



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

**Kinross High School Parent Council
Tuesday 23rd August 2022**

Attendance	Apologies
George Cobb (Chair) Sarah Brown (Headteacher) Andrew Baxby (Depute Headteacher) Christina Smith Gemma Toon Lisa O'Hare Heather Wilkins Scott Urquhart (teacher rep) Sylvia Flynn Savila Gjodede Lorraine Holdsworth (Treasurer) Nicola Hearnden (Vice Chair) Ann Marie Neave Jennifer Thompson Susan Pirie Fiona Brand Derek Petrie Marc Heath Graham Cox (Vice Chair) Katherine Wallace Christine Sellars Elyse Kirkham Alex Meuse Laura Paterson Rosemary Cameron (Clerk)	Graham Armstrong Louisa Robinson Karin Taylor Nicola Carmichael Annette Ward Michelle Gibb David Yeaman Esther Blackburn Nikki Castley

Minutes

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

Chair George Cobb welcomed everyone to our first meeting back in the school for over two years and introduced the office bearers and clerk. Apologies were received prior to the meeting as above.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions arising

The minutes for June were approved - proposed by Sylvia Flynn and seconded by Heather Wilkins.

Actions arising:

No	Action	Actionee	Status
1	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies.	Chair/Vice-Chairs	Closed - see note below
2	Email the PC to see if any parents would be interested in providing careers advice.	Rosemary Cameron	Continuing

3	Ensure that Maths tutoring is discussed at a meeting this year.	Rosemary Cameron	Closed - see note below
4	Collate common themes from facebook group and discuss with the school.	George Cobb	30/06/22
5	Add new moderators to facebook group.	Rosemary Cameron	Complete
6	Write terms of reference for facebook group.	George Cobb/Christina Smith	30/06/22
7	Publish facebook group terms of reference.	Rosemary Cameron	30/06/22
8	Invite Andrew Baxby to discuss timetabling before Spring 2023	Rosemary Cameron	31/08/22
9	Consider the feasibility of a study into timetabling problems.	George Cobb	31/08/22
10	Check whether the teacher representatives prefer zoom or campus meetings.	Rosemary Cameron	Complete
11	Book rooms on campus and renew zoom licence	Rosemary Cameron	Complete
12	Invite someone from PKC to the August Meeting	Rosemary Cameron	Complete - no-one was available
13	Raise issues re school trips and Covid rules with the school.	George Cobb	23/08/22

Action 1 - assemblies are now taking place in the school. Action George Cobb to arrange for a representative to attend one and to decide what to present.

Action 3 - the reason for this action was discussed at some length with concerns being raised about maths teaching at the school. Mr Baxby pointed out that this was not reflected in the exam results for maths, which were in line with the results for other subjects. It was agreed to form a sub-committee to work with the school on the issue and the following people volunteered to be part of it: Graham Cox, Susan Pirie, Elyse Kirkham and Katherine Wallace. The remit for this sub-committee will be decided at the next parent council meeting. Action Rosemary Cameron to add this to the agenda.

3. Head Teacher's Report

The school is continuing to pursue its aims of learning together, achieving together. Last year saw a high level of staff absence. The school is hoping that this will be lower this year but Covid will continue to have an impact and some mitigations are still in place.

There has been a change to the school's capacity with a falling roll and less staff. This has happened along with an increase in pupil support staff which has meant challenges to timetabling and subjects which can be offered.

Staff changes:

Scott Urquhart is now Principal Teacher (PT) of Technologies including computing and business studies.

Alison Final will become PT of Pupil Support in October.

Sarah Hatch is now Technician/Admin Team.

Eilidh Wallace and Ashley Cathcart have joined the Modern Languages Dept.

Isla Dewar and Mary Hamilton have joined Support for Learning.

Rose Barr will be joining the Maths Dept in September.

Alison Dick is leaving and the school is recruiting for a Physics teacher.

Nelson QuiterioDewar is leaving and the school is recruiting for Pupil Support Assistants (PSAs).

Cost of living concerns are affecting families and there are also pressures on the school budget.

