

CV



### Biggar High School Parent Council- November 17<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Present:** Robert Stewart (Head Teacher), Julie Forrest (Secretary) , Kirsty Campbell (Vice Chair), Clare Waters, Sue Hope, Rosslyn Thomson, Paul Kane, Kate Allister

**Apologies :** Flora Neville (Chair), Chrissy Wild, Wendy Johnstone,

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
1) <b>Welcome &amp; Minutes from Previous meeting</b>	<p>Minutes agreed.</p> <p>Grant – signatory and accounts. Flora to get in touch with GM. Hopefully get this in time for January. SH will follow this up with FN.</p> <p>Need to clarify who is the other signatory at present in addition to FN and GM. SH will check with FN and see if we can sort this out. It was agreed that FN, KC, and KA should be the 3 signatories.</p> <p>Welcome to PK. Kirsty noted he will be added onto the WhatsApp group</p> <p>Wishlist letter. SH has done this; however, she suggests that we hang on until next year. KC asked if it would be an idea to send the letter to larger companies? SH thought that we would be better to wait until early 2021 based on present circumstances.</p>	<p>SH</p> <p>SH</p> <p>KC</p>

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	<p>SH thought the only thing that we could push just now is the “Just Giving” page... spread a little magic this xmas? Something special for your children this year. CW setting the Just Giving Page and SH will liaise with CW to set this up. RT asked if there was a time limit on this. SH thought she would set it up for this academic year and then extend it.</p> <p>Social Media – KC has started to post on various social media. KC asked about the Social Media Policy this was agreed. Is there anything that the school does not want KC to post? Also, KC asked if RS wanted to be added as admin? RS agreed with this and had no concerns over PC having responsibility for what was posted</p> <p>Clothing Bank and Easy Fundraising have been advertised.</p> <p>KC is trying to arrange to get APP training with Mr Barrowman. It was suggested that perhaps WJ should be included in this, especially with her ASN links.</p> <p>Equity webpage? There is a page to put up but there is an issue with GDPR, and this is being looked at. Mrs Clingan is going to be the key person (one point of contact) so that this can be moved forward. KC suggested PC make a video to promote this. The message for this video was discussed to be able to pitch this to help and support parents in our community.</p> <p>Issue with the football pitch with water logging. RS has been in discussion with facilities team and new drainage will hopefully be fitted soon. New surface planned for summer 2021 as part of the lifecycle renewal programme. Level 4 means that PE will again all be outdoors.</p> <p>Wi-Fi hubs- RS noted that SLC IT must come into do an audit (not done yet but hopefully by end of year) and then we will know how much it will be to boost/ update the Wi-Fi provision as required.</p> <p>Crawfordjohn/Abington bus – RS has heard nothing further. Possible start of term 2021 for CrawfordJohn bus- but this is a corporate decision. KC expressed her concerns about the danger of not every child having a seat is not acceptable and we should make sure that we are kept informed. RS noted that since October break no concerns had been raised but SPT had already been in contact with bus company about existing concerns.</p>	<p><i>CW to action?</i></p>

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	<p>KC has sent information about the Treasurer role to CW.</p> <p>Parents' Evenings:</p> <p>RS noted that within the working time agreement there is an allocation for Parents Evenings. RS does not think that these Parental consultations will be available in the usual form. RS is working with professional association reps how to move forward with this subject.</p> <p>Initial plan is that all S1 parents will have a follow up call after next set of reports and that S2/S3 Tracking reports in April/ May 2021 will now contain teacher comments as well as effort/ behaviour and homework ratings. Parents/ Pupils will be encouraged to use feedback profiles attached to reports to ask any questions about report contents and these will be followed up as appropriate. Information will also go to parents in the new year via Guardian e-mail re. homework posted on Google Classrooms and this is another form of parental contact that may on occasion require follow up.</p> <p>KC suggested popping a FB post to remind parents to return the feedback sheets.</p> <p>At last month's meeting there was a discussion regarding a leaflet/information booklet to help promote PC and inform parents. Discuss this in <b>January</b></p>	<p><i>January agenda item</i></p>
<p><b>2) Headteachers Update</b></p>	<p>RS noted that school is starting to pull together a ' Virtual' P7 transition timetable.</p> <p>Draft Transition Plan will be made available for the January 2021 meeting of the Parent Council</p> <p>Thanks to Miss McGee, Miss Russell and Ms Gibson for taking on responsibility for RMPS delivery while we await our new RMPS teacher, Ms Katzig, who will start in February.</p>	

