

Meeting:	Breadalbane Academy Parent Council (BAPC)
Date & Time:	Tuesday 16th November 2021 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Location:	Online meeting – via Zoom
Attendance:	Jason O'Flynn (Chair), Shannon Mulholland (Treasurer), Gillian Butter, Jane Carmichael (ASN), Gwen Smollett, Janet Stott, Jess Pepper, Julie Campbell, Karl Wright (KW), Karen, Linda, Sarah, Andrew Pointer, Clare Robertson, William Daly, Andy Cryer, Anna Brocklehurst, Gill Steele, J.Devine (JD), K.Gatehouse (KG), V. Marshall - (23 attendees)
Apologies:	Eleanor Laurie(EL)

1	<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u> Agreed	Action
2	<p><u>Headteachers Report</u></p> <p>Staffing Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff update will be in the forthcoming midterm newsletter. But JD invited parents to raise any questions. <p>Presentation on The Breadalbane Guarantee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on this will be included in the newsletter and has been included as a specific page on the school website https://www.breadalbane.pkc.sch.uk/the-breadalbane-wider-achievement-guarantee/ - All young people who come to our school will experience a wide range of wider achievement opportunities beyond their classroom experience. The initial focus will be on S1-S3. But will extend to primary in time and become a universal approach. - Major themes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Outdoor experiences (free or nominal fee); o Employability; o Cultural (all children will have an opportunity to attend a live performance); and o Citizenship & Volunteering. <p>HMIE inspection (announced)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A thematic inspection around outdoor experiences as part of health and wellbeing. The authority has identified BA as a target for this inspection because it's seen as an area in which the school performs well. - It will take place on Fri 26th Nov and be an all though inspection (Nursery, Primary and Secondary). - The focus is on using the outdoors to aid recovery. Format will be with focus groups (SMT, Staff, Learners). Inspectors will be observing outdoor learning. <p>Additional Holiday Queens Jubilee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The May 2nd holiday has been moved and the long weekend will be 2nd & 3rd June 2022. <p>National Health & Wellbeing Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This has been listed in National Improvement Framework 2019). Scottish Government is wanting to capture data on young people (refer to K Gatehouse presentation for further details) <p>Gaelic Working Group</p>	

	<p>- All the Gaelic staff have asked to work together, creating a new working group in the school. They have lots of ideas such as create Gaelic Ambassadors etc. It's a recognition as BA is one of the few schools that have Nursery to Secondary in GME.</p> <p>S1 Reports</p> <p>- These will out next week. Some of the terminology will be changing with the addition of the words, 'Emerging, Enhancing and Extending'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addresses progress within Curriculum for Excellence existing levels by giving further information on a student's progress within the level (for example <i>Second Level – Emerging</i>) Currently quality assuring and standardizing this across the school. <p>SQA exams going ahead in 2022</p> <p>- Prelims will be 10-21st Jan 2022. If exams don't go ahead there will be a Plan B and then Plan C (alternative certification model) which happened last year.</p> <p>Q & A</p> <p><i>KW will prelims be of the same difficulty as SQA exams?</i> <i>JD confirmed they will, most department use SQA assessments and these are quality assured. School has oversight across the exams, and benchmarks.</i> Action: JD will provide a clarification on this in the forthcoming newsletter. (ergo is it SQA).</p> <p><i>AP made the point that there has been significant national grade inflation. Has Breadalbane been too hard on its pupils and put them at a disadvantage?</i> <i>JD - There was a big jump in grades from 2019 to 2020 (but does not use term "grade inflation"). Says BA has been consistent with its peer schools, in 2020 there were outlier schools nationally at Higher, so potentially they had a poor QA process. This year the school had 3 assessment windows, so this probably helps because each time children gets another attempt. BA got a big uplift in A's and Nat 5s. Less in Advanced Highers. External exams are the best way to share quality standards across the board.</i> Action: Pre-lims info/comms will go out from the school</p> <p><i>Parent comment about poor communications from the school, reports via a portal at 'random' times. Rather impersonal. Consent forms sent out without specifying which child.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JD requests more specific feedback and says that comms are not random. The school has to send communications out from other parties (Scot Gov etc). School are now moving to paperless system via Parent Portal so acknowledges the need to get this right. If a parent can't get onto Parent Portal, they can contact the office who will help you JD asks parents to contact him directly with concerns. Responses about comms were shared on the chat and were positive about the help that the school has provided. 	<p>JD & LL</p> <p>JD</p>
3	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>- Transition between Treasurers is still in progress, Tommy and Shannon will be working together until Shannon is in full control of the bank accounts and a signatory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PC account - £6,490 – due to minimal spending with Covid Friends of Breadalbane - £11,801.61 (this is mainly ringfenced for specific PC projects – ASN etc) <p>- SM will be a signatory, then the accounts will move to online banking (to allow easier statements and changes in signatories)</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EL funding request that PC play for two Christmas Trees for the primary playgrounds – this will be reimbursed later via the successful grant award from PKC biodiversity fund. Voted on and approved by PC. 	
4	<p>Presentation – Mental Health and Wellbeing – from Karen Gatehouse</p> <p>LINK ON WEBSITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This outlined the schools responsibilities and key partners (local and in wider community). - Key partners for the school include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Social workers — work with individual families. Referred usually with permission from families; o Psychology services — help and support pupils, families and staff. o Community link workers — helping and supporting families, attendance and other related issues. Can also bring in wider team from Perth o Youth services o Police — aware of issues in the community and can help the school join up the dots and address child needs within broader context. - This integrated team meets about every four weeks, along with support team and primary deputy head (Vicky). Also partners but not on the integrated team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o School health o Breathe — run local youth clubs and support individual pupils o Lifelink o Angus Cameron o Lighthouse o Neuk o CAMHS — Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. Can diagnose ADHD etc. Can also provide emergency service, for instance if child is suicidal. o RASAC — rape crisis. - KG outlined the upcoming Health & Wellbeing Survey. This will run in November (Secondary) and February (Primary), ages P5 to S6. Questions specific to each age group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Childs SCN (Scottish Candidate Number) is recorded o Pack will be sent to parents. Its an 'opt-out' (10-day window) and questions. Aged 15 and below decision made by parents. Pupils aged 16 and above decide themselves. <p>Q & A</p> <p><i>JO suggested going for an award for the school on this topic.</i></p> <p><i>Any school involvement with 'The Promise'?</i></p> <p><i>KG – Explained its a document about how children who are looked after, receive the support they need</i></p> <p><i>JD – its about providing support for these young people, the main focus is from Education & Children's services PKC and the school will keep abreast of it.</i></p> <p><i>Is there a Peer led group for mental health?</i></p> <p><i>KG – Lighthouse will provide training to pupils and set up groups, this will be set up by the school activities in lunchtimes etc</i></p> <p><i>JD – All departments, including Pupil support, are assessing how much do children get input into their curriculum development. Focus groups being set up to ask on this. Peer led is a big thing for the school, wanting to consult with young people.</i></p> <p><i>JC Four ASN parents are finding their children are very isolated. Is there a way to get better interaction, these children are in Secondary? Maybe a buddy system?</i></p>	

