

INVERGORDON ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD 13.05.08 AT 19.00HRS  
CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

**Present**

Jim Steven, Sandy McGregor, Alison Drew, Laura McCulloch Catherine Richmond, Lesley Sanderson, Hilary Peters, Julia Entwistle, Tatiana Tsarmaklis, Andrew Pennington, Norma Higgott, Ian Higgott, Chris Godley, Ann-Marie Wallis, Deidre Bews, Joanne Weatherston, Annmarie Dineen.

**Welcome**

Catherine Richmond welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a warm welcome to Joanne Weatherston who is a Pupil Council Representative and Annmarie Dineen from South Lodge Parent Council.

**Apologies**

Councillor Martin Rattray, Councillor Maxine Smith, Victor Karposis, Miranda Moodie, Christine Sutherland.

**Adoption of Minutes and matters arising from Minutes**

The Minutes of 26.02.08 were adopted.

**Pupil Council – Joanne Weatherston and Alison Drew**

**Help with extra curricular activities**

A new arrangement with the Active Sports Co-ordinator means that Sarah Liebnitz will now be based full-time at the Academy. Sarah may also be able to facilitate out of school sports activities as part of this remit. Cath will also raise the issue with the Community Council in the hope that they may have some ideas/contacts. Senior pupils undertaking Sports Leadership Awards may also be available to support extra-curricular activities. Future possibilities for an all-weather pitch were discussed. Cath to view Milton facility and enquire about funding.

**School Travel Plan**

Chris suggested a system for after school pick-up, using different designated areas for the four school houses, which was agreed to be feasible. Cath has a meeting with Inspector Rees (Alness) and will feedback at next meeting. Andy McTaggart (Highland Council Health and Safety) is visiting the school - Cath and Ian agreed to meet him with Mr. Steven to discuss possibilities for travel plan. Maxine has met with Bannermans and will report back next meeting. Rail HQ are coming to speak to younger pupils about rail safety.

**School**

**S1-S4 PSE Programme**

Miss. McCulloch presented copies of the curriculum for 2008-09. Some discussion over issues raised. It was agreed that the curriculum be added to the website and parents be advised of the fact through the newsletter.

### Achievement Questionnaire

Miss. McCulloch presented copies of the questionnaire, which were completed parents present. All pupils have already completed the questionnaire.

### School Aims

Mr. Steven advised that these are due to be updated within the next year. Pupils and staff will be consulted. It was agreed that parents be invited to respond via the newsletter.

### Senior School Curriculum Plans – parental support

Mr. McGregor explained the current system and how it was hoped to change this in order to enable students to be more aware of the responsibilities and workload involved in their choices. All senior pupils and their parent/carer will be offered an interview prior to final choice. More discussion between staff and departments is also planned in order to streamline the present system.

### **Feedback from ‘Journey to Participation’ Conference**

Cath feedback from conference. Suggestions for encouraging parental participation included contact with feeder primaries Parent Councils. It was suggested that the Academy Parent Council could have a stall at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary events.

### **Finance/Treasurers Report**

Parent Council Finance from Highland Council £564.69 has been received.

### **Correspondence**

Scottish Parliament letter providing website details for email responses regarding cuts in funding. Ask Cath for details.

Email re. Scottish Parent Council Association. Discussion as to the merits or otherwise of joining this umbrella organisation.

### **AOCB**

Lesley commended the prize giving evening and the Auschwitz talk. Discussed the possibility of a school trip to Auschwitz and other educational trips.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008 at 19.00hrs in the Conference Room at the Academy**

Meeting was closed at 20.50hrs