The Parent Council of Denny High School

Parent Council Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 6.30pm

In Attendance: Debbie Kirkwood (DK) (Chair), Paul Dunn (PD) (HT), Mandy Hancock (MH) (Secretary), Lesley Scobbie (Vice Chair), Linda Passmore (LP), Joanne Paterson (JP)(DHT), Yvonne O'Rourke (YO), Karen Proceck (KP), Jillian Paton (JP), Peter Paton (PP), Natalie Sreenan (NR), Councillor Kelly (AF), Arlene Milne (AM)

Apologies: N/A

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1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
   DK opened and welcomed everyone with introductions from attendees.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**
   PD advised that the system currently being used by DHS to track pupil progress 'on the button' is no longer supported and will no longer be used. The school has a new system called 'Progress' which would now be used to track pupil progress going forward. All High Schools in the Falkirk district have now signed up for this system. Parents will have their own log-in for this system to allow them to view their child's progress and to allow them to print a copy of their child's tracking report. Parents will also be notified of any updates to their child's report for them to log-on and view.

3. **PARENT COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**
   DHS looking is still looking for a volunteer for the position of Treasurer for DHS account (once this it has been set up). The account needs 5 named signatories who are named people on the Parent Council minutes to allow them to sign a cheque. Linda Passmore (Parent) volunteered and will resume the role of Treasurer going forward. It was further agreed that Joanne Paterson (Deputy Head), Mandy Hancock (Secretary), Paul Dunn (Head Teacher) and Debbie Kirkwood (Chair) would also be named signatories on the account. PD will reach out to LP in due course with any further information.

4. **PARENT COUNCIL LOGO AND BANNER**
   Mr Adam (Art Teacher) had worked with pupils who had previously submitted images for the new Parent Council logo. JP shared the new logos with the Parent Council who voted and came to an agreement. JP to revert with Mr Adam with the winner.

5. **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS/VISION AND VALUES**
   Some progress has been made within the school with regards to improvements. PD took the Parent Council through further planned improvements and advised that these will be completed over the coming months.

   School Colours/Ties - information is in the wrong section of the DHS website, JP to update. LS suggested that it could also be added to the next Sway Newsletter.

   Changing Village Units – changing rooms will be primarily communal, however, there will still be changing units available for students who wish to use them.

6. **SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE**

All Students should have their shirt and tie visible. A communication has been issued to Parents and PD plans to reinforce this between now and the summer holidays. There is a school clothing bank which DHS has invested a vast amount of money. Any Parent who needs support with uniform should reach out to the school or Fiona Boyd who runs the clothing bank. Further information can be found on the DHS webpage.

7. **STAFFING UPDATES**

A Home Economics Teacher has been appointed and will start after the summer. There is currently a job advertised for ASC (Additional Support Centre).

Pupil Equity Fund Money for 2023 – There is currently a Family Support Worker in place along with two School Councillors and a variety of other staff who work part-time. Pupil Equity Funding is given to every School by the Council on an annual basis. PD will bring full details of spend to the next meeting.

8. **AOCB**

- DK hasn't heard any further update on buses. Councillor Kelly advised that the Council vote goes ahead w/c 15th May.
- PD advised that Falkirk Council had asked High School's to send a message to remind Parents about free bus transport for students (Young Scot Card).
- Pool Closures – these have currently been removed from Council agenda for voting due to pushback.
- LS raised concern as Forth Valley are looking to pull some courses from their timetable. Details of these courses will be decided on 2nd June. PD advised that there is currently no Plan B option at the moment for students who don't get on their course, however, this will be addressed once we know what is happening with the courses at Forth Valley after this date.

Meeting was brought to a close. Date of next meeting is scheduled for 13th June at 1830 which will be the next AGM.