

ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 28 November 2017

Present: Vivien Crichton, Alison Currie, Suzi Dick, Sheila Gilmore, Greg Hamill, Andrea Hammond, Liz Kennedy, David Lambert, Gordon Provan, Ann Reid, Barry Smith, Derek Wilson

Apologies: Mandy Aitken, Clare Gilmore, Ishbel Gordon, Jill McKillop, Claire McNiven

Minutes: Pauline Robertson

89th Isle of Arran Music Festival

21 -23 March 2018, Whiting Bay Village Hall

Liz Kennedy, Chairperson of IoA Music Festival, addressed the meeting to give background on the annual Festival and to request information be circulated to pupils once the syllabus is available. It was agreed that the Festival is an important part of island culture and tradition and participation helps build confidence in young people.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Proposed: AC

Seconded: AR

Matters Arising

- GP welcomed PR as the new clerk.
- 50/50 Club – forms with covering letter to be distributed via school email as membership is diminishing. GP will discuss operating procedures with AC.
Action: SG to pass to Office.
- Rugby – lots of eager participants and success in fixtures. Euan Rains, Rugby Modern Apprentice, has been providing extra-curricular sessions and also working with primaries.

Treasurer's Report

Bank statements are still going to the previous Treasurer. AC circulated bank mandates to new signatories. Online banking will be accessible once mandates have been updated. PR is willing to assist AC in recording transactions, preparing accounts etc. if unable to take on the role of Treasurer.

Action: GP to check constitution and national guidelines.

Head Teacher's Report

- Newsletter issued. Request from SG that she be placed on the mailing list for newsletters.
- S2 Parents Evening – 7 December. S4-6 Parents Evening – 16/17 January.
- Prelims begin on 29 January. SQA exam diet from 30 April.
- Senior Christmas Party – 18 December.
- Christmas Showcase – 19 December.
- Junior Christmas Party – 20 December.
- Mr Ferris, IT Technician, has retired. Awaiting confirmation from NAC to advertise full-time post.
- Mr McNicol, Active Schools, leaves at the end of the month to take up a post at St Matthew's Academy. There were a large number of high quality applications and interviews will take place on 6 December.
It was discussed that a letter of thanks from the Parent Council be sent to those members of staff leaving/retiring.

Proposed: GH

Seconded: SG

Action: GH/SG

- Mrs Gosman has returned to work on a phased return.
- Ms Karen Atcham has been appointed Librarian on a temporary basis from January – June 2018.

- QI Framework visit focussing on Attainment was well received.
- Vandalism in the Boys' Toilets – measures put in place, including some closure during class time, has resulted in no further incidents.
- 'Pupil Attitude to Self' survey – sample pupils over nine different aspect of school experience. Very positive response: no major areas of concern. Boys slightly less positive in general. Most school in NAC will be taking part in this survey, which would be compared nationally.
- Improvement Plan – looking at Education Scotland Empowering Schools National Consultation. Parent Council may wish to make a response to this document.

AOCB

Physics – no change at the moment.

Rugby Kit – it was agreed in principal to purchase new rugby tops. AR will speak to PE staff for recommendations.

Action: AR to investigate funding application.

NAC Dyslexia Policy – AR attended consultation on draft Dyslexia Policy. Concerns were raised by other attendees as to the lack of Educational Psychologist input, therefore, onus always on class teachers to identify areas of concern. BS ensured those present that identification and support in school is robust and all staff were invited to attend Inservice sessions run by Mrs Walker, Principal Teacher of Support for Learning. In addition, staff and pupil feedback is sought.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 27 February 2017

7:00 pm, Arran High School