Rosemary Cameron Vicki Wilson Petra Carlisle Heather Wilkins Barry Dougall (KYTHE)	Kath Davis Christina Smith Laura Smith Karen Taylor

Minutes

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies	Barry Dougall from KYTHE (Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise) and Chris Struth (PT Modern Languages) were welcomed by Laura Alexander. Apologies are as listed above.
2. Review of previous minutes and actions arising	The November minutes were approved with no corrections. Proposed - Gemma Toon, seconded - Vicki Wilson. Actions arising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send rep from PC to school - continuing. Laura will go. 2. Liaise with pupil committees on fundraising - continuing. 3. 10k run - continuing. 4. Email Hannah Robb re K-Factor - continuing. 5. Transfer money from school fundraising accounts - complete. See Item 8. 6. Forward feedback on new website - complete. A meeting was held with the school Communications Officer at which all feedback to date was passed on. Feedback is still welcome but should now be done directly via the website. 7. Put the PC constitution on the website - complete. 8. Sort out homework diaries - continuing. Some diaries have been provided but not enough were available. The meeting discussed paper diaries vs digital and felt that paper was preferable. It also contains important school information front and back. To be reviewed at the May meeting. 9. Invite the Head Cook to the March meeting - complete. 10. Liaise with KYTHE re December meeting - complete.

<p>3. Presentation on KYTHE by Barry Dougall</p>	<p>KYTHE was registered as a charity in 2014 and Barry Dougall has been with them since 2017. They now have an assistant, Gillian.</p> <p>KYTHE aims to serve young people by helping to meet their physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs through innovative and dynamic Christian youth work.</p> <p>It works closely with KHS and associated primaries with support from local churches, trusts and individual donors.</p> <p>Church Partners: Kinross Parish Church Cleish & Fossoway Parish Church Orwell & Portmoak Parish Church St James R.C Church</p> <p>Other partners include: Kinross & District Rotary Club Perth YMCA Skills Development Scotland Kinross H. S, Fossoway P. S, Kinross P.S, Milnathort P.S. Gannochy Trust Perth & Kinross Council</p> <p>What they are currently doing: Meeting 1-2-1 with young people at their point of need. Fitness - after school group at KHS. Music Groups - Youth band. Band Camps - Expansion of the band experience over a 3-4 day non residential workshop. School holiday activities program. Holidays with S.U. Scripture Union Groups - Lunchtime & after school at Kinross Primary and about to start in Milnathort Primary. Drop-in sessions @ KYTHE hub - very popular. Altitude youth clubs at Kinross & Crook of Devon. Youth Scotland Awards.</p> <p>What they would like to do: The Seasons for Growth programme which is for young people who are experiencing a significant life event. This needs a minimum of 4 young people of the same age for it to run. See the PC page on the school website for more information. KYTHE can be contacted at office@kythe.org.uk.</p>
<p>4. Modern Languages Presentation by Chris Struth, Principal Teacher</p>	<p>Mr Struth gave a very lively and engaging presentation on the teaching of modern languages in the school. The powerpoint presentation can be accessed via the Parent Council page of the school website. A summary is as follows:</p> <p>1+2 policy - L1 is English L2 is French from P1 to S3 L3 is Spanish or German in S2 and Mandarin in S5.</p> <p>Staffing - Mrs Johnston is back from sick leave. For a full list of staff see presentation slides 5 and 6.</p> <p>Highlights - The Dept did a presentation at the Scottish Association for Language Teaching SALT 19 conference which was well received. See slide 11.</p> <p>It is going digital with apps on phones and games on Google classroom.</p>

