

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Notice of meeting to be held on Tuesday 8 June 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room, Balfroon High School

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Working Groups
5. Topics for next session
6. Rector's Report
7. AOCB
8. Dates of next meetings -
 - Tuesday 7 September 2010
 - Tuesday 16 November 2010
 - Tuesday 25 January 2011
 - Tuesday 8 March 2011
 - Tuesday 7 June 2011
 - AGM – Tuesday 17 May 2011

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Balfroon High School Parent Council meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2010 at 7.00 p.m. at Balfroon High School

Present

Julie McEachern (Vice-chair); Susan Cadle; Christine Robinson; Karen Merrick; Sheila Watson; Mary-Clare Brown; Philippa Gray; Dot Carswell; Jo Skabara; Di Blackmore; Moira Anderson; Val Corry; Maureen McNee

Apologies

Grace Shaw; John Paton; Charles Fox; Dino Jaroszynski; Fiona Longley; Jane Hunter; Andy Faulds

Grace Shaw, PE teacher is the new teacher representative on the Parent Council.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes having previously been circulated were duly signed by the Chairperson. It was noted that John was not aware that he had to give names to Philippa to help with drug evening.

2. Matters arising

- **Fintry buses** – Julie to contact John and information will be sent to Colin O'Brien.
- A pupil from the Fair Trade Group has written to Stirling Council about not being allowed to sell Fair Trade chocolate.
- Derek Townsend will help with the website and his details will be passed onto Geoff.

3. Drug Awareness evening

Elaine Lawler has been in touch with Val about putting together a package for an all day event. The Parent Council want to hold a question type evening for parents about cannabis and alcohol, aimed at younger children, and to get all the services involved. Philippa would ask Elaine come and talk to a sub group from the Parent Council. Try and get a key person (i.e. Sally Magnusson) to chair the event which might encourage more parents to attend. Hope to hold this event in September. Philippa agreed to contact Sally and then a date will be set. Members of the Parent Council willing to be part of the sub-group to contact Philippa. Philippa informed the group that the 'Drug proof your children' course has been redesigned. Thanks were given to Philippa.

AGENDA

4. Working Groups

Fund raising – Dot contacted a number of traders and most of them said October was the best month to hold a craft fayre. Dot would take this forward and try and get a date from traders for October. Time would be from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

AGENDA

Life skills/careers – The school are hoping to hold a careers day in March 2011 and the Parent Council will help with getting speakers.

5. Trust Fund

An inaugural meeting has been held and office bearers appointed. Val has contacted parents who offered the service of marketing advice. Need to look at how to raise funds, develop a marketing strategy and raise awareness of the Fund to parents etc. One suggestion from the school was to buy a monitor for the Atrium to show activities from the school at lunchtimes.

AGENDA

6. **Rector's report** – emailed before the meeting

- **Uniform** – A meeting will be held with a group of pupils and staff to consider the way forward with the uniform, but not to have any major changes to the uniform.
- An Engineering day was held for S2/4/5 and was very well received by the pupils and some are now considering careers in engineering. Pupils from Wallace High and McLaren High also attended.
- Mrs Short has strengthened the partnership with Forth Valley College since she started and will be valuable for Balfron High.
- The Curriculum for Excellence evening for P7 parents will be held on 24 March. All primary schools have been informed of this evening.
- Cabinet Secretary, Mike Russell visited the school as part of the launch of the science action plan for government and also spoke to staff and pupils about Engineering for the Future, the project with Strathclyde University.
- **Staffing** – there have been a few changes of staff within the school. Mr Pearson has been seconded to Learning and Teaching Scotland and Mr Rodger will take over the role of PT Learning and Teaching/Pastoral care until August. Mr Rodger's replacement has still to be appointed. New Art, Technical and PE teachers will be appointed.
- The School has been given free of charge, 12 places to take S2 pupils to Locheil Outward Bound Centre with a teacher. Asking staff for nominations of pupils who would be best suited for the experience. The aim would be that pupils would be peer mediators and the teacher would lead peer mediation.

7. **Kippen/Fintry bus**

During the bad weather the Kippen/Fintry bus skidded and slid into the ditch and several pupils walked home to Kippen, plus parents were coming to collect children. Di wrote to Stirling Council, First Group and the school complaining that the driver was not in control of the situation, by telling pupils to stay on the bus until a replacement bus arrived. Val informed the meeting that the school has no responsibility for transport, it is Stirling Council, but she did speak to Robert Murphy re contingency plans in bad weather. The Parent Council fully support Di's letter to First Group.

8. **AOCB**

- Jo had been approached by a parent saying that S1 and S2 pupils were picking on individual pupils on the Fintry bus. Val said the parent should get in touch with the school with names.
- Philippa would like to thank the staff for all their hard work for the recent ceilidh that was held in the school.
- Romeo and Juliet was very good despite the school not having a drama teacher. Christine informed the meeting that there are at least 25 pupils from the school that are part of the Fintry Amateur Dramatic Society (FADS) and have won awards.
- Moira explained the reason why some pupils have to use the back staircase on a Tuesday (one period change only) because of the timetable and there are too many pupils to use the normal staircase.

9. **Date of next meeting**

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 18 May 2010 at 7.00 p.m. and the next Parent Council meeting will be held on 8 June 2010.

