



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

Kinross High School Parent Council Tuesday 21st January 2020

Attendance	Apologies
Sarah Brown Lynn Caldwell Gemma Toon Laura Alexander Catriona Culley Rosemary Cameron Vicki Wilson Petra Carlisle Heather Wilkins Katie Hewson Lauren McMinn Lynne Prentice Karin Taylor Cllr Willie Robertson Cllr Mike Barnacle Cllr Callum Purves Cllr Richard Watters	Christina Smith Richard Pinn

Minutes

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies	Councillors Robertson, Purves, Barnacle and Watters were welcomed by Laura Alexander as was new parent Katie Hewson. Apologies are as listed above.
2. Review of previous minutes and actions arising	The December minutes were approved with two corrections under item 5: only 4 parents responded to a request to attend the S1 focus group and Andrew Baxby has supplied more detail on the steps being taken for S4 most able pupils. Action Rosemary Cameron to update the minutes. Actions arising: 1. Send rep from PC to school - continuing. Sarah has dates which she will pass to Laura. 2. Liaise with pupil committees on fundraising - continuing. 3. 10k run - continuing. Laura has emailed John. 4. Email Hannah Robb re K-Factor - complete. 5. Sort out homework diaries - continuing. 6. Parental participation discussion - complete. See item 5. below. 7. Circulate placing requests email - complete. 8. Flyer for parent evenings - continuing. 9. Single contact for blazers - complete. The general KHS office email should be used.

<p>3. Visit of Councillors</p>	<p>Cllr Robertson: we are just entering the budget process with a challenge to reduce the education budget by £7m. Music tuition is once again in the firing line although the councillors don't want to see full recovery of costs from parents for this. It is important for parent councils to make their feelings about this and other issues known to councillors. PKC is not continuing with the joint procurement of frozen meals with other councils and so £400k of savings will need to be made elsewhere. He believes in a broad education for every child, not just a basic one, but this is coming under threat due to cuts. He also wants to keep things affordable for parents.</p> <p>Cllr Barnacle: the budget setting is more difficult this year due to Holyrood setting their budget before Westminster. A community transport survey generated responses mainly from older people. He asked if KHS could do the survey with pupils to get their input. Action Sarah Brown to consider. Also whether a member of the school could participate in the community transport group. At a November drop-in event run by police, anti-social behaviour was the top complaint. Sarah Brown said that incidents have decreased since Christmas and that the school was working with the new community police officers.</p> <p>Cllr Watters: has less confidence this year that extra money will appear at the last minute, as has happened in previous years. The council is looking for savings in the school transport budget. School maintenance is suffering, particularly primary schools, as other things get higher priority.</p> <p>Cllr Purves: is not so pessimistic and sees opportunities to involve voluntary groups and cooperatives.</p> <p>There is an online budget consultation which anyone can respond to: https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/15501/Budget-consultation.</p> <p>The discussion moved on to new housing and planning issues: the council are aware of proposed new housing and estimate the likely effect on schools however a lot of developments have been accelerated due to Scottish Government policies and this has caused capacity problems. Developers do make a contribution to the council for education which is used for new buildings but it has to be used within a certain time frame or it is lost.</p> <p>Parents asked why the intake for KHS has been reduced - this is set by council officers. Sarah Brown indicated that this has an effect on the number of staff and the number of subjects in KHS. The school currently has plenty of spare capacity in terms of space, it can take up to 1200 pupils in the current building. Councillors were asked if they could find out why the intake had been reduced given there had not been consultation with the Parent Council.</p>
<p>4. School Admission Consultation Response</p>	<p>The council school admissions proposal paper was previously circulated to the parent council email list for comment. At the meeting Cllr Barnacle stated that being in the catchment area takes priority over being in a feeder primary. PKC pupils get priority over pupils from other council areas. After a short discussion the meeting agreed with the council's proposals - action Laura Alexander to send in a response. The proposal can be found here: https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21459/Proposals-and-</p>

