



ST MUNGO'S PARENT COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: MR MARTIN CRAIGEN

Minutes of a meeting of St Mungo's Parent Council held in the Conference Room on Thursday 15th March 2018 at 7pm.

PRESENT:

Parent Council Members: Martin Craigen, Mary Henretty, Keliann Arthur, Karen Hall, Elaine Whitmarsh, Carolyn Tribble, Jennifer Yearly

Councillors: James Kerr

In Attendance: Stephen Phee – Rector, Anne Hemfrey – Clerk, Kirsty Devlin and Antonia Kelly – Skills Development Scotland

APOLOGIES: John Angus, Anne-Marie Cunningham, Anisah Ijaz, Florence Crozier, Jacqueline Thomson, Pat Reid.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th January were proposed by Mary Henretty and seconded by Martin Craigen.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND (SDS)

Martin welcomed Kirsty Devlin and Antonia Kelly of SDS to the meeting. Their purpose in coming to the meeting was to explain their role in the school and to understand parents' views on the best way to engage with their children. They explained that SDS has 1300 staff. Kirsty and Antonia work in careers advice and guidance. Staff work in all schools in Falkirk, with careers advisors allocated to each school. Kirsty is at St. Mungo's four and a half days a week. Pupils who don't have much support at home are given priority – about 70% of Kirsty's time is spent with such pupils. However, any child can request an appointment if they wish to discuss their career options. Pupils are advised on how to use resources, networks, and encouraged to explore and analyse their likes and dislikes in order to start to identify the type of career they would be suited for. Parents can attend the meetings with their child if the child agrees.

Antonia said that St Mungo's school leaver destination is above the Falkirk average and above the national average - it is one of the best performing schools in Falkirk Council area.

Martin thanked Antonia and Kirsty for a very informative presentation. Antonia and Kirsty left the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

Holidays of Obligation – Stephen has not yet had a chance to discuss with the school chaplain. To be discussed at the next meeting.

School Buses – Staff are trying to ensure that the buses wait for 5 minutes. The only way to ensure they wait longer is to alter the contract. Cllr Kerr agreed to enquire if anything could be done. Stephen said he was not aware of many pupils missing their bus. It was agreed that the Pupil Council would be asked for their views on how many pupils were missing buses.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the latest Balance sheet is attached. Following the meeting tonight there is a balance of £150. Carolyn Tribble has volunteered to take over the post of Treasurer from next year.

RECTOR'S REPORT

The HT Report is attached. Of particular note: Stephen has been informed that 150 pupils will be able to attend the national centenary mass at Falkirk Stadium on the 14th June. Every school in Scotland is receiving the same allocation. Parents asked Stephen if he would write to the organisers of the mass (SCES) and ask if it would be possible for all pupils to attend as we are a local school.

There are still vacancies for two Maths teachers. The timetable has been reworked to ensure all senior classes are taught by a Maths specialist.

PARENT CLUSTER MEETING

Martin had attended the first meeting of the Parent Cluster at which a draft constitution had been agreed. Minutes attached. Martin is keen to attend Parent Council meetings in the Cluster schools to encourage parents to join our Parent Council once their children move up to St Mungo's.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Performance of pupils in 3rd year – Stephen to check if parents are told how pupils have performed in subjects dropped in 3rd year.

Parent Council Trophy Shield - Cllr Kerr showed an example of the proposed Shield. All agreed it was excellent. It will be awarded to the House of the Year.

Resignation - Claire Quin has resigned from the Parent Council after many years' service. Martin extended his thanks to her and appreciation of her long service on the Parent Council.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 17th May at 7pm.