

**FIRST MEETING FOLLOWING AGM**  
**INVERGORDON ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008 at 19.50HRS**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

**Present:** Jim Steven, Robert Dinneen, Sandy McGregor, Chris Godley, Anne-Marie Wallis, Deidre Bews, Hilary Peters, Tina McCaffrey, Norma Higgott, Alison Drew, Julia Entwistle, Martin Rattray, Sally Northern, Catherine Richmond, Andrew Pennington.

**Apologies:-** Lesley Sanderson, Councillor Maxine Smith, Tatiana Tsarmaklis, Christine Sutherland, Ian Higgott

**2. Adoption of Minutes- matters arising**

-Election of Office bearers and members of P-Council. For the parent council it is every 2 years and for the AGM it is every year.

-School matters arising, Mr Steven and Mr McGregor, Glow project has enormous potential for all children to expand develop and achieve, Mr Steven will get back to P-council with regards funding and how far along the project is. There is also the potential to develop links between other schools across Scotland, Councillor Martin Rattray has a meeting on Wednesday and will look into and report back to the P-council with regards to what progress the council has made with the Glow Project.

-**Mr Christopher Godley** discussed the **loss of cleaning hours** and that when staff leave they are not being replaced, Mr Steven has had a meeting with H& S officers and one other with regards the cleaning issues, with this in mind it was decided that cleaning be done in different areas on different days. **Mr Godley handed round copies of a letter he sent to Mr Fraser on the issue** and also

copies of a letter he has received back, **Mr Godley wants to get other people actively involved with the cleaning issues, any persons wishing to help please contact Mr Godley.**

### **3. Pupil Council**

- Miss Drew. No new agendas, progress report on School travel development plan, the bike shed is to be upgrade and will be done by Metal Work UK in Tain, the bike shed will be made from Galvanised steel with a clear roof and toast racks which will be more flexible and allow for bikes of different sizes, Mrs Drew updated on the progress of the paths to school and in the short term Castle Ave –Academy road will be upgraded and the money is being made available in the next year, outdoor multi user facility, pupils have been looking at different magazines to see what is available and what they would themselves like and where should it be located. Catherine Richmond is looking into how it is to be financed and Pupil Council will get back to committee with feedback on what the children would like,
- -The pupil council and forum groups have had meetings and discussed whether the house system needs any further improvements or can be added to.
- Mr Steven has also actively involved the children in the decision making of new staff appointments, which has so far been very well received by the pupils and staff alike.

### **4. School Matters Mr Steven/Mr McGregor**

-Mr McGregor discussed how well the Achievement project was doing and Robert Dineen also talked about how pleased he was with what is coming from the pupils.

-School website :- Mr Steven discussed how the site has been upgraded and what has been added for pupils and parents alike and what else is to be added, ie allowing more access and info for parents.

-Mr Steven also mentioned about an Mp3 study which allows pupils to access info on subjects from their Mp3 players where ever they are, Mr Steven has emailed this evening with regards to costs and whether it has been endorsed by any governing body.

- New Document will be sent out with regards Improvement plan – Standards and Quality Report and is supposed to be more Parent friendly ☺

-Adverse Weather letter has already been sent out to all parents. (Mr McGregor is **not** the Academy “Taxi Service”!!!)

-Mr Steven informed us of the Quality Assurance Team visit, 18 out of 19 classes were very good and one was satisfactory, so overall very good.

-Martin Rattray will look into the problems of dog fouling and what can be done and will get back to the P-C (re pupil slipping into dog excrement on the football pitch).

- Achievement Front – letters are to be sent home with regards pupils and any achievements ie perfect attendance and that the plasma TV is to be utilised for this, could be a picture etc for acknowledgement of the achievement.

- Radio station in school discussed – a fifth year pupils is a DJ on a station called entity.com, Robert Dineen informed the committee that it is relatively easy to find the info and actually set up the station, a license is aprox £200 a laptop would needed but this may not be the case as the school system could be utilised, clarification from the Highland council that this is ok will be needed. This idea if

implemented will added yet a further dimension to the schools portfolio and has the potential to get the shy children more actively involved in the school.

- Pupils with the school have grouped together and presented with a document about the school trip to London which included costs of travel hotels etc.

## **5. Councillors Report**

- Both Councillors Rattray and Smith work closely with School management and the Parent Council. All concerns raised at the meeting to be looked into. Steve Barren (properties within Highland Council) Martin Rattary will get back to the Parent Council.

## **6. Robert Dineen – Integrated learning community – Action plan** More groups involved and more young people and what they need. What is available and what can be developed. Ask children about what the need and they youth development plan. **PARENTS PLEASE ASK YOUR CHILDREN WHAT IT IS THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN INVERGORDON FOR YOUTH PROVISION AND GET BACK TO ROBERT DINEEN WITH ALL THEIR IDEAS.**

- Ness mp3 Legacy fund – put plasma tv into the High street ref advertising what is on for local children at any given time and Robert Dineen will look into funding of this.

## **7. Finance £819.79 in account.**

**8. Correspondence** Form regarding a requirement for a National Body for all parent Councils will be completed by Catherine

## **9. AOCB**

- It has been discussed about hosting a piano event called Katzenjammer, Sally from Park school has been looking into this and has raised the issue of raising funds part of

which will be used to pay the company and the rest will be split between the schools taking part, Invergordon Academy has agreed primarily to hosting the event, pencilled in for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March with a start of approx 6pm, this will need to be confirmed within the 2/3 weeks, it has been decided to use this as a fun and learning event rather than away to raise funds.

- Mr Steven asked Councillor Martin Rattray when the Leisure centre will be repaired and back in use for school pupils as the repairs have been ongoing and not getting anywhere and this is having an impact on the pupils as they do not have anywhere to exercise etc, Martin has said he will look into this and get back to Jim Steven on Wednesday.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING IS 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2009 at 19.00 hrs IN THE  
CONFERENCE ROOM AT INVERGORDON ACADEMY**

Meeting closed at 21.00hrs.