

## Hyndland Secondary School Parent Council

### Meeting Tuesday 5 September 2023 – Minutes of Meeting

#### in School Library and via Google Meet, 6.30-8pm

Present

Alison Guthrie (AG, chair)

Steve McCabe (SM, vice-chair)

Kirsty Greaves (KG, joint secretary)

Alastair Dalton-Hopwood (ADH, joint secretary)

Louise Edgerton (LE, headteacher)

Jodie Stewart, (JS, depute headteacher)

Parents/carers: Graham McFarlane (GM), Christoph Wagner (CW), Jane Marland (JM), Ian Marland (IM), Bev Sumpter (BS), Alex McTier (AT), Kate Russell (KR), Daria Jarrett (DJ). Online: Gillian Grant (GG), Angelita Gill (AG).

Apologies: Rhona Ferguson (treasurer), Rose Eaton, Morven Badger Finlayson

Parents/carers at meeting represented (total number of pupils): S1 (2), S2 (3), S3 (2), S4 (6), S5 (1), S6 (3)

AGM

In RF's absence, AG to follow up with her to arrange two or more signatories for the Parent Council bank account so a decision at last year's AGM, to donate £500 to the school, could be completed. AG is the only signatory. GG said online banking was available for such accounts, which AG will follow up on.

AG read and circulated the chair's report and annual accounts to the end of April 2023 (for original AGM date of June 2023). BOTH ATTACHED.

The amount raised through easyfundraising was mentioned and ADH to promote its use by parents shopping online.

Quorum: AG said there a minimum of five named members of the Parent Council was required. All present agreed to be members.

Election of office bearers:

Chair: AG was nominated by GG and seconded by AG..

Vice-chair: SM was nominated by AG and seconded by CW.

Joint secretary: KG and ADH were nominated by AG and seconded by GG.

Treasurer: RF was nominated by AG and seconded by KG, to be confirmed at next meeting as she was absent.

Dates of this year's meetings:

Wed 25 Oct, Thurs 18 Jan, Tues 19 Mar, Wed 24 Apr, Thurs 6 June (AGM), all 6.30-8pm in the School Library and via online link if poss.

AG said reviving the AGM as a social event should be considered, including drinks, such as to celebrate the Parent Council's achievements.

Last meeting's minutes (6 June) proposed by AG and seconded by KG

Matters arising:

- Reduced office staffing: ADH asked whether the manager not being replaced was causing a problem. LE said it had added extra pressure as the office only had 2.8 staff, which she described as "quite challenging", with the senior leadership team having to assist, although a fourth person was being recruited. Support staff have been cut to protect teacher numbers with a freeze on recruitment. BS suggested a reminder to parents/carers of their main school contact, which in many cases are the pastoral care teachers.
- Free school meals uptake: ADH said LE had forwarded info from Hillhead Secondary School promoting this to parents as it increased school funding, which the Parent Council would publicise
- Parent Council representation at parents' evenings: ADH suggested the Parent Council should promote its work and seek more members at parents evenings - to be decided at next meeting. Special focus to get representation from those from a black/ethnic minority background (23% of school) and outside catchment area (c33%). Information about Parent Council to be compiled for inclusion in next school newsletter.

School captains

JS outlined the action plans for the eight SCs and nine vice-captains, (titles are the school values) which include:

Active - change an art room into a nurture room/safe space/relaxation area, update wider achievement boards, lunchtime staffing of library.

Achieving - help to run S4 supported study clubs, text book swap.

Healthy - sports day support, promote parkrun, junior PSHE classes on mental health

Included - help oversee relaxation area, monitor attendance at clubs and devise loyalty scheme, support cultures/faiths at assemblies

Nurture - communications board, Meet the Captains event, activities in relaxation area

Respect - lead PSHE lessons, support junior rights respecting classes, anonymous box for reporting concerns

Responsibility - student-led supported study, lead period poverty campaign and check sanitary products stocks

Safe - QR code for reporting to pastoral care, breakfast club support.

Pupils from junior years being recruited for each team. SCs to attend future Parent Council meetings.

### Head Teacher's Report

New librarian on Fridays, meaning three days staffed. Six new qualified teachers have joined school (compared to two last year). Gavin Tulloch has returned part time and will re-join as Parent Council liaison.

Learning and Teaching Strategy: Parent Council members/parents/carers to be invited again to observe S4 lessons over 2-3 periods after a successful trial in 2020 - several at meeting volunteered.

Overview of SQA exam results and out-of-school clubs (incl a Taylor Swift one!) summarised.

Language teachers: In answer to a question from KG, LE said there were three permanent staff, one of whom is off and covered by a supply teacher, with all classes covered.

S4 prelim exams to be held in Dec not Jan so more action could be taken sooner where required, and so S4 parents night could be held at an earlier date.

Request for £500 for hire of two electronic display screens for awards ceremony on 6 Sept. Discussion: ADH asked whether that amount of money should be given to something else that would benefit the whole school. GM said if the Parent Council had the funds available, it should use them. The request was agreed. IM to represent the Parent Council at the event.

### Other Business

Airlie Theatre sound system: LE has received a quote for £6,000, preferably to come from fundraising. Quiz night planned at Hyndland Bowling Club. KG to liaise over dates and GM offered to help with organising. Local businesses and parent business owners to be approached for raffle prizes by IM.

### Next Meeting

Wed 25 October 2023, 6.30-8pm in School Library and via Google Meet.