



Holyrood RC Secondary School Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting - 2nd Oct 2018

Present:-

Apologies:

<u>Agenda</u>	<u>Action</u>
<p>1. Opening prayer: The meeting was opened with the school prayer.</p> <p>Data Protection - Due to new rules and guidance, all PC members require to be written to and asked for their email addresses. PT will look into it. JG takes a note of email addresses.</p>	
<p>2. Welcome and apologies Welcome from PT.</p>	
<p>3. Approval of Previous Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approved and seconded.- School Calendar did get approved and is on the website.- New website it at a very early stage. Any suggestions are welcome.- The Minutes and Agendas will be added to parents section.- Reception - This has not passed authority approval due to a heating issue, however it is being dealt with just now.- Rep from MCR couldn't attend this meeting. Will come to a future meeting.	
<p>4. Insight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mrs Watson gives out handout.- This is released in September and February.- The September edition has no destinations in it, it is more based on exam results.- <u>Literacy & Numeracy</u>- There is an improvement year on year SCQF4 at Nat4 and SCQF5 at Nat 5.- In Level 4 we are just below our virtual comparator but much closer this year than in 2016, 2017.- The unique catchment area does play a part here.- This has been an increase each year so this is positive.- <u>Improving Attainment for All</u>- Shows; Lowest 20%, Middle 60% and Highest 20%. Compared with Virtual Comparator, Glasgow City Council and Nationally.- Holyrood has always had issues with the bottom 20%. In S6, the bottom 20% is below National Average and was last year as well.- This year S4 and S5 shows big improvements.- Our Curriculum in Senior Phase is different from lots of other schools. Some schools do 6 Highers and we do 5. This also affects our results against the National Average.	

- This will be getting looked into in the near future.
- We can look into changing it, but it will not happen overnight.
- Negotiations have not even started.
- Lots of work has taken place on BGE.
- In GCC, St Andrew's and Hillhead both do 6 highers. Both schools do a 2 year higher model. Need to look into if there is a one size model for our school, or a combination option.
- We need to look at best practice in other schools. Will look across councils as well. We want to get it right for our school and our population.
- You are able to access Insight as a parent.
- Mrs Watson is meeting with every PT from each dept. to discuss results and set predictions / targets for the year ahead.
- Last year's S4 did very well, we want this year's S4 to do the same.
- Attainment vs Deprivation
- SIMD1 is the most deprived.
- Equity - closing the attainment gap should show a straight line graph, i.e. all on the same straight line, not a diagonal.
- School and National are both diagonal. This is why PEF came about.
- S6 is good and S5 is an improving picture.
- S4 is sitting above National Average in every decile, This is great to see.
- This is a picture Holyrood is pleased with but it needs to be transferred into future years.
- Virtual Comparator is based on several characteristics. It is a very strong system. It is also based on each individual year group as well.
- Holyrood is able to access specific scores so are able to more closely compare SIMD and their results.
- There are definitely areas that need to be worked on.
- There is a curricular area for 'Wider Achievement' on Insight. Holyrood doesn't have this yet.
- Very pleased with S4 and hope they now maintain and improve in S5 and so on.
- Fewer people in Holyrood sit Higher Maths than Higher English. This is a challenge for this year.
- SQA Policy
- This is just a reminder of levels. Allows to parents see connections between levels.
- SIP - would like to discuss something from SIP every PC meeting to let PC see how school is moving forward.
- PEF Staffing Update
- 2 new SFL workers
- Primary Teacher
- PT Excellence and Equity
- Education Liaison Officer - This however needs advertised.
- PT Excellence and Equity is preparing a calendar of assessments so parents can see this and plan with their children.
- Mr Toland thanks Mrs Watson for the information.

Learning and Teaching Programme

- Nikki McLellan PT Pastoral Care discusses taking part in this programme with PC.
- L&T Programme involves the whole school. Gillian Carroll is in charge of the programme.
- It is a new programme that Dylan William started. It is great to meet people across the council and share ideas.
- We are one year into the programme.
- There are 12 groups of 12 staff. Each group has 2 leaders.

- There has been 7 twilight sessions so far on a variety of contexts such as; questioning, feedback, collaborative learning etc.
- It is key for all teachers to improve to develop and learn.
- It is great to share good practice with each other and discuss this with peers.
- This is then shared within our own establishment. It is great to discuss progress and get back to what is important.
- Great to share what is working well.
- Now looking at how we can share this across the school in every department.
- We want to use the same styles adapted to individual subject areas.
- Teachers who complete the course get GTC accreditation.
- It is a great benefit to teachers and pupils.
- Pupils have been very honest with staff in their feedback.
- An example of how this works in a classroom; Introducing collaborative learning in Science, which is new for many areas of Science.
- Some PC discuss that teachers across the school all teach very differently. Was there feedback on teaching techniques before the course started?
- Not formal feedback but lots of discussions going on now in small groups which is extremely positive.
- It is also a great way to mix across departments.
- At the moment it is a two year programme, however sure it will continue.
- At the next In-Service day (next week), will invite all staff to take part in sharing good practice exercise. They will work in trios. This is key for improvement.
- There has not been an observation programme in Holyrood for a long time. Starting off with volunteers first.

Lockers

- S1 Locker Allocation has prompted some queries. PT asks Mrs Watson to explain queries with S3 lockers being cleared.
- S3 lockers were allocated to S1 accidentally, rather than S6. Therefore the lockers were cleared out by mistake. It has now been resolved.
- Lots of discussions took place over locker allocation within year groups. Mrs Watson will look into exactly how they are allocated as she is unsure.
- There are not enough lockers - only 75 per year group, however this has always been the case and there has never been a big issue.
- PC ask if keys go missing can the lockers be fixed - Mrs Watson says yes, the young people should go to year head if this happens.

Malawi

- The Interview process for Malawi is discussed. Some PC members have indicated they feel it is not appropriate for parents to be on the Malawi interview process.
- The panel consists of Fr Carroll, 2 DHTS (not S6. Megan Gardiner and Stephen Quinn) and asked for a PC member to give totally transparency. The school want it to be very clear the process is transparent.
- Applications are now all in. 51 applied and have space for 36. It would be great to take them all.
- Need to ensure pupils are equipped for the experience as well.
- There must be a specific split of girls/boys for accommodation purposes.
- Some PC suggest asking a former pupil? Yes but would need to be

- someone from a few years ago who is not friends with any current S6.
- It was also suggested to invite John Duffy.
- Some ask could a teacher who has been to Malawi not be on the panel? Mrs Watson says probably not due to cover.
- PC discuss that if you feel it would be awkward or there is any kind of conflict, don't put yourself forward for interview panel.
- PC ask if the fundraising aspect puts pupils off applying. Mrs Watson says she is conscious this could be a factor. School does everything in its power to help and support.
- Some are also incredibly generous and help others out.
- All agree they think it is ok for a PC member on Panel.
- Malawi Ball is Saturday 23rd February.

AOCB

- Does the school get involved in Soup Kitchen or anything like this?
- Yes, school used to be involved in St Patrick's, now go to the Wayside club. Social Justice element is very important in the school.
- Introducing a new competition in S2 where a group will fundraise for a charity / business.

Next Meeting: 20th November 7pm

Mr Toland thanks all for attending.

