

ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 5 February 2019

Present: Alison Currie, Vivien Crichton, Suzie Dick, Susan Foster, Sheila Gilmore, Greg Hamill, Lizzie McCarthy, JM, Gordon Provan, Barry Smith, Derek Wilson

Apologies: Clare Gilmore, Ishbel Gordon, Claire McNiven, Ann Reid

Minutes: Pauline Robertson

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Proposed: VC

Seconded: GP

Matters Arising

- Minutes now published on school website.
- Future Learn – no bill received as yet.
- SG not on email list.

Treasurer's Report

- Only movement is for 50/50 Club. Offer of financial support for travel and HWB week.

Head Teacher's Report

- Luke Nelson – Young Scot Award finalist through his work with COAST.
- Get Cycling – great event, which gave many pupils the opportunity to experience different modes of cycling transport.
- See Me – Scottish Mental Health training for pupils, staff and parents in school.
- Visible Learning – second session for staff during next Inservice Day, linking to School Improvement Plan.
- Strathpuffer Mountain Biking Endurance Event – well done to the 11 pupils who participated.
- Cross Country – a group of 22 primary and secondary children travelled to the mainland to compete in the NA Schools Cross Country Event.
- Freya Campbell and Cerys Herapath took part in the NAC Senior Band.
- Congratulations to Eilidh Hamill in reaching the final of the Provost Awards.
- Naomi Provan – will be taking part in Scottish Schools U16 Girls table tennis tournament.
- BS met with Youth Sport Trust working on mental health support through physical activities.
- BS attended Mental Health School Leaders programme, resulting in good self-evaluation tools and also met with Mark Priestley on curriculum design.
- Mr Donlin completed NAC Engaging Middle Leadership programme.
- Mrs Dunn leaves on 5 March: her post will be advertised along with Maths and Business Studies positions.
- Family Learning Team – Mrs Laura Owens has been employed for one day per week for the island cluster through Attainment Challenge funding. It was agreed that one day per week would spread resources rather thin for the whole island and PC members were happy to lend support to lobby for an increase.
- Prelims – went well; thanks to Mrs Foster for organising and to Mrs Dick and Mrs Bunting for managing Additional Assessment Arrangements. Results will be given to all students by certificate on Friday, 15 February.
- SQA deadline for individual unit entries is 28 February and course choice levels is 31 March. SQA is not keen to accept dual level entries (increased costs/workload etc.). School can enter pupils for dual levels base on appropriate evidence.
- Arran Music Festival – 90th anniversary. Information has been circulated to parents of all island schools.
- SQA accredited Cycle Mechanics – will run next year staffed by Mr McNeice with funding through the Prince's Trust.
- sportscotland – second tranche approved to continue School of Sport and Triathlon Club.

Anti-Bullying

Student groups were tasked with creating two anti-bullying policies, one for primary and junior pupils and one for senior pupils, using NAC suggestions and approaches. These will also be communicated to the school via the Drama Club and S3 Graphics presentations.

Developing Young Workforce

#norightpath

The PC agreed to assist by passing survey information to various members of the community, personally and on SurveyMonkey via Arran Community Forum Facebook page. Responses to be returned to the school by the end of March.

Health & Wellbeing – Mental Health Course

Third, and final, training session for students and parents takes place on 16/17 March.

Use of Basket Swing

S1 pupils have been banned from using the basket swing in the playpark behind the school for the foreseeable future due to unsafe and boisterous behaviour from a small number pupils.

AOCB

- School Travel – query regarding pupils with CalMac passes paying £5 for off-island events. It was noted that majority of transport expenditure is for buses and £5 per person does not always cover costs.
- Increase in S6 pupils leaving during term – this is due to a range of reasons: unconditional offers; perception/motivation; working to save money etc. SLT will ensure that students have clear understanding of expectations for those returning to S6.

Dates of Forthcoming Meetings

Tuesday, 30 April 2019

AGM – Tuesday, 10 September 2019

7:00 pm, Arran High School