

MINUTES of Holy Rood RC High School Parent Council Meeting held on Monday 28 September 2020.

PRESENT: S McIntosh, A M O'Neill, J Campbell, E Lukaszek, A McGreevy

APOLOGIES: M Cockburn M Scott, L Murray

IN ATTENDANCE: J Daly, J Falconer,

Suzanne welcomed Ewelina to her first meeting.

**2 Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of 2 March 2020 were adopted as a true record.

Suzanne McIntosh proposed the Minutes and A M O'Neill seconded them.

**3 Matters Arising**

*Carpark Safety*

Due to covid restrictions all parents have been reminded not use the car park at any time to collect/drop off pupils.

**4 Correspondence**

S McIntosh has circulated emails as appropriate.

**4 Leith School Bus**

Suzanne gave a brief update on the position regarding the Leith school bus. A sub group was formed to take this forward. Suzanne, Ewelina and Angela. A leaflet had been produced by Lothian transport which is available on the school website and will be included with the P7 parent guide. A transport survey had been emailed to around 80 parents in the Leith area to seek their views regarding transport to school. Angela offered to analyse the parental returns for the school bus survey then consult Suzanne and Ewelina before submitting to the Council.

**5 Covid 19**

Joan gave an update on where we are regarding covid in school. She reminded parents that there is always work available on TEAMS. School is continually preparing in case of another closure.

- Enhanced cleaning (including day ranger high touch points, desk cleaning and monthly electrostatic cleaning)
- Signage well displayed around the school, including max numbers in rooms etc)
- Minimal staggered start and finish times have been introduced due to buses
- One-way system will commence from this week
- Hand sanitising - S6 Welcome Team at main entrance encouraging pupils to sanitise
- Teaching Zone 2m (no face to face seating)
- Week1 and Week 2 double periods
- All pupils to wear face coverings if not exempt

- Case in school – Health Protection Scotland and protocols in place 2.50pm – 9.15 pm, team of 11 staff over 100 close contacts. Seating plans and registers are now done electronically,

Challenges:

- Max 50 pupils allowed together so assemblies are proving very challenging
- Frequent changes to subject guidelines, no indoor PE allowed
- Restrictions e.g no supported study or extra-curricular, excursions, parents' meetings

## 7 Head Teacher's Report

### Renewal Planning

Teaching and Learning (Inc Blended Learning (in school, digital and outdoor)  
Equalities, Equity and Inclusion  
Health and Wellbeing

### Staffing

In June, we said goodbye to some members of staff who had completed their probation here Miss Gold, Miss Fleming, Miss Nicklin, and to Mr Rooney (SAC Development Officer) returned to Royal High School and Miss McGoldrick PE, end of contract.

*New staff and probationers*

Miss McDonnell (DET), Mr Ramsay (Art) and Mrs Zia (Chemistry), Miss Glover (History) Mr Dolan (English)

Margaret Connor teacher of French retired after 28 years in Holy Rood.

Lindsay Clark ASL teacher secured promotion to Liberton High School

Acting CL Maths - Laura Kelly and Shauna Berry will lead the Maths Faculty during Keith's absence. Laura will be CL Monday to Thursday and Shauna on a Friday.

SFL/Pupil Support Officer- current adverts

CL RE and Mod Languages teachers – unsuccessful

New Counsellor (0.6) has been appointed to Holy Rood.

*Closing the Gap Teacher*

Every secondary in Edinburgh has been appointed an additional Closing the Gap member of staff to assist with any L & T issues related to covid and the current situation. It is at the discretion of each school how to make best use of this additional staffing. In the short term, we have made the decision to provide each faculty some time to contingency plan. Therefore, until the October break, Lynsey will be allocated to cover classes in order to free up time for the CL

### A Blended Learning Plan

- A contingency plan has been devised for each year group S1/2, S3/4 and S5/6 (to encompass BGE and Senior Phase subjects)
- A contingency plan in place if a staff member is absent due to self-isolation
- A clear plan and actions to take if staff or pupils are absent due to covid
- Faculty advice for pupils (updated from the March version) to include what to expect and where to access work
- Faculty advice on what parents can expect if their child has to self-isolate including clear guidance on how to access individual subject learning activities

### **S6 Leadership Team**

Our new S6 Leadership Team have been very busy coming up with fresh ideas of how to introduce themselves to the pupils and staff in the school and are planning a short video presentation which will be shown during tutor time. Our Captains also plan to introduce themselves to S1 tutor classes over the coming weeks. S6 Prefects have been appointed and are in place. Taking forward work of Pupil Focus Groups.

### **S6 Prefects**

We are delighted that 43 S6 pupils have been successful in their application to take on the role of Prefects. All Prefects have been allocated a year group to link in with and will liaise with the appropriate Year Head. One group will work with SFL.

### **Pupil Focus Groups**

Year Heads, SLT and the S6 Leadership Team have met with groups of S1 – S6 pupils to hear their views on learning, health and safety and health and wellbeing. We also asked pupils what they like best about Holy Rood as well as what we could improve.

The Pupil Voice is extremely important in leading the school, and this has been an enjoyable and enlightening experience with pupils being honest and frank in their discussions. We have now looked at the feedback holistically (with the S6 Captains) and intend to action any points which can bring about practical improvements in our school community. We intend to have further Pupil Voice Focus Groups throughout the year to recognise and include our pupils' thoughts and views.

The S6 Captains would like to include this feedback in a PowerPoint to be shared with pupils and staff and will create a SWAY in order that it can be shared with parents and carers.

### **SAC/PEF**

Work continuing to close the attainment gap – focus on closing the gap -additional support due to loss of learning during lockdown or who require additional support. New Development Officer Sarah Greig, who we could invite to a future meeting.

### **Mentors**

24 S4, 28 S5 and 8 S6 pupils and 33 staff members who will act as mentors.

### **Events**

Feast Day was held on 14 September, where we launched a project (initiated by the values and Ethos SIG) where we aim to put one of our school values into actual action – a day when we consciously and intentionally practice the value in our life in school. We launched the project on our Feast Day by putting the value of LOVE into action. Staff were asked to do the same. We will aim to reflect on and put into practice the values of FORGIVENESS, JUSTICE, COMPASSION, CARE, RESPECT, SERVICE AND GENEROSITY throughout the school year.

### **Equalities Assemblies**

Assemblies for all S5 and S6 pupils today. Derek Lindsay has passed on information regarding how pupils can put forward a note of interest to be considered to join the Equalities Committee.

### **Communications**

Learning and Teaching Updates

Interim Reports/Parents' meetings

8     **AOCB**

**Parent Council AGM**

It was agreed to postpone this year's AGM until next year.

A M O'Neill to send Joan a piece about the Parent Council for a future Parental Update.

9     **Date of Next Meeting**

It is hoped to have our next meeting in November. Date to be confirmed.

Meeting finished at 7.50p.m.

Signed as a true record.

