



WALLACE HIGH SCHOOL PTN MEETING

30th August 2018 at 7PM

Staff Room (1st Floor), Wallace High School, Stirling

Attendees:	
Azra Tabassum	Janet Lafferty
Wendy MacKinnon	Claire Glencross
Tor McKay	Margherita Sacca-Briody
Janie Meikle-Bland	Janice Morgan Singh
Trisha McAndrew	Scott Pennock
Emma Mathieson	Paula McColl
Helen McKay	Lesley Sexton
Karen Morrison	Kate Buchanan
Alison Gow	Jackie Gee-Faulkener
Rachel Metcalfe	Kirstin Doig
Gabriella Farquhar	Ailsa McColl (6 th Yr)
Sheena McDougal	Louise (6 th Yr)
Tori McCusker	Neil Douglas
Viv Hanson	Peter Smith (Teacher)
Apologies:	
Eve Kidd (Treasurer)	Sandra Sankey

Agenda Items:	Action:	Who:
<p>1. Welcome and Introductions: Chair opened the meeting at 7pm thanks and introductions made, known apologies given</p>	Chair	WM
<p>2. Treasurers Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50/50 Club: over 80 signed up so far (only week 2) 	Treasurer	WM
<p>3. S6 Reps: one thing to raise – School of Sport Catch-up. Some clarity requested about the school of sport ‘catch ups’. S6 pupil experience was that it was a ‘set day’ and there was a register, so very clear, however this seems to be a bit unclear for some current S1s. This is due to the fact that the system is changing this year to allow pupils to opt-in to a day so that this better suits individual needs. SP will liaise with C Burke to ensure that this is clarified for S1 where there is any uncertainty. SP expressed no concerns over this and S6 pupils noted that many of those involved in this have strong and positive results with their exams.</p>		
<p>4. Communications Co-ordinator Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Survey outputs to be attached along with Minutes (August) • Q – what happens if a child has a food issue, who do they speak to? A - Speak to pastoral teacher/direct to catering team, who will be able to help. • Q – contracted through the Council? - governed by the Council. Q – how often does it go to Tender? A – Not certain on this. All school meals are 	Comms Co-ordinator	JMS

<p>governed by Law around aspects such as sugar content, etc. You'll find that the food will comply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil feedback shared: 'the catering staff have upped their game over the summer' – positive feedback on some new options • First few weeks are always busy, but this will settle down. • SP – Zoe and the catering team work really hard and have been working through improvements over the summer. • PTN communicates mainly to parents/carers via email list but also successfully through Facebook and Twitter. • If you are interested in helping out then please get in touch, and PTN will get you added to a WhatsApp 'Helpers' group. • School use Twitter for communication of pupil/school 'successes' 		
<p>5. Ochil House Report:</p> <p>This year, there are 27 Young People within Ochil House, and have all made a positive and successful start to our new session.</p> <p>Group 1 - S1, Ms McKay Group 2 - S2+3, Mrs Wilkes Group 3 - S4+5, Mrs Gunn Group 4 - S6+YP who regularly access mainstream learning, Mrs Gillespie A new Ochil House Head Boy and Girl will be appointed in due course.</p> <p>Upcoming events and activities:</p> <p>Many of the YP are looking forward to a visit to Blair Drummond Safari Park, on Tuesday 4th September, hosted by the Variety Club.</p> <p>OH are involved in WHS annual sponsored walk around the University/School on Friday 7th September. Fingers crossed for a lovely, Autumnal day!</p> <p>Senior award take place 13th September 7-9.30pm.</p> <p>Play Unified will be starting soon where OH YP share a fun day Thursday lunch time session with mainstream YP volunteers. Up until now, it has been fantastic games in the PE Hall, but we are hoping opportunities will extend to other faculties, perhaps Art/Home Economics. This will offer more opportunities for fantastic integration through a shared interest or area of expertise!</p> <p>Rory and Liam from Stirling Youth Music Initiative are starting soon. They lead a Samba lunch Club and also 'work' with all the OH YP!</p> <p>Ian from Big Noise will also be starting soon. Date to be confirmed.</p> <p>Janet McLauchlin, Music Therapist from Nordoff Robbins, is timetabled within OH.</p> <p>Some mainstream staff are again timetabled with various groups of OH YP. This includes staff from Languages teaching Spanish, Design and Engineering, Scottish Studies, Social Geography and Drama. Great excitement and opportunities for all!</p> <p>If any Parent / Carer / Friend would like to know more or ask any questions, I would be happy to help. Please get in touch via WHS PTN website.</p>	<p>Ochil House Rep</p>	<p>AG</p>

