

WALLACE HIGH SCHOOL PTN MEETING

21 March 2024 at 7PM

Wallace High School Staff Room

Attendees:	
Scott Pennock, Headteacher	Jaki Robison, Strategic Lead Ochil House
Kym Anderson, Principal Teacher OH	Julie Christie, Depute Head
Alison Notman, Treasurer	Karin Schiller, Uniform Bank
Emma Plank	Mandy Fox
Emma Torrance	Florence Paterson
Jay Brownlee	Jenny Robertson
Karen Dunn, Chair	
Apologies:	
Innes MacLeod	Louise Boyle
Tor McKay	

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes approved by Mandy Fox and Karin Schiller.

3. Matters Arising:

- **Fundraising:** The chair explained that the PTN raises funds through our tuck shops at various school events and that our next tuck shop will be held at the upcoming Spring Concert on Wednesday, 27 March, at 7pm. Chair has organised help from some S6 pupils to set up and clear up Tuck Shop. Gillian and Beatha Gunn and Mandy Fox will help to run the Tuck Shop. **AC: Chair to organise stock for Tuck Shop.**
- **Disabled Parking Bays/Car park Congestion:** We ask parents, carers, pupils and visitors to understand and respect the purpose of these bays and not use them if their children, etc are not disabled. Due to the pressure from local roadworks it is difficult to access the carpark at the start and the end of the school day. **AC: Chair to send out requests to the community for their support and will discuss with local councillors to ask for advice. Mr Pennock will share a message via the School App regarding the school car park.**
- **Dog Fouling:** This continues to be a problem so the group discussed trying to share the message - to ask visitors to the grounds to be respectful and collect their dog waste so our pupils can use the grounds positively. **AC: Chair to send out requests to the community for their support and will discuss with local councillors to ask for advice.**
- **Modern Languages Welcome Banner:** Chair reported to the group that the Modern Language pupils successfully raised £70 from the sale of their handmade lavender bags and with the help of the PTN they will purchase a 'Welcome' roller banner for the school lobby. The banner will have the word 'Welcome' printed in a variety of languages and hopefully offer a friendly message when visitors enter our school lobby and promote the study of languages. **AC: Mr Pennock to check the progress of the banner.**

4. Chairperson's Report:

- **PTN Vacancies:** The PTN will need a new chair in August as the current chair will be resigning at the AGM due to child graduating. The secretary role is vacant along with the communications and fundraising posts. The priority is to fill the Chair position or the group will dissolve. There can be two chairpeople and the chair has to be a parent or carer of a pupil. **AC: Chair to advertise the vacancies via social media, School App, P7 Transition event and parent council meetings of feeder schools.**
- **PTN Parent & Carers ASN Support Group:** Miss Christie has organised an **ASD working group** of volunteer parents and carers. Chair is organising a **support group** for parents and carers of pupils with **ASN**. **AC: Chair is organising an informal mtg at the Birds n Bees with a few parents.**
- **Tuck Shop/Fundraising Support:** We will need to ask parents and carers to volunteer to organise and run the Tuck Shop with the next committee. **AC: Chair to advertise the role(s).**
- **STYLE Options:** A charity based in Alloa that was created and run by 2 mums has contacted us to share their service. They offer FREE formal wear for young adults, age 16 and over in our local area. Their website is www.styleoptions.org and they can be found on FB as STYLE Options. **AC: Chair will share their service via social media, School App and email. Mr Pennock will share the posters when they are delivered to the school office.**
- **Social Events for Parental Engagement:** to be discussed with Mr MacLeod. **AC: Chair to email Mr MacLeod.**
- **Safe Drive, Stay Alive Programme(SDSA):** "SDSA is a road safety show which delivers hard hitting, thought provoking messages to its audience. The overall aim is to promote responsible driver and passenger behaviour in order to reduce deaths and injuries on the roads. The programme has been delivered to 4th-6th year pupils in high schools across Stirling, Clackmannanshire and Falkirk areas." The funding will be running out so it will be held this year and hopefully more funding will be secured so the programme can continue to run.
- **Online Security Awareness:** There are programmes offered at school to inform and educate pupils about being safe and secure online. There are also sessions offered regarding online financial security.

