

ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 15 May 2018

Present: Alison Currie, Sheila Gilmore, Ishbel Gordon, Greg Hamill, Andrea Hammond, Ann Mackay, Gordon Provan, Ann Reid, Barry Smith

Apologies: JM, Claire McNiven, Derek Wilson

Minutes: Pauline Robertson

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Proposed: AC

Seconded: SG

Matters Arising

- Minutes published on school website – DL will pass login details to PR. Request from Council member that their full name not be noted on minutes in the public domain.
- Newsletter – SG still not on mailing list.

Treasurer's Report

Bank signatories updated. Clerk and rent only outgoings.

AC still unable to access accounts online.

Action: PR to enquire in branch.

Rugby Kit

Invoice sent to SRU; awaiting bank deposit.

AC/AR to liaise with EBO to complete VAT Free Purchase of kit.

50/50 Club – 24 registered, draw will take place annually. AC to check payments received once online banking is available.

Head Teacher's Report

- Ski Trip – BS spoke to member of staff to ask if other options would be possible.
- Staffing – Congratulations to Mr Lambert on his appointment as Head Teacher in Auchterarder; vacancy has been advertised. Maths: vacancy advertised. Business Management & Modern Studies: probationers requested, Physics: post to be advertised this month. All Probationer Teachers are fully supported in school and NAC run a programme of events throughout the year. Staffing shortages are a concern nationally and Scottish Government is aware of issues. BS meets regularly with NAC Senior Managers to discuss developments. Discussion took place on local issues such as lack of affordable accommodation, which may deter applicants.
 - **Action: SG to open lines of discussion with relevant bodies.**
- Partnership Schools Scotland – BS has registered the school's interest in this initiative, which would build on existing relationships with parents and the wider community.
- Regional Collaborative – AHS is part of South West Collaboration, which entails working together with other schools in the region to support each other. BS will share information when received.
- Health & Wellbeing Week – well received: feedback will be obtained to inform next year's events e.g. alternatives in case of poor weather conditions.
- Examinations – currently running smoothly.
- Cross-country – successful outcome; AHS awarded podium place in league.
- Invictus Group organised an event, to which members of the community were invited.
- Student Support Programme – launched in conjunction with GP, NHS & School Counsellor and led by our young people.

- Pupil success – Eilidh Hamill, West Scotland Creative Writing Competition final; Naomi Provan, Scottish Schools Table Tennis team; Lois Ashley, Alison Provan & Innis Thorborn, members of the NAC Senior Concert Band award gold in a recent competition.
- Miss Harrison was praised for her commendable effort in raising £1400 for Bowel Cancer Research by completing a recent half marathon. It was agreed that this was an inspiration to both staff and pupils.

After School Study

Took place during the Easter holidays. There were concerns that pupils were feeling under pressure to attend. BS confirmed that all Study Support sessions are entirely voluntary and noted the importance of pupils taking ownership of their own studying and have time to re-charge batteries etc.

AOCB

- Request from Mr Wedge for funding of £670 for two cameras for Higher Photography course. It was suggested that an online application be made to Arran Society of Glasgow for one camera and the Parent Council would fund the other.
- Request for £500 for PPB trip to Royal Highland Show. Approved.
- School Show – help offered if required.
- Time out of School – BS clarified that not all trips are able to go ahead as there are huge numbers of requests made each term. He has to ensure opportunities are balanced and fair to all pupils and that time out of school for both staff and pupils may have a negative impact on Teaching & Learning in class. Staff have been asked to plan ahead as much as possible and be mindful of the wider impact of absence from school. The school hopes to continue to provide as broad a range of activities and opportunities for as many as possible. GP suggested that parental assistance be sought and proposed that Parent Council fund any PVGs required.

Action: parents to be notified of this offer in August.

Date of Next Meeting & AGM

Tuesday, 19 June 2018

7:00 pm, Arran High School

Action: parents to be notified by Groupcall.