

Minute of Meeting of Monifieth High School Parent Carer Council

7pm, Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Monifieth High School Library & Video-call

Attended: Andy Dingwall (Head Teacher), Kathryn Foot (Chair), Kerry Perry, Lisa Herbert, Hazell Orcheston, Lynsey Benson (Vice-Chair), Tracy Lelei, Lillibeth Mortimer, Kirsty Forde (minute secretary).

Welcome Kathryn welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone gave a brief hello and introduction.	Action
Previous Minutes reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCRC – Kerry to look at pupils how pupils can update PCC on their involvement with this.• Relationships policy launched at start of term – well received.• P7 BBQ – only one parent responded via the PCC QR code.• Volunteering – Andy fed back that the main ask from staff was that parents and carers come in to MHS to tell pupils about their careers/jobs (My World of Work – SDS). Discussion had around how this could run – further discussion needed. Discuss further at next meeting with hope to organise a date. Minutes Approved	KP All
Head Teacher Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staffing – fully staffed at start of session.• Build – continues to be on track.• SQA Results – Focus of last year was to support young people at both ends of the attainment spectrum – increase observed in all attainment measures, some increases were more significant than others but overall it was a positive year for attainment results for MHS even though attainment has reportedly dropped as a whole over Angus.• Class Charts - 55% of parents have not yet registered to use the app. Teachers have been asked to focus this term on giving behaviour announcements. Homework and other functions of the app are not being used yet. Andy advised that towards the end of the term they hope to ask teachers to award “consistently displaying values” badges to children who have done this during the term. Kathryn asks that the definition for this is flexible and staff are encouraged to look for individual changes in behaviour not just stereotypical tick boxes. Not everyone will display values in the same way – especially those with additional needs. There has to be recognition for all - what is a huge behaviour for one may not be considered that important to another.	KP/ K Foot

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC gave the feedback that the app is generally liked although it would be good to get notifications – currently parents need to go into the app to see if there is new information. Kathryn offered to put a post on the PCC Facebook page to “boost” awareness of the app – Kerry said she would make something for this and send to Kathryn for posting. • Padlets – all parents and pupils have access to the padlets, works well on the padlet app. • School Improvement Priorities for this year – to be shared by Andy Dingwall. • Uniform consultation – due to happen soon with pupils, staff, parents and carers. Discussion had around this and PCC general feeling is that the current mix of formal/informal is a good compromise. All agreed that the neurodiversity of pupils should be considered e.g. sensory needs and also that the blazers are not practical for cold weather. 	AD
<p>PCC Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All agreed to look at the MHS PCC constitution before next meeting and discuss it in more depth then. 	All
<p>Connect – supporting Partnership membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathryn advised that the membership has been renewed for another year for MHS PCC. • Online webpage gives staff, parents and families with school aged children general advice. • Connect also offers support to parent councils and other parent run groups. It also gives advice on how to run a PCC. Membership includes insurance. • Gives lots of advice and information – see website for more www.connect.scot -Kathryn to share any current links with PCC. • It was agreed that a link to Connect could be put on the school website and parent padlet. 	KF School Staff
<p>Headship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy advised that his last day in post is the 22nd November 2024. • Kathryn thanked Andy, on behalf of the PCC, for all that he has done in his time at MHS. • Kathryn has been asked to take part in the interviewing process for the new Headteacher – process will take place over October and November. Due to varying notice periods per school/roles, it is highly likely that an Acting Head may have to be put in place for a few weeks. 	
<p>Key Areas of Focus for PCC (review and discuss website)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 5 bullet points on the website. Lynsey suggested that the PCC actively inputs into some of the school's priorities. • Lynsey suggested looking at how the pupil's wider achievements are recognised. Lynsey 	

suggested that recognition should be given for participation, mentoring, academic effort (not just results obtained) where it due as well as successes out with school – there is currently no formal process in place for this.

- Discussion had around this – could it be incorporated into class charts? Kerry gave the example of a school that has a box that pupils post their successes in, the slip they use has options of how they want the school/teachers to recognise their success, giving the pupils the control. Further discussion needed about this.
- Andy advised that Dr. Cara Matthews is currently working on the participation and wider achievement priority - he said he would speak to her about it how to track this information.
- Lynsey suggested forming a sub-group to drive this forward before next meeting. To be arranged.
- Andy agreed to send out the current priorities for the school – the PCC can then work alongside the school to do some targeted work in two or three of the areas. To be discussed further at future meeting.

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AOCB

- Andy advised that the Cash for Kids fundraising is due to start soon. Money raised will go towards school equipment to make learning more accessible to all. Kathryn said she would advertise all events on the PCC Facebook page if they are sent to her.
- Hazel asked if the senior pupils are meant to be signing in/out of the school now that they are not in for a full school day. Andy advised that there is a signing in/out book at reception that the pupils must use for this.

Meeting finished at 8.15pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 7.15 pm

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