



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

**Kinross High School Parent Council
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

Attendance	Apologies
Laura Alexander (Chair) Rosemary Cameron (Clerk) Sarah Brown (Head Teacher) Katy Furby (PT Maths and Numeracy) Christina Smith Gemma Toon Heather Wilkins Nicola Carmichael Alison Conlon Sheena Jamieson Isabelle Sturgeon Fiona Brand Suzanne Steel (Careers Coach) Yvette Noble Vicki Wilson Lynsey Ewen Kate Bayne Emma Leslie Catriona Culley (Treasurer) Cindy Onkenglimm Sarah Hall Karin Taylor Petra Carlisle	Cat Scott Lynn Caldwell

Minutes

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

The meeting was held via Zoom with Laura as host. Apologies were received as above.

2. Review of previous minutes and actions arising

The minutes for November were approved - proposed by Gemma Toon and seconded by Heather Wilkins.

Actions arising:

No	Action	Actionee	Status
1	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies.	Laura Alexander	On hold
2	Provide Laura with a list of requirements for Music Technology equipment.	Paul Rosie	Complete - see below.
3	Invite the local councillors to the January meeting.	Laura Alexander	Complete - see below.

Action 2 - Paul Rosie has provided a list of equipment needed for his department to a total of

£1500. Consideration of this is deferred until we see what other demands will be on our resources.
Action 3 - two responses have been received so far. Laura included a letter with her invite making the councillors aware of the council response to the issues of pupils self-isolating and the lack of support for this. The letter will be available on the Parent Council page of the school website when the minutes are uploaded. Similar questions were raised at a recent meeting of parent council chairs and the council response was not felt to be very satisfactory. Parents are concerned that pupils don't know what they are supposed to be studying while self-isolating, while they have access to online resources, they often don't know which parts of these they should be working through. Teachers are being expected to teach the pupils in school as well as arrange work for pupils self-isolating, but are not being given extra cover to make time to do this.

3. Presentation by Katy Furby, PT of Maths and Numeracy

SQA Results

There has been an improvement at Nat 5 level with 60 achieving grade A and an increase of 30 in presentations.

Standards have been maintained at Higher and Advanced Higher level with 28 achieving grade A in Higher. There continues to be an increase in uptake of Higher.

Staff

Mr Garvie has left and Miss Tranmer went on maternity leave in April.

Mr Wain has rejoined the team while Miss Tranmer is off and Ms Smith has joined on a permanent basis.

Covid-19

Increased use of worksheets given out and exercises shown on the board to limit the use of shared textbooks.

Resources uploaded to Google classroom for access during class time where appropriate.

Lessons and resources are being uploaded regularly for blended learning - daily in some cases if pupils are self-isolating.

Pupils are being asked to upload work regularly if at home and solutions are being uploaded for most assigned tasks.

Currently unable to provide 1 to 1 and group in-class support due to distancing guidelines, though there are some innovative solutions to this.

SQA Arrangements for this academic year

Unit assessments have been strengthened to provide more robust evidence for estimates.

Assessment timelines have been published on Google classroom, the school website and twitter.

Star ratings have been introduced to help pupils and parents understand the weighting of assessments with regards to estimates.

Learning and teaching

There is an increased focus on learning intentions and success criteria with pupils taking responsibility for their own learning.

Numeracy across learning

Maths week Scotland happened in October.

Staff Basic General Education (BGE) moderation session was postponed due to lockdown but due to be held in early 2021.

One staff numeracy buddy has been assigned to each department to share good practice.

A regional project is underway to enhance numeracy and P7-S1 transition.

Next Steps

Continue to adapt to SQA arrangements.

Review S1 and S2 courses.

Implement the new P7-S1 transition program.

Ms Furby's presentation will be available on the Parent Council page of the school website when the minutes are uploaded.

4. Presentation on Skills Development Scotland by Suzanne Steel

Suzanne Steel is a career coach based at KHS. Skills Development Scotland is a national agency responsible for skills planning, apprenticeships, PACE redundancy support and career information. They work in schools, with school leavers and with adults of any age.

Career coaching is similar to sports coaching. It focuses on the self, strengths, horizons and networks. Suzanne holds one-to-one sessions with pupils and group sessions. This is done using Microsoft Teams at the moment. Pupils needing help with career choices can speak to their guidance teacher in the first instance, pop by the career room in the school, email Suzanne or use google classroom if in S4-6. Rona Neilson of Skills Development Scotland is also available to help school leavers.

