

Wallace High School PTN
Minutes of meeting held Thursday, 24th March 2016

1. Attendees: Cara Wood, Eve Kidd, Scott Pennock, Kitty Gallan, Mo Firth, Rachel Metcalfe, Alison McGregor, Janice Morgan-Singh, Jane Riley, Sandra Hayashibara
2. Apologies: Jen Bairner, Wendy McKinnon, Helen Hawthorn, Jackie Gee-Faulkner
3. Welcome from Chairperson by Kitty Gallan

Kitty welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Scott for the date of the meeting being close to the holiday weekend.

4. Matters Arising from Last Meeting

- a. Cycle Rack coverage – no covering because the Council and the building company didn't want areas for young people to hang about and need something that will look right in front of the school. Keen to have a covered area for the bikes that looks modern at the front. Also looking to build an area at the back for pupils to be under cover or extend the area at the pupil entrance at the front of the school. This will be expensive but planning for quotes to be done next term and work to be done either Summer or October holidays.
- b. Show My Homework – invested in this system (on-line system) for pupils and staff. Allows us to post across the school – we can see when homework has been done (red cross, green ticks). Runs in parallel to Edmodo, systems will talk to each other. System will be piloted in the next term and hope to launch it thereafter. Allows us to put articles, assessment calendars onto the system – with an app for pupils' phones. Management will be able to quality assure the amount/quality of homework across the school. We have purchased the license for the system for an initial 2 year period.
- c. Online payment system due to go live very shortly – letters to go out to parents around May 2016. Allows parents to pay trips, lunches, etc on-line. Would like to encourage healthier eating through the system. Parents can see what pupils are buying.

5. Treasurer's Report
Update at the AGM.

6. Communications Report
No update.

7. Head-teacher Report

- a. Kitty met with Scott and Paul Ramsay on finances. There will be a debrief at the next meeting.
- b. Pam Steele is proposing to do a dance show on Tuesday, 7th June 2016 to showcase the range of dance (seniors, school of dance). Refreshments by PTN to be confirmed by Scott.

- c. Spring Concert is next Thursday, 31st March 2016. Pay at the door and tickets available to purchase via school. Will showcase the film footage from the BBC Orchestra event.
- d. 5 permanent appointments for the new session:
 - 2 in Maths (Victoria Wall in Aug, Mr Alistair Cruickshanks – coming back).
 - 2 in English (Heather Dorran and Michael Quinn).
 - 1 in Music (Emma Paterson).
 Mrs Auldjo is also starting back in the new term.
 Probationary teachers will be confirmed in May 2016.
- e. Spring Flourish will go out in April 2016 in time for pupils going off for exam leave.
- f. Spending:
 - i. Graphics in science, PE, music all complete.
 - ii. New furniture in atrium and S6 area. Much better than before.
 - iii. In process of replacing ICT equipment – interactive fixed whiteboards (like large iPads). A few being done in each area and all class in technology areas. Every subject area will therefore have access to this new technology. We will look at other classes in future years if we have money to invest.

8. A.O.B.

- a. PTN Committee members
 Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications, Fundraising positions will be vacant and we are looking to fill these at the next meeting (our AGM).
 Meetings are held termly and the committee normally meet a couple of weeks before each meeting. They also help at events and organise the ceilidh (every second year).
 Communications – twitter, website, facebook updates.
 Wendy McKinnon has expressed an interest in becoming Chairperson.
- b. S6 – parent question. Is there any tracking of S6 university applications taking place within the school (e.g. mentor to talk through options for pupils)?
 Pupils are required to come to staff (mentor) once they hear back re offers from universities. We rely on pupils to be proactive and come back to their mentors for support. Some pupils may not need any further support. If parents or pupils are worried about it, please liaise with the school and they can re-engage the mentor or the most appropriate member of staff to speak to the pupil.

Mr Smith has been engaging with pupils who are interested in college – helping with CVs, applications, etc.

Fiona (SDS Careers Advisor) is available to help pupils with college and/or other streams of further education/work. For next year, we hope to be able to access a system to allow us to see where pupils are in the college process (available to Falkirk schools at the moment and being rolled out to Stirling and Clacks schools).

9. Date of Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting – Tuesday, 31st May 2016