

# Minute of Harris Academy Parent Council Meeting

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022



**Attendance:** M. Macleod, B. Millar, E. Hallyburton, F. Macpherson, W. Cringle, A. MacGillivray, K. Jones, K. Gillespie, K. Pradel, R. Perry V. Low, S. Okwuadigbo, Paco, L. Tanaka, C. Gellatly, M. Crichton

## Apologies:

B. Campbell, L. Monk, N. Hancock, C. Campbell, W. Scullin

		Action by
1	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>  For the foreseeable future, Harris Parent Council meetings will be less formal so will not be proposed or seconded.	
2	<b>Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team Update</b>  <u>School Captains</u> B. Millar introduced Harris' new school captains – Leona Tanaka and Cameron Gellatly. They have been busy organising support for pupils doing Nat 5s over lunchtime and working on break and lunchtime rotas. B. Millar thanked all Prefects for the great job they did at Senior Phase Information night.  <u>Curriculum Review</u> The school is looking at changing what they offer in S4 (changing from 6 subjects to 7.) Learning would then look different down the school with 9 subjects choices being made at the end of S2 and 7 choices at the end of S3. The 7 choices would be made from the 9. More choice of subjects would broaden the curriculum for the Senior Phase. Giving young people extra choice is a big driver Data is very positive for pupils who get 6 National 5s and then 5 Highers. This would also be targeting attainment in the middle 60% of young people at the school. The plan is to consult with staff and parents with informed decisions afterwards. Will it have added value? This is all about local context and what works best for the school.  <u>Staffing</u> Ongoing. There is a Technical Department staffing shortage due to retirement and 2 other staff members taking up posts in other schools.	

	<p>The school will keep parents up to date with any temporary changes to delivery of Technical during this staff shortage.</p> <p><u>Alumni Event</u> The school is hosting an event on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October for all former pupils of Harris Academy. This event hopes to capture the attention of as many FPs as possible, welcoming them into the building, hearing about ways in which FPs of all ages could possibly support the current young people, enjoy some entertainment, refreshments and networking.</p> <p><u>Dining Centre</u> There is concern at the length of time young people are waiting to be fed at break times and lunchtimes. Tayside Contracts have said only 2 out of the 3 dining points can open. B. Millar disagrees. He is now working closely with Tayside Contracts to make this a more efficient and better experience.</p> <p><u>Senior Phase Information Event</u> The feedback was very positive.</p> <p><u>SQA</u> Overall the school is happy with the results, although there is always room for improvement. S6 needs work. B. Millar now overseeing S6.</p> <p><u>Daily Sheet</u> The school is trying to make the daily sheet more succinct.</p> <p><u>School Extension</u> Ongoing. Planning permission has now been confirmed.</p> <p><u>Elliot Road</u> The school is keen to develop Elliot Road and is pushing for astro turf to be laid.</p> <p><u>Christmas Fair</u> The Committee is meeting soon to discuss this year's Christmas Fair.</p> <p><u>Prize Giving</u> This was held in the Whitehall Theatre and went very well.</p>		
3	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p><u>S6 Social Area</u> Due to capacity issues, the S6 social area has been removed. K. Pradel would like to see an alternative space made available to them. B. Millar to try and find an alternative location.</p> <p><u>Pupil Parking and Safety Committee</u> W. Cringle is the parent representative for secondary schools. She highlighted there is a real issue with engines idling outside schools. If engines were switched off this would cut down on emissions. Can this message be circulated and put in the context of sustainability?</p>		

	<p><u>Senior Mentoring Programme</u> K. Pradel if there had been any feedback. It has been decided that this programme will be run with a smaller cohort this year.</p> <p><u>Duke of Edinburgh</u> This is back up and running.</p> <p><u>Queen's Cortege</u> Staff volunteered for this.</p> <p><u>Scot's Piper at Queen's Funeral</u> This was FP John Mitchell.</p>		
--	---	--	--

**DONM : Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November @ 6.30pm/7pm?**