

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Notice of meeting to be held on Tuesday 7 September 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Strathendrick Suite, Balfroon High School

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Buses
5. Drug Awareness Evening
6. Topic for next meeting
7. Finance Budget
8. School Improvement Plan
9. Rector's Report
10. AOCB
11. Dates of next meetings - 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 Balfron High School Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 June 2010 at 7.00 p.m. at Balfron High School

Present

Julie McEachern (Chair); John Paton (Vice-Chair); Geoff Forward; Susan Cadle; Dot Carswell; Jo Skabara; Fiona Longley; Mary-Claire Brown; Philippa Gray; Moira Anderson; Val Corry; Maureen McNee

Apologies

Grace Shaw; Alistair Gray; Chris Robinson; Di Blackmore; Dino Jaroszynski; Sheila Watson

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes having previously been circulated were duly signed by the Chairperson.

2. Matters arising

- **Buses** – Julie attended a meeting with Stirling Council Logistics Section about the situation of the buses as a whole. First Group buses have never responded to any emails. With regard to the Fintry buses, Stirling Council pointed out that safety checks had been done on the road where children have to walk and they found it to be adequate. They pointed out that there are no turning facilities for the bus. Julie would meet with Fiona over the summer and walk the road. This issue to be pursued further by the Parent Council, by contacting the three local Councillors and Julie will contact Graham Lambie.

The next issue that Julie raised was the position regarding seatbelts in buses. As the buses that First Group use are service buses, seatbelts are not required. If coaches were used then seatbelts would have to be provided. Also concern has been raised by parents about the use of double deckers on some routes, but Stirling Council are confident that the buses are safe.

The incidence that occurred in the winter with the Fintry/Kippen bus was discussed and Stirling Council only received complaints from three parents. They did say that the driver should have kept the children on the bus until the replacement bus arrived. Information will be sent to the school to give to parents about who is in charge when there are incidences on the buses.

Julie did suggest the route between Kippen/Fintry be looked at, but this unlikely to happen. Stirling Council did suggest that Julie gets in touch with Jonathan Anderson from McLaren High as they also have a lot of buses coming from rural areas. Val suggested that Amanda Short (Depute Headteacher, who is in charge of the buses) should contact McLaren High, and Julie will email her with questions to ask. Thanks was given to Julie.

AGENDA

- John has spoken to Derek Townsend about helping with the website and Geoff will get in contact with him.
- **Drug awareness evening** – Philippa has contacted Elaine Lawlor and she has suggested using STRADA to design drug awareness session which we would require to be held at Balfron High and will be open to everybody. Val mentioned that S2 and S4 were to take part in a survey on drugs, tobacco and alcohol. Philippa will arrange to meet with Elaine to discuss further and report back at next meeting.

AGENDA

3. Working Groups

Fund raising – Dot has a list of some traders and John will send her a list of the traders that Jane Hunter has. October seems to be the best time to hold a Craft Fair.

4. **Topics for next session**

Good idea to have speakers (including pupils) at each meeting to speak for 10-15 minutes at the beginning which might attract more parents to attend the Parent Council meetings. All meetings next session will be held in the Strathendrick Suite. Various topics were discussed and it was agreed there would be 5 topics: Pupil Presentation; Seasons for Growth (programme about dealing with grief, separation etc); member of the staff to talk about PSE within the school; Community Police; Community Learning and Development (Sarah Winston - about the Friday project which is run in the local villages).

5. **Rector's Report** – email before the meeting

- **Uniform** – The survey has been completed and the majority is for shirt and tie. There was a good responses to the survey from pupils, parents and staff. There are a few parents not happy. The survey was designed by the pupils. Leaflets have been sent out to parents informing them of the new uniform and there will be a transition period. Val would write to parents saying the new uniform has the backing of the Parent Council and will be reviewed after two years. For next year it might be worth giving all P7 primary school pupils a tie.
- **Curriculum for Excellence** – The school is ready for implementation in August 2010. An evening was held for P7 parents was successful. A questionnaire will be sent out to all S1 parents seeking information on how they would like to see reporting to patients done.
- **Trust Fund** – Need to market the Trust Fund and how best to do that and Val has had a meeting with Ken Young who has experience in marketing and another group will do this. Grace Shaw and a few parents to meet with Ken Young The launch date will be in September.
- Julie and Fiona agreed to look at a questionnaire that would be sent to all parents using Survey Monkey about what is the perception of parents of the school overall.
- P7 induction evening was held and Julie spoke on behalf of the Parent Council.
- **Film group** – Joanna Hall who is a parent of a S1 pupil has been working with a group of S3 pupils to produce a DVD showing what it is like to be in S1. This has now been put on the BBC website. Thanks to Joanne for doing this.
- **Duke of Edinburgh** – Numbers continue to grow for this and thanks goes to all the parents involved for their hard work.
- **Staffing** – Several new staff and probationer teachers have been appointed to commence in August. Jackie Ebsworth is being seconded to Dunblane High for a year. Need to appoint Acting Depute Teacher and Julie will sit on the Interviewing Panel.
- **Resources** – Will be in a strong financial position next session but will need to have a discussion with Parent Council at next meeting re future cuts. **AGENDA**
- **SQA examinations** – Chief invigilator praised all who took part in the examinations for their behaviour, attendance and commitment. Also not as many pupils were bringing in their mobile phones to examinations.
- **High school volunteers** – Received this award for the 2nd year for all the volunteering that goes on at Balfron High.
- **Careers Fair** – Determined to Success are keen to work with the school and Parent Council to run a careers fair over an afternoon and evening at the end of February. It is proposed that the leadership teams in S6 will take over the responsibility of planning and running this in collaboration with the Parent Council.
- **Jarvis administration** – The new provider will hopefully take over the contract very soon.
- **Scottish Improvement Plan** – Val will email to Parent Council and will be discussed at the first meeting in the new session. **AGENDA**

7. **AOCB**

- Can now sell Fair Trade chocolate once a week with reasons as to why.
- Geoff will get signatures from Julie and John for the Parent Council account.

8. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 September 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Strathendrick Suite, Balfron High School

