

Falkirk High School Parent Council Minutes

Monday the 23rd April 2024

Meeting held at FHS - 1900 hrs.

Agenda item	Detail	Action
(1) Welcome and Apologies for Absence	Attendees: Lyn Bennet (Co-Chair), Erika Cooper, Andrea Davidson (Treasurer), Karen Findley Stuart Kelly (Headteacher), Chiedza Maviko Ruth McCall, Gail McEwan, Claire McLaughlin (Depute Headteacher), Rachel McPherson, Robert Menzies (Depute Headteacher), Gillian Millar, Jacqui Pearson (Co Vice Chair), Fiona Shearer (Co Vice Chair), Lily Stroud (Staff Rep). Pam Sinclair (Co Vice Chair), Cailinn Rosie, Iain Sinclair (Councillor), Zahra Zarei, Leona Hepburn (Staff Rep). The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from: Tammy Bell, Sarah Patrick (Councillor), Fiona Traill.	
(2) Minutes of Previous Meeting 23.04.24 and Matters Arising	The minutes from the previous meeting on 26 February 2024 were approved. Some matters arising will be discussed during the meeting.	
(3) Headteacher's 7 Minute Briefing	- During the Headteacher's briefing, the Parent Council were updated on: SQA Support – the school are developing materials and a number of supports for pupils before exams - Positive Rewards – it's important for parents to be aware of the positive rewards given to pupils this is going to be piloted through Satchel One - School Estate – improvement works will be undertaken including screening for the foyer and new sign-in system - S6 Goodbye – brilliant day with the S6s last week (see Twitter). There were games and food put on by the school for the S6 pupils and teachers - Dates – there are many important dates in May and June – dates are included in the 7-minute briefing document - Insight – FHS are doing well as shown by the Insight data. The data shows that the school is closing the attainment gap. - Staffing – staffing is a challenge as there is a reduced number of probationer teachers coming through teacher training. The HT is also engaging with the police regarding a replacement for the school-based police officer.	
(4) Positions within PC Committee & Treasurer's Report/200 Club Update	- It was noted that a few Committee positions would become vacant this month including Treasurer and Co-chair. Erica Cooper volunteered to be Co-Vice Chair and Ruth McCall for Treasurer. Fiona Shearer and Lyn Bennett seconded the volunteers onto the committee. - In terms of finances the main account has £5,090. At the last Parent Council meeting it was agreed that money would be given to the school so once the cheques clear, the balance will be £1590.	
(5) School Improvement Plan Update	- The Depute Head gave the Parent Council an update on the improvement work of the school and highlighted various points including: - FHS is performing above the virtual comparator for our lowest 20% and middle 60% of learners. 92% of leavers progressed into a positive destination following session	

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	22/23 A questionnaire will be circulated to parents to help the school know what work the school should focus on next session'	
(6) Right Respecting Schools – Gold Award	- The award, run by UNICEF, help to have more awareness of the rights of the child. At present the school has achieved the silver award and is now working towards the gold level. The award links with the values of the school and allows the school to show that FHS has embedded rights within school processes and the school environment. - The school will need some parents to be involved in the gold award assessment, if you are interested please email the school to let Miss Grant know.	
(7) School Fair Update	- The pupils have been working with Miss Stroud and Fiona on the summer fair. Everyone is asked to be available to help at the Fair which is on Saturday 22 June from 12 to 2pm. - Parents are asked to give any donations for the School Fair to the school office – in particular donations are needed for the raffle prizes, home baking and help on the day. If parents are free on the evening before and on the morning of the event, help would be appreciated. Please email FHSparentcouncil@outlook.com	
(8) Magic Breakfast	The school has signed up for Magic Breakfast which provides a free breakfast for all pupils every day and it launches next week. It will be staffed by canteen staff and FHS will be the first high school in the area to offer this.	
(9) AOCB	- There were a number of additional items including: - The HT confirmed that shorts will be allowed if there is warmer weather as long as the rest of the school uniform is worn. The school will notify parents when shorts will be permitted. - The school graduation ceremony for S6 pupils (and any pupils leaving from S4 and S5) will take place again this year. A BBQ will be included for S6 pupils. - Parents are asked to donate any unwanted school uniform to the school office. Parents are also reminded that the Rag Bag in the carpark is available for any other unwanted clothes – this resource creates income for the parent council. - The HT gave an update on the asymmetric week (which has been discussed as an option to address the Falkirk Council budget problem) and indicated that an engagement timetable for parents, carers and pupils is planned. There are significant financial challenges for Falkirk Council for the coming year. At present, no decisions have been made by Falkirk Council so it is important for parents, carers and pupils to engage with the process. The proposals are being developed currently and all correspondence around this will be considered by the Council. - iPad use – it was suggested that it would be good to have some training and/or best tips on how to use ipads. FHS agreed that it will take this forward and will look at online and/or in-person sessions as well as best practice guides. - It was noted that only one dad attended the meeting with the rest of the attendees being female. Everyone, and especially Dads, are	

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	encouraged to come along to future meetings of parent council. The Parent Council noted it was the last meeting for Lyn Bennet (co-chair) and Andrea Davidson (Treasurer). The Parent Council thanked Lyn and Andrea for all their hard work for the Parent Council and school over the last few years.	
(10) Date of Next Meeting	The next meeting of parent council will take place in September 2024 at 7pm. The school will schedule and circulate dates for next academic year.	