St. David's RC High School

Parents' Council Agenda | Monday 27th November 2023

Attending: Lorraine McCullough, Simon Thompson, Celeste Taylor, Miriam McHardy, Ian Thom, Valerie Lawson, Maria Hupkova, Gillian Wilson, Margaret Anderson, Donny MacDonald, Peter Jeans

Apologies: Karyn Porteous, Sharon Hurley

	Agenda	Notes / Action	Who / By
1	**Headteacher update**	Update on changes to Prelim schedule: - English, HE practical, Music practical & History have already taken place, with more planned before Christmas. - Positive response from teachers and pupils in school. Concerns raised that broken down assessments do not give true reflection of the final exam. Positive feedback that it allows a more strategic approach for revision, including opportunities to select relevant study clubs. - School support in place through additional study support timetable, PSE lessons and online parents workshop. Careers Evening: - Excellent turnout at careers advisors from providers and from parents & students. - Discussion over some providers approach not capturing as large an audience due to presentation. Feedback that pre-event information was very informative. - BBC DYW Roadshow will be in school 29/11.	

		Staffing - 2 permanent members of staff will be leaving: Mr Gregory (RE) & Mr Weale (CDT). - New appointment has been made for RE and CDT interviews will take place before Christmas. - Current temporary Music cover is leaving, will attempt to replace this although may be difficult. - Concern raised that school have been unable to replace Computing teacher. No plans in place at present although this will be looked at as part of annual staffing review in Spring. Currently SDHS is 1 of 3 schools in Midlothian who have a computing teacher employed and Business teachers are able to offer BGE ICT lessons. Events: - Midlothian Youth Awards on 28/11. 2 nominations from school: Alex Thompson in S4 (arts sector) & Arran McManus in S2 (service/charity/fundraising). - NET Ministries will be working with S6 RE classes. - S5/6 Parents' Evening on 7/12. - School Concert on 13/12 - Junior Dance (S1/2) currently being arranged by S6 Leadership Team - Recognition Ceremonies to take place on 20/12 - SDHS / DHS joint Carol Service to take place on 20/12. Fr Basil will be attending this event. - S5/6 Dance scheduled for evening of 20/12 - Concerns raised about lack of events for S3/4 who have also missed out on a lot due to Covid / Covid recovery. School to look into this and ensure these year groups have opportunities in lead up to Christmas.	

2	**Fundraising**	PJ thanked parents for fundraising efforts. Positive feedback regarding Parents' Council at recent events. Currently at £100-£120 profit with stock left. Agreement that Parents' Council will have a stall at S5/6 Parents' Evening (7/12) and offer something new at Christmas Concert on 13/12. Plan to hold in-school fundraisers to support organisation of Parents' Council Easter Raffle 2024. Request for Donations Letter has been drafted and will be shared with group. Agreed that fundraising should go towards the broad aim of widening participation to curricular events (i.e. subsidising transport costs for curricular trips). Parents' Council to contact local parishes to see if they can support (i.e. hosting fundraising coffee morning). School would support these events by pupils and staff attending.	
3	**Education Bill: Scottish Government Consultation**	PJ to share information around Scot Gov consultation on Education Bill - focusing on changes to the awards and inspection body. Deadline for return is 18/12. Opportunities for parents to attend online information events on 4/12 and 12/12. Concerns raised that questions are not tailored towards parents' views, and that there will be likely consultation fatigue due to the high number of recent consultations, and that this will likely impact on response rate.	

4	**Legacy Fund**	Discussion over legacy fund and planning across broad target areas of Pupil Leadership, Curriculum Development and Legacy Projects. Current spend has included Columba 1400 Leadership Academy and purchasing school Barista Machinery & training. Another area from pupil/staff consultation was the introduction of a scholarship fund. Discussion over the criteria and focus of this scholarship (i.e. Engineering). School to work closely with pupils, staff and parents to ensure this scholarship, and the wider spending of the legacy fund, is most impactful.	
5	**AOCB**	Positive response to online Parents Workshops offering. All slides to be shared with all parents by PJ following the final workshop on 5/12, Currently developing a new website, issues with some of the videos focusing on subject pathways not being available. School is working to address this. Date of next meeting: 29th January 2023. PJ to take feedback on in-person / online meeting.	