Delayed Office Opening for Employee Training *This office will be closed from* 8.45 am - 11.00 am on the first *Thursday of each month.*



Education Services Sharon Johnston, Head of Education & Learning

2 High Street, PERTH, PH1 5PH Tel 01738 475000

Contact

Sharon Johnston Direct Dial 01738 477447 Email: <u>SJohnston@pkc.gov.uk</u> www.pkc.gov.uk

Our ref Your ref SJ/KR

Date

1 May 2023

To all Parents/Carers Kinross High School

Dear Parent/Carer

Kinross High School Parent Council

I refer to my previous letter of 28 March 2023 in which I advised that the Education Authority would attend a meeting on Tuesday 25 April 2023 to support the process of establishing a new Parent Council for Kinross High School.

This meeting was an opportunity to speak to parents, encourage their involvement in establishing a new Parent Council, and outline the remit and role Parent Councils can have in supporting their school to work together for the benefit of all young people in the school.

I am pleased to be advised that there was a good turnout of parents/carers at this meeting and a copy of the presentation from the meeting will be shared by the school with all parents/carers for those who were not able to attend. I also note that positive actions were agreed to seek contact details of parents/carers willing to join a working group to progress the establishment of a new Parent Council.

I appreciate that concerns were expressed regarding the resignations which have led to the dissolving of the previous Parent Council, and why the Education Authority did not prevent this from happening or discuss this with the Parent Council. The Education Authority has a duty to provide support and advice to Parent Councils where this is requested, and the Education Authority is always willing to provide tailored support and advice to any individual Parent Council or collectively for all Parent Councils.

I would confirm that support and advice was provided at the request of the Parent Council in November 2022. This included advice to ensure the Parent Council were operating in accordance with their constitution and whether the constitution required to be reviewed, increasing the membership of the Parent Council and the involvement of Connect to provide additional support. A further offer to meet was made by the Education Authority in February 2023 which was not taken up. The Local Authority was advised of the resignations at the same time, and in the same format, that was published widely after members had resigned. As I am sure you can appreciate, the content of any individual discussions which have taken place with individual parents, or the school would not be shared publicly by the Education Authority.

In respect of the work which had been undertaken by the previous Parent Council in gathering views from parents on key themes which the Parent Council had identified, I can advise that the school was provided with reports from 2 of the focus groups after these had reported back to parents. I would wish to assure you that the findings from this work will, of course, be considered by the school as part of the normal school improvement planning process and it is not the case that this work has been wasted.

Parent Councils play an important role and are intended to give more parents the opportunity to get involved in supporting-their children's learning in ways that suit them, to represent the views of parents to the school and the education authority, and help the school community work together supporting learning and school improvement.

I would ask for your continued support as a member of the Parent Forum for the school, and encourage the participation of all interested parents/carers who are willing to progress the establishment of a new Parent Council working in partnership for the benefit of all young people in the school. The Education Authority and Connect will continue to be available to support and advise parents/carers in taking this forward.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Johnston

Sharon Johnston Head of Education & Learning