



## ST MUNGO'S PARENT COUNCIL

VICE- CHAIRPERSON: MRS ANISAH IJAZ

Minutes of a meeting of St Mungo's Parent Council held in the Conference Room on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7pm.

### **PRESENT:**

**Parent Council Members:** Anisah Ijaz, Mary Henretty, Carolyn Tribble, Martin Craigen, Merle Stevenson, Ian Bruce, Anne Marie Gregory, Jennifer Yearly, Keliann Arthur,

**Councillors:** Pat Reid

**In Attendance:** Stephen Phee – Rector, Clare Marshall – Teacher, Anne Hemfrey – Clerk

**APOLOGIES:** Florence Crozier, Louise Harland, Steve Feltbower, Richard Mulholland, Jacqueline Thomson, Cllr James Kerr.

### **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January were proposed by Martin Craigen and seconded by Carolyn Tribble.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

**Role of Chairperson:** Further to the last meeting, no-one has volunteered to fill the role of Chairperson. Anisah Ijaz volunteered to fill the role of Chairperson. Keliann Arthur volunteered to take the role of Vice-Chairperson.

**Masses on Holidays of Obligation:** Stephen informed the meeting that Fr Jamie Boyle would attend the next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May to discuss the issue of whole school masses on Holidays of Obligation.

### **PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT**

Clare Marshall gave a presentation on the school's Parental Engagement policy. She explained that parents are the "golden thread" in their child's education and are often an untapped resource. The school is keen to explore the opportunities for parents to

drive and get involved in school improvement. There is a lot of good practice across the school.

One parent felt that the school should explain far more at the start of Year 1 as to how parents could be more involved.

The school is keen for the Parent Council to nominate parents to write the school Improvement Plan.

A Careers Fair is due to be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June. To date 45 responses have been received from universities, colleges, and businesses. Parents can provide additional support by volunteering to assist with interview preparation, CV writing, career talks etc.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Current balance is £508. The accounts for last year have been audited and once signed off will be submitted to Falkirk Council. Remaining funds can be returned to the school or the Parent Council can decide to spend it on something. One option would be to acquire a banner for the PC to promote itself at school events. All to think about options for spending it.

### **RECTOR'S REPORT**

A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Of particular note:

**Staffing** – The confirmed figure for academic year 2019/20 is 90.6 staff (this is down from 95.6 in the current year). The cut is due to a combination of reduced school and Falkirk Council finance cuts. No Advanced Higher will be offered in Computing, but a Foundation Apprenticeship will be offered instead. There will be no Advanced Highers in Graphic Communication or Accounting & Finance. The scope for sharing with other schools is being looked at.

Meeting & greeting – There is now a policy of staff meeting pupils at the door first thing in the morning to welcome them – this has led to a significant improvement in behaviour.

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### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Parent Cluster Meeting** - A meeting was scheduled for February but there were no responses so it was suggested that it should be in May. There is normally one meeting per year, at which parents discuss the religious aspects of school life. Martin Craigen used SLACK to communicate digitally but this didn't work. The FB group has been closed. We therefore need to decide who wants to keep it going? It was felt that Florence Crozier (not present at meeting) may be willing to take it on.

**Twitter Account** – This is currently managed by Martin Craigen, who is standing down from the Parent Council. Keliann Arthur volunteered to take over.

**Form Period** - Proposed alterations to the registration form period were discussed. It may be necessary to lose 10-20mins. Concerns were expressed by those present as to how pupils

mental health could be gauged by staff if this period disappeared. Stephen explained that it would be done in PSA,

Meeting of Champions Board - thinking of preparing a leaflet on mental health. The Director may approach the school regarding the development of an app.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting will take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.** (NB. A Hemfrey will be absent, Mary Henretty offered to take the minutes)