

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KELSO HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER IN PERSON



Attendance - Harriet Campbell (Chair), Leri Payne (Vice Chair), Jill Lothian (Head Teacher), Ginny Stewart (Treasurer), Julie McIntosh, Sonya Nairn, Pam Guthrie, Jennifer Middlemiss, Julie-Ann Wilkinson, Dean Weatherston, Jeanette Aitchison, Euan Robson, Kirsty Banks and Ailie Ramage.

Apologies - Simon Mountford, Louise Lodge, Nicola Robertson and Nicola Moir.

Chairperson Harriet Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting - Minutes from 14/06/23 approved by Kirsty and Pam.

Matters Arising

Harriet ran through items on action tracker with brief update.

Discussion around P&C files being available on iPad's, with IT to review. Possibility of a tile on GLOW system. (When there is additional information on any of our young people this is share via our Private & Confidential Files (P & C). This is currently a database and cannot be stored within the iPad. We are therefore looking at a variety of ways to ensure that data on all our young people can be assessed by staff via their iPads so that they can refer easily and often to ensure they are aware of the needs within their class)

Suggestion for KHS to have a stall at Farmers Market.

Always invite pupils to attend in person meetings

Chair's Report

Harriet mentioned the informal meeting held online on 14/09/23 which was very helpful and raised questions such as – what do parents want? How can we support each other? It was agreed to schedule meetings around major issues / concerns, one topic per meeting.

Discussion around course choice for next session – possible draft course choice in November to see what pupils want to study and how we can accommodate.

The October INSET day will be a cross schools event with departments from different schools getting together and sharing best practices etc.

Discussion around merits/demerits – making sure teachers/staff inform pupils when these are issued and why. It was confirmed that detentions are no longer being used. Merits are converted to house points, trying to get some competition between the house and promoting good behaviour and going above and beyond. Demerits are reviewed at weekly house meetings.

Discussion around Showbie – some parents unable to access?

Homework – it would be helpful for parents to have a burden of homework for each year group so they are aware of how much the yp should be doing at home?

Head Teacher's Report

Whole School Updates

Staffing Updates

- For session 2023, KHS welcomed the following new staff
 - PE Teacher – Miss Route
 - PE Teacher – Miss Stevens
 - HE Teacher – Mrs Hinnigan
 - Primary/Maths – Miss Kwasek
- Extended Leadership Team
 - Curriculum Principal Teachers:
 - Mrs James (Social Subjects/Business Studies)
 - Miss McCreadie (Expressive Arts)
 - Mr Brown (PE/HE)
 - Mrs Everett (Science)
 - Mr Dickson (Maths/Computing/RMPS)
 - Mrs Cameron-Lyle (English/RMPS)
 - Mrs Scott-Larsen (Mod Languages)
 - Principal Teacher Point 1 Posts (focus on T & L) – Mrs Cairns & Miss Brown
 - Principal Teacher Point 1 Post (Wellbeing) - tbc
 - Principal Teacher Point 1 Post (Pupil Agency) - tbc
- Vacancies
 - Maths (2 Posts) – Mr Hanaway has been appointed, Mrs Weatherston will return from maternity leave next year
 - History – Mr Rutherford
 - Additional Needs Teacher – an additional member has been appointed on a temporary basis
 - Youth Worker post currently advertised
 - 3x Pupil Support Assistant posts advertised

SQA 2023 Exam Result Feedback

We had some great individual results at S4, S5 and S6:






National 5 – 408 presentations with 86% gaining A-D passes

Higher S5 – 225 presentations with 86% gaining A-D passes

Higher S6 – 145 presentation with 91% gaining A-D passes

We are still awaiting the outcome of our appeals along with adding in NPA results

Our Guiding Values

-  **Participation** - where technology and curriculum innovation opens learning experiences for all
-  **Respect** - where we value and applaud creativity in learning and all learners
-  **Included** - where ambition and passion are inclusive values that enable all to succeed
-  **Determination** - where we constantly strive for innovation, progress and opportunity for our young people
-  **Excellence** - where we give our young people and staff access to the best tools for learning and teaching to enable mobile, collaborative, personalised and creative opportunities for all

Whole School Expectations and Routines:

To ensure consistency across the school, we have agreed to establish, teach and reinforce the routines attached.

School Improvement Priorities

Priority 1) Raising achievement and attainment by continuing to improve the Learning, Teaching and Assessment process for all our young people

Learning, Teaching and Assessment (Including pedagogy, pathways and digital)

- **Implement Year 3 of “The Kelso Way – Assuring High Quality Learning, Teaching and Assessment” to ensure consistency of learners experience**
- **Embed digital technology at the heart of Learning, Teaching and Assessment**
- **Embed assessment & moderation at all levels**
- **Continue to improve attainment & achievement for all**
- **Develop our Curriculum**
- **Embed opportunities for Developing Young Workforce**
- **Embed numeracy & literacy for all**
- **Implement our new model of Practitioner Enquiry across the whole school**
- **Continue to develop tracking & monitoring**

Priority 2) Inclusion

Inclusion (including nurturing practice, promotion of wellbeing and universal / targeted supports for all learners)

- **Improve wellbeing & support for all**
- **Review and promote our vision and values**
- **Improve attendance for all**
- **Implement Respectful Relationships and anti-bullying Policy**

Treasurers' Report

Lottery Account

There is **£2,149.55** in this account.

This month's prize draw will be drawn this week. Prize fund is currently **£560.50**.

183 active lines.

TOTAL AVAILABLE TO SPEND £1,589.05

Main Account

There is currently **£997.71** in this account.

No funding requests received.

Zoom renewal due (£143.88), are the PC happy to cover this cost again? Agreed.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 26th October at 7.00 via Zoom.

Harriet thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.