

WALLACE HIGH SCHOOL PTN MEETING

31 January 2023 at 7PM
Wallace High School Staff Room

Attendees:	
Karen Dunn, Chair	Kate Buchanan, Uniform Bank
Tor McKay, Uniform Bank	Scott Pennock, Headteacher
Donna Harris, Depute Head	Jaki Robinson, Head Castlevew/Strategic Leader Ochil House
Kym Anderson, Ochil House PT	Srabani Mukherjee
Emily Fullwood	Emma Torrance
David Perrie	Isobel Galletly
Jonathan Bowes	
Apologies:	
Alison Notman, Treasurer	Fiona Atkinson, Ochil House Rep
Fiona Perrie	

Agenda Items:
1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tor McKay approved the PTN meeting minutes from 29.08.22.
3. Matters Arising/Chairperson's Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hygiene Products Bank: The appeal for products has been hugely successful and the school community has been extremely kind and generous. Currently, there is a large bank of products ranging from shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, shaving gel, toothpaste and toothbrushes. We will continue to collect products but there is not an immediate need for more at the moment. The PTN would like to thank the kind generosity of the Falling Primary School Staff who opted to donate products instead of holding a Secret Santa event in the run up to Christmas. The PTN would also like to thank the Mandarin Hair Salon in Riverside for hosting a collection box in their salon. We would like to offer a huge thanks to the Riverside community and their community council for their generosity and support. Thank you to Kate Buchanan (Uniform Bank Coordinator) for setting up a collection bin for the products alongside the uniform collection bucket. Letters of thanks have been sent. The PTN would also like to thank one of our parents for liaising with Childsmile for a large donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste. The PTN applied for a grant of £200 to the "Health Promotion Service Community Grant Scheme" to help with this project but we were unsuccessful in securing funds. However, we were offered toothbrushes and toothpaste for our pupils and their families which we will happily accept. AC: Karen to arrange for donations of toothpaste and toothbrushes.Fundraising: The chair attended a fundraising webinar with the organisation Connect which supports Scottish parent councils. AC: Karen to apply for funds for school projects, etc and reach out to parents/carers for support and help with a fundraising team. The group voted to give £50 to the school's Comic Club which supports a variety of pupils through art and reading. AC: Alison to give the school the funds.

- **Social Media Policy Draft:** A policy draft was distributed for reading and possible adoption at the next PTN mtg. **AC: Karen will distribute to the parent forum before the next mtg and will be discussed at the next PTN mtg.**
- **Stirling Council Parent Council Network Mtg:** Karen is trying to find out what assistance there is for parents and carers of pupils who are undergoing assessments through CAMHS as there is a huge backlog; the chair asked if any parents/carers would be interested in a presentation from Fiona Moffatt, Stirling Council Senior Community Development Officer, about adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and children's rights in Scotland. **AC: Karen to contact the ASN team about support for parents/carers. Also, arrange the presentation.**
- **Dog Fouling:** There has been an ongoing problem with dog fouling on the school grounds including on the astroturf. David suggested that pupils could make posters to hang around the school grounds to draw attention to the problem.
AC: Karen to contact Councillor Gibson, the council dog wardens, and the local community councils to seek assistance and advice. Will also contact the local high school parent councils to discuss the issue.

4. Treasurer's Report:

- Funds as of January 2023: £1546.20;
- Karen asked Ms Harris and Mr Pennock for a wish list for the next meeting.

5. Uniform Bank:

- Update will take place at the next meeting.
- **Reminder:** If anyone would like to make any donations they can be dropped off at a collection bin at 14 Queenshaugh Drive, Riverside, FK8 1XJ or school office. Please place washed items in a carrier bag - all gently used uniform items, school sportswear and shoes in clean condition are welcome. Please email wallacehighptn@gmail.com or call Kate on 07895 024065 in order to request uniform supplies.

6. Ochil House Report:

Jaki Robinson introduced herself as the Headteacher of Castlevew and Strategic Leader of Ochil House and updated the group about Ochil House:

- Principal Teacher Linda Donaldson retired after teaching for 18 years and Kym Anderson has been appointed as the new Principal Teacher;
- As a reminder, Ochil House supports young people in S1-6 with severe and complex additional support needs within WHS. The curriculum is designed to meet the learning needs of each individual pupil and is based on a multi-sensory approach and underpinned by the values and principles of a Curriculum for Excellence. Staff make excellent use of all of the available school facilities and promote an inclusive approach. The pupils also benefit from regular educational excursions such as organised trips or exploring the local community;
- A Practice Review of OH took place with Yvonne Wright, ASN, and the outcomes highlighted 3 areas: Curriculum, Communication and Partnership and as a result steps to make improvements are currently being planned including pupils having ramps and equal access to a varied play experience as the rest of the school. As a result of this review we are happy to report that the outdoor swing has been installed and the area around it will soon be complete and the indoor soft play has been installed. Fiona from Active Stirling has been engaged to offer varied health and well-being opportunities and fun activities to OH pupils 16 hours a week from January to June. She was recently introduced to parents at a coffee morning held at school. Graham Harvey, also from Active Stirling, will assist Fiona in ensuring equity sporting opportunities in school and post school.

- **AC: Meeting to be arranged between Karen, Jaki and Fiona regarding support of the Garden Project.**

7. Headteacher's Report:

- Mr Cordiner, Depute Head, who has been working reduced hours this past year, will retire this year. Ms Harris will also retire this year. The PTN thanked them for their many years of service to the school and will be involved in the hiring process to fill their roles.
- Caroline Burns has been appointed as the new teacher of Physics.
- SLA appointments have been made to both the mainstream school and Ochil House.
- Staffing planning for the new year is well underway and the school will work with the council to plan any required permanent staffing updates and Probationer Teacher allocations.
- This is a busy time of the school year as the pupils are reviewing and choosing course options/choices. S3 pupils going to S4 have completed their choices. S2 pupils are choosing 'mini-courses' for S3. The S4-S6 pupils will complete their choices by Friday 3rd March. The prelim diets are complete and there is a push now to send out marks and tracking reports by Tuesday 21st February.
- Stirling Council councillors will meet on the 2nd March 2023 to discuss savings options required for the council budget, with just under £9 million savings potentially required from Education. This means that the need to make savings will potentially impact on forward planning at Wallace High and across schools. Mr Pennock will inform the group at the next PTN meeting about the specific impact on our school and how we can support the school to continue to offer our pupils positive and progressive experiences in their education in the midst of national budget challenges. The PTN may choose to engage with their MSP/Councillor in order to comment on this process.
AC: Mr Pennock will bring a tangible list of impacts on our school to the next PTN mtg once these are decided/made public after councillors take the required decisions to move forward with proposing certain options.
- The national teachers' industrial action continues and the next two national strike days will be held on 28th February and 1st March 2023. Should this go ahead there will be a rearranged date for the S4 Parents' Evening, which is planned for Wednesday 1st March. This will be communicated once an agreed date is confirmed.
- **Thanks:** A huge thanks to all parents who have come to the first PTN meeting of the new year and for their support of the school.

8. AOB:

- The chair thanked everyone for coming.
- 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 PTN Meeting
23 March 2023, 7-8pm
Wallace High School Hub**