

## Dingwall Academy Parent Council

Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> Aug'23

Present:

Karen Cormack  
Paul Macpherson  
Nicola Wojtunik

Karen O'Hanlon  
Kerry Webb

Gill Macpherson  
Hilary Cameron

John Tompkins  
John McDonald

1. Apologies – none
2. Introduction to DYW - Alice Prentice | Developing the Young Workforce | School Coordinator – deferred to next routine meeting (not Oct).
3. Minutes from previous meeting approved by JD and seconded by KW
4. Matters arising:
  - Uniform – consultation overtaken by desire to retain flexibility and keep costs down. Youngsters can now wear black or white T-shirts and polo shorts without logos, and gym trousers and leggings are permitted. There has also been a notable increase in the use of recycled uniform. Overall, positive start to the new term
5. Headteacher's Report
  - Exam results – had anticipated extremely good Higher results and achieved highest results on record. S4 Nat5s on par with Highlands, but Highlands low in comparison with national figures. Particular subject areas not strong enough in the Highlands and Highland schools don't have the opportunity to widen the curriculum as much as other parts of Scotland. Expect to see most impact from COVID for the current S4 year group and are anticipating a slide in exam results. Full SQA analysis in Sept.
  - Recruitment – expect to appoint to Biology/Chemistry post
  - School roll – S1 and S3 are full
6. Treasurer's Report – Cheque Account balance £2,035 and savings £29.27, with an extra £750 in Christmas fair stall bookings. **ACTION: Sam to help Gill with matching Christmas fair bookings.**
7. Christmas Fair:
  - Bookings open for stalls – **ACTION: Sam to chase.**
  - TESCO will not be running a Christmas Craft Fair the week before
  - Whole school to be actively involved in the Fair with pupil stalls, baking, music and choir **ACTION: Karen C**
  - Planning meeting to be scheduled for after the school day and to involve senior pupils – 14<sup>th</sup> Sept tbc: **ACTION: Karen C and Karen OH to schedule meeting and Karen OH to catch up with Sam B**
8. AOB
  - Gambling harms – agreed that this would be a good topic for a parent in person session. Agreed that the next PC meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> October) should follow an in-person session. Session for parents in the school to be followed by short AGM and meeting. **ACTION: Karen OH to share info with Karen C, and Karen C to invite Robert Quigley**
  - Constitution – needs to be updated. **ACTION: Sam to share latest version.**
  - Sensory Garden – progress has stalled despite interest from businesses. PC members offered support but any proposals for financial support would need to be discussed at a future meeting. **ACTION: Karen C to speak to MEARS. John T to capture requirements.**

**Date of next meeting: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October @7pm (in person)**

- Presentation – Robert Quigley
- AGM
- Short meeting