

## **Breadalbane Academy Parent Council**

### **Amended Draft of the Minutes for the Meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Present**

A Irvine (Chair) T Pringle (Treasurer) J Dunbar (Minutes) L Swan, C Nash, M Cairncross, F Broad, L McLachlan, Cllr I Campbell, H Taylor, N Menzies, Colin Murray, K McLeod, S McKinnon, B Cameron, J Hickman

#### **Apologies**

P Menzies, N Lumsden, N Ferguson

#### **Welcome**

A Irvine welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **School Exam Results Presentation – C Murray**

C Murray gave an informative presentation regarding the 2010 SQA Results. He further explained that not only were the results interesting to see where the school stood amongst comparative schools but mostly the results were used by staff and senior management as a tool to implement new techniques and approaches in assisting pupils with their learning.

A tracking system is used to track pupils performance and is used throughout the school years, this shows where pupils are performing as expected and more importantly shows if there is any decline in the studies. The staff are then able to pinpoint the areas that need looked at and put plans and actions into place to assist the individual pupils. The information indicates how the school is expecting to perform when exams take place and it is put into place early in the year with the information being passed to Perth & Kinross Council in February.

2 sets of graphs were discussed:

1. Comparison with ourselves
2. Comparison with comparator schools

The presentation is attached to the minutes.

C Murray explained that although there were dips in some areas with the comparator schools there were also highs and across the board the school had maintained a status quo.

#### **Pipe Band Update**

21 Members – to include 14 Pipers (3 staff – Mr Clarke, Miss Chalmers, Mr Watson) 3 Side Drummers 4 Bass/Tenor section.

All were measured for jackets/waistcoats, there is a sample sporran which could have the school badge engraved on it, hose are on hold until the tartan is produced.

Nancy Cameron, Blair Atholl will make the kilts for £100 each.

Tartan on track for early November delivery.

In summary all is going well, on track to have a pipe band of 21 players to parade from the present school site to the new campus on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Funding has been secured from Awards for All for the sum of £9,900.

### **School Events and Parent Council Representation**

H Taylor asked for volunteers to help at parents evening on 2<sup>nd</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November this would be to help with teas and coffees, the following offered assistance:

A Irvine 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, N Menzies 16<sup>th</sup> Nov and F Broad 15<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Nov.

C Nash will make sure that everything is available, tea, coffee, sugar, milk, cups, spoons, biscuits. L Swan stated that the school will supply the biscuits.

H Taylor went on to explain that she plans to have a talking wall which will hold a variety of information to include, the tartan, the new blazer, how people receive info, information evenings, there will also be post it notes for parents to write down their ideas and suggestions and post these onto the wall.

### **Fundraising**

There will only be £481 left in the account after the loan has been made to the Friends of Breadalbane.

L McLachlan asked if the Burns Supper could be used as a fundraiser, L Swan explained that the Burns Supper is already an established fund raiser for other charities and she didn't feel it would be appropriate to take this away from the organisers.

It was suggested that a Valentine Ceilidh could be held. A Irvine will speak to R Pearson to see what is already booked into the hall and H Taylor will speak to P Butters and G Clarke to see if the bands would be available.

M Cairncross asked about the funds and could these be used to help with books, there was concern raised that there wasn't enough books for the S4 pupils in the English Dept. C Nash mentioned that some packing had already started and this could be the issue. L Swan was concerned regarding this as the new principal teacher had been allocated an extra budget for this purpose. L Swan is going to investigate.

### **Head Teacher Report**

#### **Staffing**

In place are 1 Campus Supervisor, 1 Part-time Campus Supervisor, Reception Hours are being advertised, 2 Clerical Staff have been appointed for the school office, 1 Administration Assistant appointed, J Westwood is on maternity leave, Elizabeth Crichton who was acting Business Manager has taken up a new position and will be leaving on Friday. Bill Kilpatrick is therefore going to support L Swan in the position of business manager in the interim. J Westwoods post is being readvertised.

The dining centre is now a new body within the campus and as it is not school hours (holidays) there has not been a lot of interest in the positions so some posts have still to be filled.

Crates have been issued and packing has started, all going smoothly, Campus is still on track, Mitie have started their training and all is going well.

There will be no restrictions on parking in the new campus, however there will be 20 green parking spaces and those who car share will be able to use these spaces.

Taster sessions are going to start on 20th Dec with tours from 10am – 4pm, this will be looking at the pool, library etc. Flyers could be handed out for any event on this day.

S McKinnon asked if her request for help in the extra days off had been looked into, A Irvine said he had spoken to Rev Mark Drane and Richard Pearson and they are looking into having events running on the additional days.

### **A.O.B**

L Swan spoke about restorative practice, this is a different approach to working with young children, staff have had extra training in how best to deal with a young person who may be vulnerable or have issues. The practice uses restorative conversation and forward thinking. L Swan asked if the parent council would be interested in having a presentation on this. PC agreed it would be an interesting topic so a presentation will be set up for the next meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

B Cameron advised that she had booked the next two meeting dates but due to the school move she is unable to book the rest until after the move.

L Swan mentioned that although there was parking at the school parents/carers would be encouraged not to drive to the campus to drop off children to ease congestion at the main drop off and pick up times. The church car park, town hall car park and the Birks were suggested as suitable places for people to park and walk children onto the campus.

With no other competent business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

The next meeting will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010