	<p>Feedback on essays is via QR codes and voice recordings (some phones may need a QR reader app). See slide 9. More traditional methods of language teaching are also still used. See slide 13.</p> <p>There was a languages week in September which went very well - see slides 14 & 15 for details.</p> <p>Confucius Hub - There is a Confucius hub based in KHS which includes community events. P7 pupils do Mandarin. See slides 16-20.</p> <p>Trips and Exchanges - This year saw the first Spanish trip to Barcelona. See slide 21.</p> <p>SQA Headlines - See slides 22-25.</p> <p>Next steps - In early years there is a focus on BGE (Basic General Education). Mr Struth is nominating the Dept for an award. See slides 26 & 27.</p>
<p>5. Head Teacher's Report</p>	<p>The Broke not Broken foodbank collection amounted to 3 tons! Recent inset days in November were very productive - on the 14th subject specialists from across P&K met to discuss curriculum improvement and on the 15th school improvement plan priorities were discussed.</p> <p>Aerosols have been banned in KHS following a fire alarm caused by their excessive use in the PE dept.</p> <p>Only 4 S1 parents responded to a request to attend a focus group on parental participation. How to get more parents involved is to be discussed at a future PC meeting. Action Laura Alexander to add to the rolling plan.</p> <p>Changes to school meals, which will be presented at the March PC meeting, will start from August 2020.</p> <p>Staff: Ms C Fleming will be joining the Chemistry Dept in January. Miss L Caldwell has started in Music this week. Mrs C Tanik goes on maternity leave at the end of this session and Mrs J Price will be moving from Music to the English Dept. Mr Kidd's job will be advertised in January with Elaine Newton filling in until the job is filled, hopefully by Easter.</p> <p>Andrew Baxby discussed the school self-evaluation: S1-S3 showing improvement in literacy and numeracy. There is no difference in attainment between more affluent and less affluent pupils which is good.</p> <p>KHS is compared with a virtual school and its performance is above this comparator in all but one area - S4 most able pupils. Measures are being put in place to address this - the target group has been identified, their homes contacted and fortnightly mentoring has started.</p>
<p>6. Fundraising Update</p>	<p>Fundraising was not discussed at this meeting. It will have greater focus in the New Year.</p>
<p>7. Blazer Sales Update</p>	<p>The Stevensons invoice has been received. The prices have increased marginally from last year. The average cost of the blazers in stock is just under £30. Storage was discussed - currently in the staff room - but there is no other suitable storage in the school. Gemma Toon asked for a single school office contact for blazer business. Action Lynne Prentice</p>
<p>8. Finance Update</p>	<p>Blazer account - £9690.10</p>

	<p>General account - £1541.85 (awaiting PKC grant) The accounts have been passed by PKC so the grant of £721 has been approved but not received yet. £5211.37 of funds from historic fundraising has been found in a school account and a cheque for same has been issued to the Treasurer. It will go into the Blazer Account and will increase the funds we have available for the school. (The General Account is for administration of the Parent Council.)</p>
9. S1 and S2 Parent Evenings	<p>It was proposed to have a couple of people from the PC at S1 and S2 parent evenings to try and generate interest in the PC. They would have a stall with flyers to hand out. The S1 evening is 30 April 2020 and the S2 is 20 February 2020. Gemma and Laura can attend S2. Action Catriona Culley to think about the flyer.</p>
10. AOB	<p>An email about placing requests is to be circulated before the next meeting. Action Laura Alexander. The committee which considers placing requests is still short of parents to sit on it. Developing the Young Workforce Perth & Kinross have written to us offering to deliver a short presentation in the New Year. It was decided not to take them up on the offer. As we already have a strong work experience scheme within the school, and many local contacts. School twitter accounts were discussed as it was observed that there is a wide variation in the way different departments use twitter. Sarah Brown stated that, at the moment, twitter is an extra, there is not a mandated format, however in time it will become more consistent in the use of hashtags and names. Departments are not obliged to use it at the moment. There is an issue with automated email responses from the different school houses - this has been reported to IT. The allocation of places for the 2021 school ski trip was discussed. A parent felt that the letter concerning this which was sent out to parents was not accurate as it gave the impression that all pupils would be in the ballot whereas only S1-S3 were balloted - Sarah Brown apologised for this and explained that they had not expected the trip to be as oversubscribed as it was. The same parent also felt that S3 pupils should have been given priority over S1 and S2 pupils given that they will only get the opportunity to get a priority place on the next one if they stay on for sixth year. Sarah Brown stated that a lot of thought had gone into how to allocate places in the fairest way based on feedback about the previous trip. It was too late to change how places have been allocated for the 2021 trip, but the process will be reviewed for future trips. Those who have paid deposits for children who did not get a place will get the deposits back.</p>
10. Planning and working session for the Parent Council	<p>This item was not covered due to lack of time.</p>

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 21 January 2020**

No	Action	Actionee	Timescale
1	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies early this academic year.	Laura Alexander	21/01/20
2	Liaise with Pupil Committees regarding fundraising.	Fundraising subgroup	21/01/20
3	Planning for a 10k run	John McTaggart	21/01/20
4	Email Hannah Robb about reviving the K-Factor	Laura Alexander	21/01/20
5	Sort out availability of homework diaries.	Sarah Brown	12/05/20
6	Parental participation in focus groups to be added to the PC rolling plan.	Laura Alexander	21/01/20
7	Circulate email re placing requests.	Laura Alexander	21/01/20
8	Think about the flyer for the parent evenings.	Catriona Culley	21/01/20
9	Nominate a single contact for blazer business.	Lynne Prentice	21/01/20