School uniform is back and the pupils are looking very smart. There have been some supply issues with the senior school ties.

Trips and excursions are being phased back.

Following the outcome of a consultation (October 2021), the school has returned to a one week timetable. While there was also support expressed in the consultation for retaining split breaks,

there has been recent feedback that a return to one break time and one lunch time may be preferable to some. Young people in S1-3 have never experienced one break and lunch. The school is therefore phasing this in during term 1 so that pupils have experienced different arrangements. There will be a consultation at the end of the term to determine if the split breaks and lunches should be continued.

Some parents asked if there would be changes to the arrangements for pupil entry into the building at lunch time. It was confirmed that this is also being considered. Currently pupils are free to stay indoors for lunch, but if they do leave they are only let in at the end of the lunch time so that vacated spaces can be cleaned. It is planned that pupils will be able to return to the building earlier and once the school lunch service has been completed.

Concerns were raised by parents at the meeting over the issue of pupils being locked out because of possible safety implications in the case of a medical emergency. According to Mrs Brown there are normally teachers on the doors and Mr Baxby stated that the main entrance is always open. The discussion moved on to concerns about a particular incident which only happened a few hours before the meeting but was already circulating on social media. Mrs Brown said that it was being dealt with through the school's discipline policy however the meeting asked that she take steps to quickly reassure parents and pupils, particularly S1 pupils, by communications and a visible presence of teachers and prefects outside at breaks for a few days. Mrs Brown agreed to communicate via the TSGs and a parent with older children said that the school's response to similar, rare, occurrences in the past had always been reassuring.

Mr Baxby gave a review of the SQA results for 2022:

Exam results this year were broadly in line with pre-Covid results which is good. Pupils going on to positive destinations after leaving school is 95% compared to 96% pre-Covid. Almost 2000 qualifications were awarded across the school.

18 pupils attained 7 As at Nat5 and many more got 6 As.

31 S5 and S6 pupils could not have done any better in the exams - 24 got 5 As at higher and 3 achieved 3 As at Advanced Higher.

S3 attained Nat5 in Dance which was a first.

Those present at the meeting agreed that the results were excellent - thanks to the school.

4. Discussion about the role of the Parent Council

This item was not discussed due to time constraints - to be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Action Rosemary Cameron.

5. Blazer Sales Update

Sales have been good with at least 81 new blazers sold and 21 pre-loved. More will need to be ordered in October. Gemma Toon thanked the office staff for selling blazers and Mrs Brown thanked Gemma for all her work selling blazers.

6. Finance Update

Main account £1844-70

Blazer account £5195-70 with some money for blazer sales still to get from the office

Bank change of signatory forms are being processed by the bank.

7. Planning for future meetings

Ideas for future meetings:

Invite school captains - action Rosemary Cameron to email Mrs Brown.

A larger room is needed - action Rosemary Cameron to arrange this.

8. AOB

The subject of parent's evenings was raised. These will be in-person this year which will allow slightly more time.

Mrs Brown was asked if parents who missed the induction over the last two years due to covid restrictions could have a visit to the school. The school will consider this - an open morning may be possible.

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 27th September**

No	Action	Actionee	Timescale
1	Arrange for a PC representative to attend one of the school assemblies and decide what to present.	George Cobb	27/09/22
2	Email the PC to see if any parents would be interested in providing careers advice.	Rosemary Cameron	14/06/22
3	Add an agenda item to the September meeting to discuss the remit of the Maths sub-committee	Rosemary Cameron	27/09/22
4	Write terms of reference for facebook group.	George Cobb/Christina Smith	27/09/22
5	Publish facebook group terms of reference.	Rosemary Cameron	27/09/22
6	Invite Andrew Baxby to discuss timetabling before Spring 2023	Rosemary Cameron	01/11/22
7	Consider the feasibility of a study into timetabling problems.	George Cobb	01/11/22
8	Add discussion of the role of the parent council to the agenda for a future meeting (November)	Rosemary Cameron	01/11/2022
9	Invite School Captains to November meeting	Rosemary Cameron	01/11/2022