	<p><i>KG – There are more lunchtime activities to bring pupils together. Parents please do get in touch.</i></p> <p>Action: KG will take this away and talk to the support team.</p> <p><i>JO Is there any one to one support for kids? Can it be done in PSE?</i></p> <p><i>KG – Mainly S4 upwards around subject or UCAS choice etc. Mainly senior pupils seeking support.</i></p> <p><i>KW about Health & Wellbeing Survey - hoped that the survey will be a lot better ('Evidence to Success' survey by PKC) this time round.</i></p> <p><i>AP – Outlined that previously parents didn't see the questions, children told it was a 'secret survey'. Survey broke the data protection act and was an unethical survey, it should be an 'opt-in' not 'opt-out'. A parent in Crieff took it up to Scottish Government. Why do they need their SCN number? It wasn't confidential. Inappropriate questions? Would like this to be discussed on the January meeting.</i></p> <p><i>KG – No comment boxes have been included this time</i></p> <p><i>JD – Can parents see the survey beforehand?</i></p> <p>Action – JD will send the information through to the PC that's been sent to school on the survey</p>	<p>KG</p> <p>JD</p>
5	<p><u>Election of Vice-Chair & Secretary</u></p> <p>JC and AP propose and second Karl Wright (Vice Chair) and Gill Steele (Secretary)</p> <p><i>AP raised the point that parents are members if they attend once. JC agreed, we need more parents involved, and to improve communications.</i></p> <p><i>JO – We are open and up to improving things and getting more parents involved.</i></p> <p><i>JD – What does the PC want to focus on. It's our Parent Council, SMT don't have to attend</i></p> <p><i>AB - What are the reasons for parents to engage? They do when they are worried. So maybe good if they're not all here. But we need to give them a reason to engage.</i></p>	
6	<p><u>Format & Frequency of Future Meetings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PC moving back to monthly meetings - PC need to hold a wider consultation on the format and frequency. 	
7	<p><u>Parent Council Fundraising – Grant Award</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vote on whether a PC £500 grant to be awarded to the secondary school English project. <p>Grant award approved</p>	
8	<p><u>Update on Highland Perthshire Learning Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD – has flagged this to Council – HPLP Supposed to meet up with parents and head boys/girls but there has yet to be a meeting this session. <p><u>Update on the Pitlochry bus situation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved to January meeting. Parents reps will also have an opportunity to raise at HPLP meeting <p><u>Friends of Breadalbane update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FoB requirements on the next meeting. <p>Action: JC will update on requirements for grant applications</p> <p><u>Road safety concerns</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved to next meeting 	JC
9	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AP – Asked when was the last PKC Parent Council chairs meeting? <p>Action: AP will investigate</p>	AP