5. Treasurer's Report:

- Funds for the period from previous mtg, 15.11.23 until 19.03.24: £2,167.37;
- Group voted to give Ochil House £100 for upcoming Activities Week;
- Miss Christie reported that there is a need for toiletry products so instead of offering funds to purchase toiletry items, the PTN will ask the parent forum for donations as this has been done successfully in the past. **AC: Chair to ask for donations via social media, School App and email.**

6. Uniform Bank:

- **Storage Unit:** The group discussed the difficulty of accessing and organising the stock in the current location in the school and hope to buy an outdoor storage unit. **AC: The UB team will research an appropriate outdoor storage unit and research grant funding.**
- **Stock:** The stock needs to be sorted and organised in particular for the visits to our feeder primary schools. **AC: KD and KS to arrange a session to sort out stock.**
- **Feeder School Visits:** Need to be arranged. **AC: KD and KS to contact primary schools and organise visits to the schools with the UB stock.**

- **S6 Pupil Volunteers:** S6 pupils expressed interest in helping with the UB. **AC: KD to email Miss Dunsmore or other member of staff to assist with organising help from next year's S6 class.**
- **Reminder:** If anyone would like to make any donations they can be dropped off at our **new collection bin located at 40 Woodside Rd, Raploch, FK8 1PS (down the road from Bayne's Bakery)**, the school office or the donation box in the school lobby. Please place washed items in a carrier bag - all gently used uniform items, school sportswear and shoes in clean condition are welcome.
- Please email the Uniform Bank team at whs.uniformbank@gmail.com or the PTN at wallacehighptn@gmail.com for any uniform needs. **AC: Chair to send out reminders of upcoming dates.**

7. Ochil House Report:

- **HMIE Inspection:** The staff and pupils had a very full week with the inspectors and felt it went well overall. Very appreciative of all the community support with this.
- **Active Stirling:** Jaki and Kym shared with the group that the PEF funded post with Active Stirling has sadly ended and that Fiona Donald has gone. They thanked her for all of the positive activities and experiences she provided to the OH young people. They also thanked her for her sporting inspiration and happily told the group that there are 3 pupils from OH in the School of Swimming. They shared with the group the wonderful news that S6 pupil, Andrew Methyn, participated in a recent Paralympics competition as a gymnast and came in 4th place in his event. Congratulations Andrew!
- **Fundraising:** Jaki told the group that 3 OH parents have raised £3,500 and there was an anonymous donation made of £1,000. Jacki and Kym will meet with Paul Ramsey, Business Manager, to discuss sustainable purchases like musical instruments and investment in the Grounds Project. They will also meet with FES and the OH garden group to see what they can achieve soon.
- **Repairs:** FES is undertaking minor repairs on ramps, etc in the OH section of the school building.

8. Parental Engagement: Mr MacLeod will cover this at the next mtg.

9. Headteacher's Report

- **HMIE Inspection:** Mr Pennock thanked the parents for filling in the school survey for the inspection. He also thanked the PTN chair for meeting with the lead inspector as well as the parents for attending the group meetings with the inspectors. He explained the inspection process and reported that after an exchange of drafts and feedback, the inspectors will issue a final report upon conclusion of the inspection. The final report will be shared with parents and carers once issued, which hopefully will be in early May.
- **Stirling Council - Cuts 2024-25:** Mr Pennock explained to the group that Stirling Council has made cuts to Education services due to Stirling Council having an estimated £13 million budget shortfall for 2024-25. The cuts will affect the school year beginning August 2025. The cuts that will affect the school are roughly: a c. £65,000 cut to staffing in management savings; and a c. £35,000 cut to support staff services. Youth services and other wider services will also be affected. Exact figures and final details here are TBC. The group discussed the cuts and how parents can have their say on different options. **AC: Chair to encourage people to contact local councillors, MSPs and MPs regarding budget cuts and the impacts on the education services provided to our children.**
- **Hayward Review:** will be an item on the agenda for the next mg.

10. AOB:

- **Item for next mtg:** Mr Pennock will discuss, at PTN request, the Hayward Review, which is the report, authored by Professor Louise Hayward, which sets out a number of key recommendations for the Scottish Government on the qualifications system in Scotland and how it can best support learners in schools and colleges.
- **Item for next mtg:** Mr Macleod will attend the next meeting to discuss the Parental Engagement Team and some of their upcoming initiatives.
- If there are any issues or concerns parents/carers should contact the school as the staff are always willing to help. The PTN are also available to offer support. **It is important to note that there are only 2 phone lines into the school office so please email the school if the phone is not answered at wallacehs@stirling.gov.uk.** Someone will reply/respond to the email.

**Date of Next Meeting - AGM
Wednesday, 29 May 2024, 7-8pm
Wallace High School Staff Room**