

Falkirk High School Parent Council Minutes
Tuesday 23rd February 2021
Virtual Meeting held at 1900 hrs.

Agenda item	Detail	Action
Welcome and Attendees	Gary Allan (Staff Rep), Val Arthur, Lyn Bennet (Co-Chair), Claire Bradley (Depute Headteacher), Vanora Campbell, Andrea Davidson (Vice Co-Chair), Diane Duff, Louise Duncan, Audrey Gold, Leona Hepburn (Staff Rep), Karen Hunter (200 Club), Hazel Jones, Sharon Keen, James Kerr (Councillor), Stuart Kelly (Headteacher), Sue Krause, Laura Marshall, Jen Macpherson (Depute Headteacher), Nicola McEwen (Co-Chair), John McLuckie, Robert Menzies (Depute Headteacher), Hazel Morrison, Jacqui Pearson, Pat Reid (Councillor), Fiona Shearer, Pam Sinclair (Vice Co-Chair), Pamela Taylor (Secretary), Murray Watson (Depute Headteacher), Bryan Watt (Treasurer).	
(1) Apologies	Suzanne Harrison, Jacqui King, Sue Krause	
(2) Minutes of Previous Meeting 24.11.20 and Matters Arising	- Headteacher position has now been filled. Congratulations to Stuart Kelly. - Councillor James Kerr has spoken with the Chief Inspector from Falkirk police regarding the absence of the School Police Officer and has confirmed that they can't look to recruit at the moment due to the Pandemic. - SK mentioned the staffing that FHS has in place and are currently recruiting for a number of positions that are to be filled due to staff retiring and maternity leave.	
3) Head Teacher's 7-minute Briefing	- SK talked through the Headteacher's '7-minute briefing' and touched on the 7 points of the briefing: - P7 Transition, - S3 New Year, New Career, - Parentcloud, - Remote Learning, - Health & Wellbeing, - Curriculum Personalisation - Parental Communication - Parent asked if there would be any P7 transition in school visits. SK advised that it depends on transmission rates of infection and Falkirk Council guidance. If the in school visits don't take place then one to one conversations will be organised with the pupil's Head of House. - LH talked through the S3 NYNC. The event is being recognised both locally and nationally by DYW (link here). The event was a first of its kind in terms of virtual event run for a year group. 32 teachers were involved in the delivery over 3 mornings in January. It was deemed successful based on evaluations with pupils, teachers and parents. Prior to the event 58% of pupil were unsure or did not know what they wanted to do when they left school. After the event 74% said the event had helped them identify careers, skills and subject choices. It also stimulated conversation and thinking about careers and pathways for all.	

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(4) Home Learning/Gap Analysis	• Parent mentioned that home learning is much more interactive this time round. • SK recognised this and advised that there may be gaps as we cannot replicate normal school timetables. Pupils are working online following a period by period basis. There is massive focus on teaching & learning engagement with pupils, modifying courses ensuring not to overstretch pupils and after school clubs will be starting back online. • Senior Management Team are tracking online engagement and working with the Faculty Heads and Head of House. SMT have Identified that there are gaps with the S4's. There is a recovery plan in place for identified pupils who are struggling. • Seniors returned on a part-time basis for SQA purposes concentrating on practical activities. • RM confirmed that the Scottish Government had released funds for the distribution of iPad's. Roll out of staff devices took place back in December and devices for Secondary pupils will be at the end of March. • JM/RM advised that Pastoral staff have handed out devices to pupils who don't have devices or phones to do their school work online. There is a never-ending list of pupils that require a device and it has been challenging buying them from stores due to demand. • Parent has thanked all staff for all their support over the last few months.	
(5) Phased Return	• The focus at the moment is senior years to complete practical activities for SQA purposes. There will be reduced numbers of pupils attending school which is a maximum of 90 pupils each day (5-8% of total number of pupils). Pupils will attend certain days depending on subjects and columns and will be in for the full day. • Following Scottish Government guidance, schools are to follow the 2 metre distancing. This means that there will be smaller classes until the 2 metre rule is relaxed. • Lateral flow tests are now available to all school staff and senior pupils. This adds another level of protection for staff and pupils. Senior pupils will take a test prior to coming into school, this helps identify people that are asymptomatic and to help stop the spread of Covid infections within the school and the community. It is not compulsory to take Lateral Flow Tests but is something that the school is strongly encouraging. All tests have to be reported through the Gov.uk website. Pupils are being handed out kits on a rolling basis which contain 3 tests which should last them 1 ½ weeks. • Parent asked if the pupil's new timetable will start later this year. RM has advised that they are looking into potentially starting the new timetable for when pupils start back in August although this is not confirmed. Pupils new timetables usually start at the end of May – no decision will be made until they receive further guidance.	
(6) Assessment	• RM has confirmed that a decision was made by the SQA that there would be no exams for Highers & N5's again this year. All	

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	Secondary schools be following a new alternative accreditation model based on pupil's assessments, evidence of attainment and individual grades provided by the teacher. The SQA will assess & validate all pupils work ensuring standards are met based on the model that they have given to all schools. SQA have extended the submissions to the 25th of June and there is still a lot of engagement with SQA to take place. • Timetables are currently being organised for pupils that are sitting N5's and Highers for their assessments. Pupils will be given as much notice as possible.	
(7) 200 Club & Finance Report	• Main Account Balance is £375.60. Financial accounts have been sent into Falkirk Council. Awaiting on the annual administration payment of approx. £590 – same amount given to the PC as last year. • 200 Club Account Balance is £1,609.96. Draws have taken place for Jan & Feb. £200 prize money is to be deducted from the current balance. Currently there are 79 members of the 200 club which generates £270p/m. The PC are only generating £170p/m from the 200 club. • BW took an action to pick up with Karen, Lyn and Laura to see if we can get the 200 Club numbers up by using an email format for new members. • BW asked at the meeting that if anyone is interested in shadowing him to take over his position they should put their name forward.	
(8) ACOB	• None	
(9) Dates of Next Meeting	• Next Parent Council meeting will take place on Tuesday April 27th 2021. The focus of the meeting will be School Improvement Planning.	