Normally Suzanne would try and speak to all S2 pupils before they have to make subject choices for S3 however this will not be possible this year. All S2 pupils will have a session with her before the end of the academic year. Advice for S2s is to look at what they enjoy and what they are good at.

Resources -

My World of Work website. You can register to get access to the CV builder and other tools.

Apprenticeships.scot website includes current vacancies.

Mykidscareer.com website is for parents and carers.

Suzanne will be happy to speak to parents in 2021 and can be contacted on

01738 317377

07557 245856

Suzanne.Steel@sds.co.uk

5. Head Teacher's Report

Staffing

Mrs Richardson has joined pupil support

Miss Coulter and Miss MacNab will be leaving to take up promoted posts elsewhere - Miss Coulter at the end of term and Miss MacNab in February.

Chemistry, Guidance and Drama part-time posts are being advertised.

Pupil support currently has a high level of staff absence. The impact of various staff members having to self isolate has been severe at times, with up to 11 staff affected at one point.

The additional staff for Covid cover has been reduced considerably this term to only 1.5 teachers.

There will be a new allocation next term.

Covid

The move to level 3 has prompted a review of social distancing and other measures in the school to try and minimise the number of people identified by track and trace in the event of a positive case. 1 member of staff and 6 pupils have tested positive. There is no evidence of transmission within the school, however some pupils have had to self-isolate more than once. The school leadership team helps with contact tracing, which often ends up happening in the evening and at weekends. Most senior pupils now wear masks as per the new rules however uptake in S1-3, where masks are encouraged but not mandatory, is low.

Learning at home if required to self isolate

The advice is to follow the school timetable using Google classroom.

PT Pupil Support will check in via PSE classroom.

Be aware that staff do not currently get any extra time to support pupils at home. Some staff are being retasked to help with well-being checks on self-isolating pupils.

The December YourKinect has information for parents.

General

Parent emails are not being answered as fast as usual due to staff absences, with members of the pupil support team being absent in every house.

A partial S1 parent contact evening has been held using Microsoft Teams and a full S2 evening will have been held by the time these minutes are issued.

School uniform is still relaxed due to the lack of changing rooms.

Latecomers to school need to use the pupil support door as it is the only one with a bell.

Christmas

This will not be the same this year however there will be competitions, a Christmas jumper day, Broke not Broken has received lots of goodies and S6 are holding a Christmas lunch on the 18th. Last day activities (23rd Dec) will be limited, but still some fun things planned.

SQA

An SQA communication will be sent out ASAP.

Further adjustments to the school year will be required after the cancellation of Highers and

Advanced Highers. The Nat 5 assessment method will be extended to cover Higher and Advanced Higher.

The school calendar is still being finalised. It will be shared soon.

There has been no guidance issued on safe exam rooms from the Scottish Government so prelims are being held in classrooms.

DHTs are working on the UCAS forms and expect to get these completed before the deadline despite the current staffing issues.

6. Fundraising

No fundraising activities which involve groups of people meeting are possible at the moment. If anyone is interested in organising a virtual 10k run please contact KinrossHSParentCouncil@gmail.com.

7. Blazer Sales Update

No change from last month.

8. Finance Update

The PKC grant of £737 has been received.

Blazer account - £8025.34 at the end of September with an invoice of £1215.50 outstanding and money due to come into the account from parentpay. Action Gemma to arrange a way for the parentpay money to be transferred.

General account - £2332.00 at 1 December.

We need to decide on what donations are to be made by the end of the financial year. To be discussed at the next meeting.

9. Planning

Action Laura Alexander to invite the Technologies Dept to the January meeting and Science to the March meeting, and send a reminder to the local Councillors before the January meeting.

10. AOB

AOB items raised prior to the meeting were covered under HT's report above.

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 19th January**

No	Action	Actionee	Timescale
1	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies.	Laura Alexander	On hold
2	Find a way to transfer blazer money from parentpay to the PC bank account.	Gemma Toon	01/03/21
3	Invite the Technologies Dept to the January meeting and Science Dept to the March meeting.	Laura Alexander	19/01/21
4	Send a reminder to Local Councillors before the January meeting.	Laura Alexander	19/01/21