



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

Kinross High School Parent Council Ordinary Meeting
Tuesday 24th October 2023
7.15pm-8.30pm

Record of Meeting

Attendees-

Euan Pirie (EP) (Chair), Susan Pirie (SP) (Secretary), George Reid (GR) (Treasurer), Sarah Brown (SB) (Headteacher), Cllr Dave Cuthbert (Co-opted member, PKC Councillor), Stuart Younie, Ann Marie Neave, Sadie Allan, Val Lockhart, Ewan Paterson, Elyse Kirkham, Graeme Verden Anderson, Fiona Eastop, Leo Chen, Eithne Middleton, Malcolm Thomson, Christine Sellers, Esther Blackburn, Corran Beben, Lyndsay Stobie

Apologies- Fiona Brand (Co-opted member, ASN support), Nicola Carmichael, Sarah Hall, Louisa Robinson, Vicki Mclean, Katharine Wallace.

	Item	Outcome
1	Welcome/ Introductions	EP Welcomed all. Introduction of office bearers and Headteacher. Thanked parents for good turnout. Suggestions box and contact forms available to parents.
2	Corrections to Minutes 19 Sept 2023	Added Fiona Eastop as attendee and Councillor Cuthbert as PKC not KCC Councillor
3	Finance Update	No monies in or out. Stevensons to pay £2227 from buy back of blazers. New office bearers securing access to bank accounts.
4	Update from sub-groups	<p>Careers Sub-Group-Update from Ann Marie Neave</p> <p>Wendy Ely, DYW Officer, to work with group towards Careers Fair run by Parents/local businesses to be held February 2024. Waiting on all who offered help and then will hold first discussions to move group forward.</p> <p>Fundraising Sub-Group – Update from Elyse Kirkham</p> <p>Purpose of group is to raise funds to benefit pupils and build parent, school, and community relationships. Initial idea of Sports Quiz. Requested parent support with disappointing response. 5 members to take forward. Visited KGV as potential venue. Accommodates 90, closes 12pm, offers kitchen/ use of sound system. Tables of 4s/8s. £150 cost of hire. No time limit on young people being there. Need quizmaster (names offered), raffle, how to sell tickets e.g., ParentPay, work out cost of tickets etc. Possible dates one Friday in February. Gift table to school for a team. Looking to cover cost of event on ticket sales.</p> <p>Sports Sub-Group –Update from Stuart Younie</p>

		<p>6 volunteers for group. Initial meeting next week. Terms of Reference to be agreed. Cath Devanney, Active Schools Coordinator, has prepared a discussion brief for the group.</p> <p>Discussion around possibility of Community Sports Award to recognise achievements of sporting endeavours of pupils and the challenge of building capacity using volunteers for after and during school clubs to be delivered during a working day. Group building links with community clubs.</p> <p>EP- KHSPC keen to promote community colours award to aid parity with other schools and as add to UCAS application. Try to do for S6 UCAS deadline as interim measure? Badge, not braid and a certificate. All work taken forward by PC and would sponsor award. Pupils would be nominated by community coaches and awards provided via KHS with the hope Community colours award integrated into KHS prize giving. Agreement in principle from SB. Proposal to be submitted to school following further discussion in sub-group and pupil voice being gathered.</p>
5	Parent Forum Discussions	<p>EP- KHSPC keen to promote positive messages but also have a statutory duty to gather and represent Parent Forum views re-education and other matters of concern.</p> <p>Vaping raised extensively via Facebook as parental concern, so poll taken to request as item for agenda at this meeting. 80 responses: 86% - yes, propose an agenda item and my young person/people have raised it as an issue/12% - yes, propose an agenda item, but my young person has not raised it as an issue/1% - no, do not include it as an agenda item.</p> <p>Parent views from Facebook shared within this meeting included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaping should be treated as smoking due to direct dangers to health and indirect through passive inhalation. • Vaping on school buses is common. • Reports of vaping in classrooms. • Pupils are not using the toilets at regular breaks due to the vaping. • Concern regarding the toilet stalls being occupied at break and lunch times by groups of students crowding in to vape. <p>Raised the questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is KHS policy on vaping and how is it being stopped? • What is the KHS toilet policy? <p>During the meeting the following Parent Views were shared via discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues with Young People wanting to/being able to access toilets at school. • Issues with being allowed to access toilets during class time and the inconsistency among staff approaches to this. • Health concerns where multiple stalls occupied by groups vaping, and multiple young people leaving one stall together. Intimidating to other pupils. • Concern young person not drinking water at school due to toilet accessibility. • Pupils have moved from smoking behind the bike sheds to vaping in school. • Pupils are aware of the issue within school. • Difficult situation for school to manage due to rights to privacy in toilets, some vapes don't have odour, different areas of campus to manage. Toilet doors floor to ceiling so no release of vapours from stalls • Environmental impact is a concern. • Wellbeing and safety for young people due to fire risks and direct/indirect inhalation. • Could an amnesty bin be in place to stop pupils flushing vapes down toilet? <p>KHSPC requested information via PKC Education Services during October holiday regarding policies/guidance on vaping and smoking in schools/school transport. No</p>

