

BREADALBANE ACADEMY

Meeting:	Parent Council Meeting	
Date & Time:	Tuesday 20 th November 2018	
Location:	Breadalbane Academy	
Attendance: Apologies: Minutes:	T. Woodcock, J. Devine, E. Laurie, L. Hurley, Councillor X. McDade, Councillor J. Duff, P. Ruddy, L. Ross, B. Cameron, K. Wright, E. Burtles, A. Taylor T. Pringle, A. Pointer, S. Mackinnon, J. & J. Watson, S. Hutchcox, E. Stuckey, P. Spicer, J. Stott-Heap, M. Storstein, S. Mackinnon, S. Martin. R. Blair	Action
1.	<p><u>STEM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD reported that STEM activities continued to thrive and the school had been invited to a number of events which sought to share best practice. Breadalbane was one of five local schools to be invited to a live virtual skype link up with young individuals. <p><u>SNA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD highlighted that a national P1 assessment review had been announced. It was understood that local government were supportive. - The merits and pitfalls of assessments in the early years of learning were discussed. JD reported that such data can be utilised to form a view on school progress and delivery quality. <p><u>Staffing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD and TW reported that due to staffing changes, a 4-week period with a reduced English headcount was unavoidable but much work had been undertaken to minimise the impact and disruption. - TP asked how the disruption may affect the major S4 NAT5 exams and TW advised that mitigating arrangements had been made at an early stage. Parents were reassured that no NAT5 English class would be left uncovered and that the timetable had been rearranged so these specific classes would have an English teacher present at all times. - JD discussed some challenges to recruitment, such as a short notice period of 4-weeks and the scarcity of secondary teachers in some subjects and / or areas. <p><u>2017/18 Exam Results</u></p> <p>TW presented to the meeting a comprehensive review of senior exam results in the 17/18 academic year. Overall all years S4-6 performed very well. In summary, these were an outstanding set of results and the parent council asked that this success continued to be promoted widely.</p> <p><u>S4</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TW reported that the S4 results were exceptionally good. - 51% of S4 achieved 5 qualifications at level 5 NAT5's or above; compared with 54% last year. - 60% of pupils are achieving results higher than schools across Perth & Kinross. 	
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	<p><u>S5</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 68% of pupils got achieved at least 1 higher. - Percentage of pupils achieving 1,3 or 5 higher is at least 9 to 10% higher than the average percentage in Perth & Kinross. <p><u>S6</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S6 results were a good performance with the percentage of pupils achieving 1 advanced higher or more being 3% higher than the council average and pupils had met predictions of what they were anticipated to achieve. <p>TW provided an explanation of the data collector (INSIGHT) which looks at tariff points/numeracy/literacy and future outcomes and provides a holistic outlook on results. It was reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The school was focused on all pupils leaving to go to a positive destination, that being university, college or employment. - The school receives data which shows where pupils go after they leave - data had not come through from the last year of leavers. - Careers Advisor (Stefan Mullen) makes regular appointments and follows up with pupils where appropriate. - The number of pupils going into university had increased and continues to increase every year. - The number of pupils going into employment is also considerably higher. <p><u>Remarking Policy</u></p> <p>A question was presented on the remarking policy and it was reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pupils can no longer appeal or use their prelim to account for a bad exam/day. - If an individual or group of pupils are considered to have underperformed, the school can ask for a remark - If the mark does not get changed, the school then have to pay £30. - 48 papers were sent away this year and only 8 came back successful. <p><u>Transgender Policy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD confirmed that Perth & Kinross had not provided Policy advice at this stage. No policy currently stands in Breadalbane Academy. - It was discussed that this was a sensitive and complex matter and presented safeguarding considerations. <p><u>Pitlochry High School (PHS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LH reported that the Parent Council has been asked to share their views on the Pitlochry High School (PHS) estates review. - It was understood that Breadalbane Academy would potentially lose around 50 pupils if Pitlochry High School (PHS) opened up to 5th and 6th year pupils. This would affect staffing numbers and impact on the depth and breadth of subject availability. - Similarly, a closure of PHS could result in more children attending and the school roll call would increase. It was understood that capacity existed to meet this. - Pitlochry High School closing would have the most impact on 5th and 6th years. - It was understood that the option to review the PHS catchment area was also being considered. - Review is still ongoing and that all information and surveys are available online. The parent council chairs agreed to seek full information from the estates team and set up an open meeting to discuss further. 	<p>Action: EL/LH</p>
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