

MINUTES of Holy Rood RC High School Parent Council Meeting held on Monday 7 December 2020 at 6pm via TEAMS.

PRESENT: S McIntosh, A M O'Neill, J Campbell, A McGreevy, L Fong, N Masih

APOLOGIES: L Murray, M Cockburn, M Scott, E Lekaszek

IN ATTENDANCE: J Daly, J Falconer, F Forbes

Suzanne welcomed Lisha Fong 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. A lot of congestion outside school on the mains roads now causing a safety concern.

4 Correspondence

S McIntosh has forwarded emails as appropriate.

5 SQA Attainment

The Insight data is not expected in school now until mid-December, so it was agreed to postpone this item until a future meeting.

6 Show My Homework

Fiona Forbes explained the Show My Homework module that the school is planning on using. She went over the many benefits this for everyone.

For example parents and pupils can see what homework has been set, when it is due, and who has set it.

Staff training will take place in January with the plan to launch it with S4-6 initially after the prelim time. Parents will be sent information on this nearer the time.

7 Transport

Suzanne gave an update on the Leith bus, No 42 and the Appeal process if applications refused. She had already circulated the Scottish Government response. It was agreed to wait until a decision has been made regarding Under 19 free travel before we pursue transport further.

8 Covid 19 - 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.

9 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 D O) 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 Mr Edward's absence. Laura will be CL Monday to Thursday and Shauna on a Friday.

SFL/Pupil Support Officer- both posts current advertised

CL RE and Mod Languages teachers – not able to fill these posts after advert

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 Byrne will be allocated to cover classes in order to free up time for the CL

S6 Leadership Team

Our new S6 Leadership Team has 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 have been held 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. Assemblies will take place for all parents by the end of term.

Communications

Learning and Teaching Updates
Interim Reports/Parents' meetings

10 **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.

11 **Date of Next Meeting**

It is hoped to have our next meeting on 1 March.

Meeting finished at 7.50p.m.

Signed as a true record.