		<p>response to date but sourced PKC spokesperson statement to national newspaper that 'vaping was banned in schools and on buses'. Cllr Cuthbert made KHSPC aware single vapes biggest issue as cheap for pupils to access. Suggested letter from KHSPC to local shops to request removed from sale.</p> <p>SB unaware of previous parental discussion as not on Facebook group. Vaping on buses has not been raised with school. School policy is vaping is not acceptable in school. School have talked to pupils and are aware it happens in areas of school such as toilets, but staff cannot see or smell it. Problem more prevalent in girls than boys. Toilet areas monitored, staff are in school street and P.E department. No evidence on Campus grounds. Senior management team hear national picture but not seeing significant evidence in school. Parents who witness vaping asked to contact school directly to aid identification of pupils involved. SB to talk to PSE to ask vaping covered as topic.</p> <p>EP suggested KHSPC and KHS should adopt a partnership approach re vaping. Asked HT to write to Parent Forum confirming policy on vaping. PC would communicate supporting policy and also sharing leaflet to highlight dangers as attachment.</p> <p>Implications of toilet access in relation to above also discussed.</p> <p>SB confirmed teachers have been asked not to allow pupils out to toilets during lessons unless it is an emergency. This is to mitigate risk of pupils asking to go to the toilet with the purpose of getting out of class/to use phones etc. There are 2 blocks of toilets on street, 24 in total, accessible at break, lunch, after TSG and between classes.</p> <p>Parent views were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils feeling toilet access denied. Concerned quiet pupils won't ask and the health and wellbeing implications of this. • Toilet access when required is a basic human right. • Dealing with the issue of vaping removes toilet issues. <p>KHS Website EP-Website down several weeks causing difficulty to parents/pupils accessing information. Requested update next meeting from SB on issues, potential safety/security issues for parents accessing website. Accessing handbook via PKC highlighted issues of information split between handbook and website and request this is looked at. KHSPC to survey parents and share results with school.</p>
6	Planning for Future Meetings	<p>Action-SB to check if tickets for a Parent Council fundraising event can be sold via ParentPay. Action-SB communication to parents re zero tolerance approach to vaping Action-SB to talk to PSE to ask if vaping covered as class topic. Action-SB to look into NHS initiative 'INTENT' that trains staff on how to manage vaping issues with students. Action-PC communication to parents in support of school approach to vaping and sharing nationally sourced information leaflet as attachment. Action SB- To provide information on reasons for school website down and any parental data safety concerns. Action-PC to look at ways communications can be clearer for parents e.g., school policies and frame what would be helpful. Action- PC to collate IT type issues from parents as a sub- topic query list. Action- SB to provide date to PC for submission of parental views to be submitted for School improvement plan 2024-5</p>
7	Any other business	<p>Fiona Brand requested message relayed to parent from last meeting to get in touch and if other parents require ASN support, message KHSPC, who will pass on details.</p>

		GR requested process for information gathering from Parent Forum by School for Improvement plan and date for provision of details by KHSPC. Issue raised re communication of Parent Forum meeting; some parents not informed date changed. General discussion re parents unaware of Xpressions app and IT type issues meaning communications not reaching them appropriately
8	Close	Many thanks to all who attended. The minutes will be issued within the next few days. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st November at LLCC, 7.15-9.00pm

Post Meeting Addendum

Request for Parent Views

Following the meeting on 24th October, one of our agreed actions is to gather parent views on the various ways in which school provide information e.g., emails, school bulletins, Kinect, Xpressions app etc. Do you find these easy to use or are there ways you feel information could be made more easily accessible?

We would appreciate your input by taking time to complete the Parent Council survey. The survey is in the format of a Google form, which has been set up to provide responses on an anonymous basis. There will be no collection of your personal data, although there is an option to provide us with your email address (via the survey) if you wish to do so. We would ask that parents/carers complete the survey by 14th November.

You can access the survey using the QR code below. Alternatively, we have asked KHS to include a live link to the survey in the email sharing the above minutes.

