

Dingwall Academy Parent Council

Minutes

26/8/20

Present

Helen Cameron (HC) Karen Cormack (KC)
Emma Whitham (EW) Gill Macpherson (GM)
Paul Macpherson (PM) Karen O'Hanlon (KO) Sam Blyth (SB)

Apologies

Alan Stewart, Margaret Paterson, Angela Maclean, Alister Mackinnon, Alister MacKinnon, Su Engstrand

1. Minutes from last PC meeting unavailable.
2. Treasurer Report – no transactions since March. £8800 in bank
3. Matters Arising
 - **Stretched Timetable** - double periods to reduce movement and need for cleaning. KC is aware of the impact this is having on pupils, especially the younger years.
 - **Staggered Lunches** – essential for managing numbers but tough on staff. This is putting a huge demand on the SMT, with additional staff resource to help with staff breaks.
 - **Hygiene** – Pupils are doing well with hygiene practices but there is no way of monitoring this.
 - **Outdoor Space** – For break and lunch time an outdoor space that offers shelter is essential. Pupils coping at present, but this will be unsustainable as season changes. The PC agreed to donate £8000 to help support purchase of shelter/materials. SB suggested a shout out on social media to local businesses and parents for support.
 - **Testing** - KC reiterated message that is already out to parents that should there be a positive test within school then Public Health take over and make decisions regarding what actions to take.
 - **Role of Parent Council** – KC has requested that the PC continue to her sounding board and share concerns that parents have. All in favour of next PC being on Microsoft Teams.
 - **Hand Sanitiser** – GM raised concern of health impact of hand sanitiser. KC advised she had requested permission for sinks to be installed outside school as an alternative but this was declined. At present pupils are encouraged to wash with soap and water but hand sanitiser is still a significant part of hygiene procedures.
 - **School Cleaning** – KC advised that the school cleaners are doing a tremendous job and working very hard, however, they are stretched.