<p>On a final note, we are seeking help as follows:</p> <p>What? ...can you dig, prune, paint, do DIY, tidy?</p> <p>Why? ...we want to develop Ochil House Garden to be an exciting, interactive learning and fun environment...</p> <p>Where? ...Ochil House Garden at Wallace High School</p> <p>When? ...3-4pm on the last Wednesday of the month (26th September & 31st October upcoming confirmed dates, future dates will be advised)</p> <p>How? ...for further information or to confirm you can help please let either Alison (OH Parent Rep) or Mrs Donaldson (Principal Teacher, OH) know: Alison: WHS PTN Mrs Donaldson: WHS general mailbox Thanks in advance, we really appreciate your support! Cheery, Alison Gow, Ochil House Parent/PTN Rep</p>		
<p>6. Head Teacher's Report/Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Thank you' to all Parents/Carers for support re Uniform – all pupils looking equally smart and, importantly, this sets a tone for the school community. • Wallace Room: refurbished and rebranded as The Wallace 'Hub'. There to support pupils who have encountered barriers to their learning. Also will be used for parental meetings, and other similar functions. • Toilet Upgrade: building was built in 2008 and very well-maintained but good opportunity for an upgrade over summer. Girls finished, Boys nearly finished (new Dyson hand-dryers, more work to do which will likely be over Easter holidays 2019) • PE Changing Rooms: upgraded, slight teething issue in that the extractor fans had not been switched on but quickly sorted out. • Bike Cover/Shelter: still outstanding even though has been through planning approval, planning issues holding progress up. School will have to drop plan if no traction by around October holidays. • SQA Results: another good year for Wallace. Awaiting Insight national analysis, and detailed analysis once this is published by SQA. School will publish this in Standards and Quality Report once available. This year 42% got 5 @ level 5 in S4. Higher figures are the highest the school has ever attained – 26% of pupils achieving five. We have a strong standard, which we're really proud of across the school. • School/Council Budget Update: Paul Ramsay (Business Manager) is key in helping with the financial planning of the school. All council managers recently advised of cuts that will need to be made, tasked with scenario planning and considering: 'how could the service continue operations with a 20% reduction in funding across the next 10 years?'. Complex issue with no immediate solution, but early signs of future cuts further anticipated. This will be communicated to all families through Stirling Council's budget 	<p>Head Teacher</p>	<p>SP</p>

<p>consultation processes in coming months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q – What is the situation at WHS regards staffing? A - Fully staffed just now. Good, however it is something we do our best to plan around but the landscape is tricky right across the country just now as staffing levels are challenging in the profession. Would prioritise exam-based students if any issue presented regarding staffing. • Q – Are you doing composite classes at all with other schools? A - Doing this for Advanced Highers (Stirling High, St Modans etc. – schools work together for some Advanced Highers) 		
<p>7. Career Journeys event – discussion with Volunteers (if present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to those who have committed to help, very much appreciated! • Focus is very much on providing young people/parents/carers with the opportunity to informally chat with the Work Reps about the job they hold, sector, nature of work that they represent, and their journey to this point • Gentle reminder to submit the short v-blog where possible asap. • Further reach out to get additional participants • Key objectives of this event include: Smashing gender stereo types / explain that a career path is not likely a linear route / Reps interpretation of their story / why chose it, what it was they thought it was going to be, skills developed as a result, ‘qualifications will get the interview, skills will get the job’ (quote from Peter Smith) • In addition to the event itself, the school are keen to explore any scope to offer work placements (would be great to get these coming from the reps who come along on the night) • TM to engage with: Paul Ramsay (Hall set up) & Peter Smith (Event details and school support in marketing event) • School will help get the marketing/comms out, alongwith PTN led social media campaign. 	Secretary	TM
<p>8. AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsored Walk: need Volunteers / pupils will be dress down / all funds raised go back into the school towards school activities • PTN will provide a Freddo for all participants at the end of the Walk. • WM met a lady at the developing young workforce, over 50% of school leavers don’t go to Uni , only 13% of employers have Modern Apprenticeships, only 27% of employers offer work experience opportunities. • Uniform Bank: Kate Buchanan has volunteered to run this for PTN. Very successful initiative, concentrating on jumpers, blazers, PE kit. Have found that shirts and skirts have not been so sought after, but there is a stock of these too. Also operate a ‘swap’ facility, so any young person finding that their clothing item is getting a little tight can come along and swap for one that fits better. Now not accessing the Wallace Room (The Hub) it has been agreed that the Uniform Bank can operate from the main entrance area. Q – how often does it operate? A - Perhaps we will start by operating once a month, and see how it goes. • Plea: can anyone who has now left school donate back their now not needed Blazer? Thanks in advance. • Badge as a recycling project / Q – does the school have a recycling committee? A - Yes, normally run by the social subjects team and hope to re-establish this year. Keep a focus on this. Challenge is that pupils tend to just put all items in the one bin. We will work on improving this 	PTN	ALL

<p>over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting involved with the Community Councils locally: desire by the Community Council to work more closely with the High School. Opportunities to come along, present ideas and challenges, opportunity for Ochil House and desire to get the garden area sorted with support from the Community Council. Janey Bland is the parent-contact within the BofA Community Council...we share with Causewayhead Community Council / Observation made: changed speed limit from 40 to 30 mph came out as a result of dialogue. Need to get the insight from young people as to what are the challenges being faced to aid fruitful discussion and forward action. • Raised parent query about Bike Shelter, which is covered within Head teacher report earlier. 		
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Date of Next Meeting: 09/10/2018
7pm – 8.30pm in the Staff Room within WHS (first floor)