



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

**Kinross High School Parent Council  
Tuesday 2nd March 2021**

**Attendance**

Laura Alexander (Chair)  
Catriona Culley (Treasurer)  
Sarah Brown (Head Teacher)  
Mark McShane (PT Science)  
Graham Armstrong (PT Science)  
Christina Smith  
Nicola Carmichael  
Heather Wilkins  
Vicki Wilson  
Sarah Hall  
Louisa Johnston  
Sheena Buchanan  
Eleanor Morris  
Rosemary Cameron (Clerk)

**Apologies**

Jackie Lyon

**Minutes**

**1. Welcome, introductions and apologies**

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

**2. Review of previous minutes and actions arising**

The minutes for January were approved - proposed by Catriona Culley and seconded by Christina Smith.

Actions arising:

No	Action	Actionee	Status
1	Send a representative from the PC to school assemblies.	Laura Alexander	On hold due to Covid restrictions
2	Find a way to transfer blazer money from parentpay to the PC bank account.	Gemma Toon	Continuing
3	Reschedule the Technologies Dept presentation to the April meeting.	Laura Alexander	Complete
4	Include a discussion on planning for the next school year in the March meeting.	Rosemary Cameron	Complete

**3. Presentation by Mark McShane and Graham Armstrong, PTs Science**

**The faculty:**

Merged Biology, Chemistry and Physics under two Principal Teachers

Initial aim...to generate a faculty ethos and sense of belonging

Five Biology, four Chemistry and three Physics colleagues.

**Starting points:**

S1/2/3 BGE provision

National 3-5 provision for Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Higher and Advanced Higher provision for Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Limited online presence.

**Progress – Broadening Curricular Opportunities:**

S1/2/3 BGE provision – moderation of assessment across faculty, greater online sharing of resources and subject/stage champions from faculty

NPAs in Applied and Laboratory Sciences

New S4 courses in N5 Laboratory Skills, Practical Electronics and Psychology

Scottish Baccalaureate - a research project, equivalent to Higher.

**Progress – improving student experiences:**

Junior Science Club – lots of young scientists...(Miss Coulter and Dr. Fleming)

Young Stem Leaders (YSL)...ongoing development with opportunities for students to lead and support others.

Wolfson (£32,000) and Royal Society (£2,500) grants to enhance provision in interfacing and data handling skills. (Used to buy sensors, data probes, a spectrophotometer, software, iPads and apple TVs.)

Eco-schools group (Mr. Collier) working towards our Green Flag!

LGBTQplus Group (Mr. Jones)

Various Competitions and Dragonfly (Mrs. Forrest)

Leading development of Learning & Teaching across the school (Miss Dick and Mrs. Kennedy)

**Progress – raising the faculty profile:**

Twitter: @Phys\_KinrossHS , @Chem\_KinrossHS @Sci\_KinrossHS @Bio\_KinrossHS (Dr. Armstrong, Mr.McShane, Mrs. Kennedy)

Received the National STEM Award 2020 - Leadership in STEM : Scottish Secondary award presented by Dr. Heather Reid and then Awarded at national final in London.

Build a Plane – working with ASSET students participated in the construction of a light aircraft and were able to fly in it...visit to British Airways Maintenance Group...Glasgow.

UK Rock – National Rocketry competition: Scottish heat qualifiers.

International cooperation – students working, in real time, with counterparts in Vanguard High in Florida

Association for Science Education National Conference (2022) – to be held at KHS thanks to Dr. Oates.

**Progress – Building Capacity within the Faculty:**

Teachers building qualifications and skills across the faculty (Mrs. Kennedy, Ms. Duffus, Mr. Collier, Dr. Oates and Mrs. Valsinger)

Developing online resources and associated skills...science site

Pupil Leadership – interview panel and Science Ambassadors

New colleagues – faculty proving attractive...lots of candidates

Links with community and STEM Ambassadors.

**4. Presentation on Google Classrooms by Mark McShane**

How we support learners via online learning:

Students are asked frequently what is working for them.

Investigate, develop and share good practice in online learning across the school

Share guidance with staff, students and parents

There is a form to request support on the school website

Google Classroom is used to provide access to learning and support. This will continue after Covid restrictions have been lifted.

Work has to be 'turned in' as well as uploaded for it to be seen by the teacher.

Students are sometimes asked to mark their own work using the solutions provided. Individual feedback is not always possible due to staff workload and the wide range of formats work is submitted in, eg photos are hard to comment on.

During blended learning teachers may have some pupils in class and some at home, joining in online.

**5. Head Teacher's Report**

## **Staffing**

David Yeaman Teacher of Chemistry is starting on 24.03.21

Lora Burgess 0.6FTE PT Pupil Support (Lomond) starts after Easter

Stacey McNab has now left

Staffing ratio for next session confirmed and will be less than at present, which may impact the curriculum.