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	<p>New English teacher starting soon- Ms Cockburn</p> <p>Mr Morrison was successful at interview and is now Humanities faculty head. RS wanted to note thanks to Ms Gibney and Ms McGhee for their work in the acting role over the last 12 months.</p> <p>SQA – concerns re. number of subjects still awaiting the details of requirements for assessment rules/ exams next summer. Still awaiting to see how various areas will be moderated. Lack of organisation and early information re. forward planning is proving stressful to teaching staff (and pupils).</p> <p>Children are adhering to risk guidelines wearing masks and being very mature and well behaved in ensuring safety of all.</p> <p>S1 &amp; S2 bubbles being reviewed and must be seated alphabetically as this will reduce numbers that may need to self-isolate.</p> <p>Guardian email – hoping to get this up and running by December. Staff shortage in office team just now halting progress on this. RS will work with Office Manager to progress this.</p> <p>Equity Chrome books- process has started in how to allocate and issue these- hope to be completed by early December.</p> <p>School activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent artwork in local shop windows for Biggar Festival.</li> <li>• Pupil Passport S1 for learning across the curriculum- making connections between literacy/ numeracy and HWB across all subject areas.</li> <li>• Virtual Career sessions are ongoing- S3 groups involved in this.</li> <li>• Food Bank Dress Down Day £420 raised via parent pay and 2 vans of produce to food bank.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poppy Scotland £300+ raised</li> <li>• Virtual Young Musician competition – 21 to final stages. Awards information out through twitter and newsletter. Video of performance extracts to follow . . .</li> <li>• Charity Week – Dementia UK is the chosen charity. Videos on You Tube as activities will be done remotely, filmed and then presented.</li> <li>• School had picked up a Young Stem leaders award for its work with S6 pupils leading learning in S1 classes</li> <li>• UK parliament week- publicised and pupils encouraged to engage in essay writing competition.</li> </ul>	
<b>Questions;</b>	<p>S2 options process will start in December in PSE classes. SDS officer will also begin one to one interviews with S2 pupils re. future careers. Dummy run in early January to provide information of viable classes etc. Also this year school will pull together a 'virtual' S2-S3 information evening.</p> <p>Investigate Spanish maybe being offered in middle school but this will be dependent on staffing constraints in Modern Languages- there may be a longer term approach to this to be investigated.</p> <p>Masks – what is the impact on the children. RS said that he understands that this is uncomfortable and unpleasant for all. If there is a situation about a child who is becoming anxious or makes it difficult for them to concentrate, children should firstly discuss with Pupil Support teacher. RS noted that masks should be changed regularly and cleaned in an appropriate manner and this message would be reinforced in next HT update, especially as seniors were now asked to wear at all times..</p> <p>'Cold' classes – Currently the school is trying to get a balance. Ventilation is key. Children can wear extra layers. RS noted that most children understood why ventilation was important and would keep close watch on class temperatures as we move into colder weather.</p>	

Commented [SF1]:

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	<p>CW discussed revisiting funding for Wellbeing and Mindfulness training. SH asked if possibly we could get a better idea of what the provider in question could do and then we could possibly find funding (family session?)</p> <p>KC asked how staff were feeling about going into Level 4? Robert stated that staff are just as worried as the general population. With the mitigations that in place most staff are as happy and secure as they can be in our school environment. Robert is continually looking for different ways to reinforce the importance of the guidance/rules. Robert stated he cannot praise the staff and pupils highly enough for their approach in the last months.</p> <p>KC asked the question about the “action plan” if a COVID-19 case was reported in the school? Robert went through the “plan”.</p> <p>KC asked if Robert was confident will ALL teachers being confident with the process of Google Classroom? Robert stated that there was an audit carried out recently and that yes, all staff were competent users. It was discussed that some teachers use GC more than others to communicate with pupils in their classes and that there is a difference between using the platform for remote learning as opposed to posting homework. Also to note that some staff are happy for pupil work to be posted/ returned via the classroom while others request work to be completed in jotters. Robert also noted that use of the classrooms would also be dependent on the nature and level studied by pupils in each subject- a ‘one size fits all’ approach is too simplistic a way to look at this.</p> <p>CW asked about some pupil work that had not been marked form lockdown. Robert said he would investigate. “Crest” Awards completed during lockdown are being processed and payment to be arranged before certificates are issued</p> <p>ASN – normal round robin – discussing issue. Dyslexia was the main topic. Discussion re the lack of information and complex nature of the SQA arrangements.</p>	

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	<p>Watched 'Dyslexia is a superpower' video.</p> <p>Discussed need for early notification of essay work due and generic issues that Dyslexic children have.</p> <p>Discussion about the different levels of understanding about dyslexia amongst teachers and the need for ongoing training around these different issues for dyslexic children.</p> <p>SH asked if there would be an opportunity for interested group within PC to make a 'personal experience video' for other parents, KC asked if there was a possibility of list of links for all parents.</p> <p>Robert noted that there was now an ASN tab on the parent section of the website and that information shared and discussed with the ASN sub group had been/ would be posted there soon</p> <p>Prelim timetable is there a Paper 2 for Nat 5 English and Geography? RS to investigate.</p> <p>Should all S4 have a Scholar Login? Yes: Robert will check.</p> <p>Lottery – there are changes being made to gaming licences. This will be reviewed in the new year.</p>	
<b>3) Next meeting</b>	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 - 7pm Zoom Meeting	