

ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL MEETING & AGM
Tuesday, 10 September 2019

Present: Ailsa Currie, Alison Currie, Suzie Dick, Susan Foster, Clare Gilmore, Andrea Hammond, Katie Litton, Lizzie McCarthy, Faith McKelvie, JM, Eric Milton, Gordon Provan, Clair Reeves, Barry Smith,

Apologies: Vivien Crichton, Claire McNiven, Derek Wilson

Minutes: Pauline Robertson

Minutes from Previous Meeting

Proposed: AC

Seconded: JMcK

Matters Arising

Developing Young Workforce – emails still to be re-sent.

Treasurer's Report

- Accounts to 31.05.19 were presented. Discussion took place as to whether the year-end should be May or July. Audited accounts will be formally adopted at the next meeting.
- Cameras purchased for Art Department.
- Promote 50/50 Club to new parents.
- Ideas welcome for fundraising events/activities.

Head Teacher's Report

- Staffing – BS welcomed new members of staff: Mr Beith, Computing; Miss Lockie, RMPS/Outdoor Learning; Mr Dickie, Music; Mr Barr, Geography; Mrs Christie, Nurture; Mrs McDonald, Home Economics. Vacancies for Music, Maths, Physics, PE and English currently being advertised. The school would welcome volunteers, subject to obtaining relevant PVG, to help during extra-curricular study.
No probationers allocated to AHS this year.

- SQA Results – positive year again.
 - S4 – 81% pass rate A-C N5s
S4 – 53% 5 passes @ level 5
 - S5 – 76% pass rate A-C Hs
S5 – 30% 5 passes @ level 6 (highest in NAC)
 - S6 – 60% pass rate A-C AH

The performance of young people in Arran High School was better than the Virtual Comparator for all level 5 and 6 qualifications in S4/5: well done to students and thanks to staff for the quality of instruction and support.

- School Improvement Plan Priorities:
 - Health & Well being
 - Raising Attainment in Literacy & Numeracy
 - Maintaining positive destinations
 - Continued improvement in self-evaluation

Please contact BS if you wish a copy or to discuss any of the content.

Wellbeing Centre

As part of her remit as Pastoral Depute 3-18, SD outlined proposals for a Wellbeing Centre located in Arran High School. This is to help address the issues Arran students encounter compared to mainland ones i.e. better/easier access to resources. Including, but not limited to: Nurture Teacher; Safe Space, run by Senior Prefects at lunchtimes; Breakfast Club, targeting vulnerable pupils (self/staff identified); proactive, positive support in mental health; strengthening friendships for all students etc.

This is an ambitious project and would greatly benefit from the support of parents and the wider community to help provide quality access on the island.

Suicide Awareness Courses

Three mental health courses will be available to all staff, students and parents:

- September – Safe Talk
- October – Talking with Students
- December – Safe for Now

Information will be sent out round all schools.

AGM

Election of Office Bearers

Chairperson – GH

Treasurer – AC

Vice Chairperson – to be confirmed at next meeting

Community Rep – Dr Jared Bowers, National Trust for Scotland, to be invited.

Action: CG to contact Sheila to approach Dr Bowers.

Teacher Rep – to be confirmed at next meeting

Secretary - PR

AOCB

Discussion on how best to support school regarding concerns re attracting new staff, e.g. accommodation, island allowance. Proposals to contact MP, MSP, Local Authority etc.

Action: CR to look into which letters have gone out previously.

Dates of Forthcoming Meeting

Tuesday, 12 November 2019

7:00 pm, Arran High School