## **SQA Update**

Stage 1: ongoing until April 2021 - Teachers and lecturers access subject specific guidance, assessment resources and Understanding Standards materials and webinars from SQA.

Stage 2: April - May 2021 – School and local authority quality assurance continues. During May, SQA requests, reviews and provides feedback on assessment evidence from each school.

Stage 3: end May to 25 June 2021 - Schools, local authorities and SQA work through final stages of local and national quality assurance and feedback, to reach provisional results that are consistent, equitable and fair.

Stage 4: by 25 June 2021 – Schools submit quality assured provisional results to SQA.

Stage 5: Appeals process for 2020-21 - to be advised following consultation

## **Supporting SQA**

From 22.02.21 – School open for practical work which cannot be done at home.

Parents evening / reporting – timeline adjusted, additional grade only report being considered before Easter holidays.

INSET Training – Subject teams worked across the local authority to review approaches to assessment. Plans developed for moderation and quality assurance.

Assessment support days – to be advised.

Internal timelines – level confirmation 26.04.21 / 04.06.21 provisional grades for LA checking / the timetable change will be in August rather than June.

## **Phased Return to School**

From 22nd February, part-time return of senior phase pupils (up to 5-8% roll at any time) for essential in-school practical work.

Attending staff and senior phase pupils will have access to regular at home asymptomatic testing.

Second phase of re-opening set out on 2.02.21 with no further return before 15.03.21

A very small cohort of senior phase learners to carry out practical tasks for the alternative certification model

Only for the completion of practical work which requires in-school facilities and cannot be undertaken remotely.

Careful planning e.g. background and theory covered via remote learning before attendance at school.

Where staff are being deployed to support in-school curricular delivery, consider any adaptations required to the offer of remote delivery in the BGE.

Advanced Highers remain in remote delivery as far as possible

## **Timetable – Impact on All**

21% of teaching staff will be required on each day

Previously 7% (3FTE COVID supply staff prioritised)

Impact on remote learning – adjustment required

Practical classes – half will be working at home

Senior phase who attend school will be “absent” from google classroom

## **Learning and Teaching Adjustments**

Communicate in advance with all classes impacted by in-school attendance

Adjust the types of activities to enable pupils to progress without live interaction

Use national and BGE resources to support remote learning

Collaborate within department to provide lessons to a cohort of pupils

Remember the notional teaching allocation – staff and pupils will need time to catch up

## **Ministerial Announcement**

Full time education for Secondary after Easter

All pupils to have some time in school before Easter

Priority for Senior Phase (S4-6)

Blended approach with remote learning

Guidance, including timetables will be provided

2m distancing

Face-coverings

Hygiene and ventilation

Testing for S4-6 pupils

Testing for staff

3 COVID-19 Supply Teachers have been provided

e-Sgoil For Senior Phase, and an Easter study support programme from 6-16 April will be available, as will counsellors and mental health support

The next parent's live will focus on rephrasing

## **6. Discussion on Rebuilding a New and Better Normal**

Mrs Brown circulated questions to be considered before the meeting - a copy will be uploaded onto the school website alongside these minutes.

There were three headings - Achieving, Reconnecting and Learning. The meeting split into three groups to consider these, one per group, before feeding back to the whole meeting.

**Achieving:**

The focus should be on senior pupils and not just academically - they have also missed social events such as balls which is impacting on them. There is a need to help their motivation and confidence. It would be good to have a mechanism to raise concerns anonymously.

**Reconnecting:**

Work has been received OK by pupils but there doesn't seem to be a way for parents to easily check that their children are doing what is required. The online parents nights have worked well.

**Learning:**

Homework via google classrooms is working well. Resources and the store are good. There is concern about staff reconnecting with pupils and working out where they are at. Also about increased inequality amongst pupils. Extension work should be continued. Some children have learnt better at home.

## **7. Blazer Sales Update**

No change from last month.

## **8. Finance Update**

Blazer account - £8026.45 with an invoice of £1215.50 outstanding and money due to come into the account from parentpay.

General account - £2166.68.

A decision on how much funds we can release to the school has been deferred to the April meeting.

## **9. Planning**

Scott Urquhart's technologies presentation has been rescheduled for April. It was decided not to invite any other speaker on that night but to devote the extra time to the topics of fundraising, release of money to the school and blazer sales. Laura and Catriona will be standing down after the AGM in June so consideration needs to be given to finding replacements.

## **10. AOB**

Concern was raised over the state of the school playing fields due to litter and dog dirt and also abusive behaviour towards locals from young people using the area. Sarah Brown said she was aware of the litter issue and would be taking it up with Mitie. The anti-social behaviour has not been observed during school hours and so must be happening outwith school hours which makes it harder for the school to police.

The induction day for new S1s on their own was felt to be very good and should be repeated if possible.

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

<b>No</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Actionee</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
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	27/04/21
3	Discuss releasing funds to the school at the April meeting.	Catriona Culley	27/04/21