	<p>Consultation-to-vary-the-Perth-and-Kinross-Council-School-Admission-Policy</p> <p>There is a consultation session for parents on the school admission policy at 4.30pm on 30th January.</p>
<p>5. Head Teacher's Report and discussion on Parental Participation</p>	<p>Staff:</p> <p>Mr McShane is covering for Mr Fraser until a new DHT can be appointed.</p> <p>Mr Jones is now PT Science.</p> <p>Dr C Fleming has joined the Chemistry Dept.</p> <p>Recruitment has started for a Physics specialist.</p> <p>Deputy Head Teacher vacancy - this has been advertised nationally with a closing date of 26/1/20. After that, stage 1 interviews will be conducted by Sarah Brown and council officers followed by assessments. Stage 2 interviews will be conducted by Sarah Brown, a Council officer, 2 councillors and 2 members of the parent council. We already have one definite volunteer for this and one to be confirmed.</p> <p>Parental Participation:</p> <p>Sarah Brown had 4 questions for the Parent Council, shown below with some answers given at the meeting. If parents have more to contribute please send answers to KinrossHSParentCouncil@gmail.com.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The school needs to engage a wider group of parents. How can this be done? 2. What are the barriers to this happening? Time, travel, timing, working parents, some parents may find attending meetings a bit daunting. 3. In what way do you as a parent want to be involved in the school? Someone wanted a showcase day. Someone else wanted to know more about the school budget and how it affected decisions on e.g. the curriculum. 4. What are the most effective ways for KHS to seek the views of parents? Skype or conference calls?
<p>6. Communications update</p>	<p>Changes so far:</p> <p>Style and branding has been updated.</p> <p>Accessibility improved - plain English, videos, pictures.</p> <p>More electronic comms, less paper. Email used in preference to text messages as it is cheaper.</p> <p>Your Kinect parents newsletter sent out monthly via email and is also on the website.</p> <p>Career pathways has been added to the website.</p> <p>Future changes:</p> <p>Continued development of the KHS brand, including the visions, values and aims.</p> <p>Develop a KHS wiki for new parents.</p> <p>Expand the Xpressions app.</p> <p>Plans to streamline the School Handbook for 21/22.</p> <p>More to be added to the website on supporting your child.</p> <p>More links between pages to be added to help navigation.</p> <p>Other comments:</p> <p>Your Kinect had less clicks in December - possibly due to lack of time before Christmas?</p> <p>There were only 7 responses to the website survey in Your Kinect. Action Rosemary Cameron to promote the survey on</p>

	facebook and by emailing the PC. The email for Your Kinect needs a more appropriate title - action Lauren McMinn. Action Lauren McMinn to look into duplicate emails which still seems to be happening.
7. Fundraising Update	Fundraising was not discussed at this meeting due to time constraints.
8. Blazer Sales Update	Nothing to report on blazers at the moment.
9. Finance Update	Blazer account - £14902.69 General account - £2179.94 (PKC grant has now been paid in) It was decided at the meeting that £5000 should be paid to the school from the Blazer account to support curriculum costs and this was done at the end of the meeting.
10. AOB	Numbers have been limited this year for the S1 Hadrian's Wall trip - Action Sarah Brown to investigate. There is a Mindset event on Tuesday 28th January - action Rosemary Cameron to put on facebook.

Date of next meeting: **Monday 16th March 2020**

No	Action	Actionee	Timescale
1	Update December's minutes	Rosemary Cameron	31/01/20
2	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies early this academic year.	Laura Alexander	16/03/20
3	Liaise with Pupil Committees regarding fundraising.	Fundraising subgroup	16/03/20
4	Planning for a 10k run - respond to email.	John McTaggart	16/03/20
5	Sort out availability of homework diaries.	Sarah Brown	12/05/20
6	Consider pupil participation in council transport survey.	Sarah Brown	16/03/20
7	Send PC response to School Admission Consultation.	Laura Alexander	16/03/20
8	Think about the flyer for the parent evenings.	Catriona Culley	16/03/20
	Promote website survey on Facebook and PC email list.	Rosemary Cameron	16/03/20
10	Think of a more appropriate title for Your Kinect emails.	Lauren McMinn	16/03/20
11	Look into duplicate emails being sent to parents.	Lauren McMinn	16/03/20
12	Look into numbers for S1 Hadrian's Wall trip.	Sarah Brown	16/03/20
13	Publicise Mindset event on Facebook.	Rosemary Cameron	16/03/20