**Carrick Academy Parent Council AGM**

**Wednesday 9th September 2015**

**At 7pm**

**Meeting Room, Carrick Academy**

**In attendance** Shona Stevens - Head Teacher, Sina Currie - Chairperson, Sharon Robb, Alan Thom, Janet Limond, Hugh Paterson, Moira Paton, Shona McMillan, Emma Broun, Lynne McKie,

**Apologies** Aileen Fisher, Alison Purdie, Deirdre Cuthbertson, Clare Dowie, Lorna Thomson

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Alan Thom, seconded by Hugh Paterson

**Chairpersons Report**

Over the last year there has continued to be an excellent parent support for our Parent Council meetings. We were delighted to welcome more new members to the Parent Council at our AGM in September with all of them continuing to support the council throughout the year. The meetings provided a great opportunity to find out what was happening within the school and gave parents the chance to be involved in decision making on issues that may impact on the education of their child.

We have been continually involved in fund raising activities including providing refreshments at school activities, bag packing and supporting with the charity shop at the end of the summer term. We are keen to work more in partnership with the school departments to support them with their own fundraising activities.

We have been able to offer financial support to various departments within the school. This has included the purchase of iPads for learning support, science excursions, support to the Music Department and to the Craft Club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Parent Council members for their continued support over the last year and look forward to electing a new committee to take forward the work of the Parent Council over the next year. I will be stepping down now as chair as my children have left school and moved on to pastures new. It has been a delight working with you all and wish you well in years to come and hope the Parent Council goes from strength to strength.

**Treasurers Report**

Balance as at 01/09/2014 £

**INCOME**

13/12/13 Christmas Concert 321.07

09/03/15 Donation – E Veitch 50.00

17/06/015 School Summer Concert 434.10

26/06/2015 Charity Shop 1431.91

26/06/2015 Charity Shop 181.61

**EXPENDITURE**

17/12/2014 Christmas Concert - E Broun 38.17

17/06/2014 Float – Charity Shop 100.00

09/09/2014 Carrick Academy – Transport 145.00

26/01/2015 Carrick Academy

(Learning Support £624, Sciences £450, Craft Club £200, Music £800) 2074.00

**Balance as at 31/08/2014 2068.01**

It was agreed we would give £300 (Gordon Brown 04/08/15) to support transport & £500 back to the school for the costs incurred at Prize Giving (Gavin Pitt 01/05/15)

**Election of Office Bearers**

**Chairperson** – Sharon Robb (Alan Thom agreed that he would vocally support Sharon in this role)

**Vice Chairperson** - Aileen Fisher

**Treasurer** - Janet Limond

**Secretary** - Emma Broun

**Elected Member** – Hugh Paterson

These positions were agreed unanimously by The Parent Council

**Head Teacher Report**

**Uniform**

I am delighted to report that more than half of the school are now wearing blazers; the pupils look fantastic and I would like to thank all parents who have supported us in promoting our school ethos.

**Attainment**

We are delighted to report that our attainment has stayed the same or increased for almost all measures.

**Carrick Academy SQA Results Summary 2015**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **2009** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016 Targets** |
|  |  | % (NCD) | % (NCD) | % (NCD) | % (NCD) | % (NCD) | %  A-C/A-D | %  A-C/A-D | %  A-C |
| **S4** | 5+ @ Level 3 | 90 (7) | 95 (4) | 101 (1) | 98 (2) | 95 (5) | 97 | **97** | 100 |
|  | 5+ @ Level 4 | 79 (6) | 85 (4) | 93 (1) | 89 (2) | 84 (5) | 87 | **84** | 95 |
|  | 5+ @ Level 5 | 28 (8) | 26 (8) | 38 (5) | 39 (4) | 34 (7) | 36/41 | **39/45** | 55 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **S5** | 1+ @ Level 6 | 31 (8) | 33 (8) | 32 (8) | 40 (7) | 38 (8) | 37/41 | **55/57** | 60 |
|  | 3+ @ Level 6 | 18 (7) | 20 (6) | 13 (9) | 26 (4) | 23 (6) | 16/21 | **28/29** | 35 |
|  | 5+ @ Level 6 | 8 (6) | 10 (5) | 9 (6) | 13 (4) | 16 (3) | 7/8 | **7/13** | 20 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **S6** | 1+ @ Level 7 | 11 (6) | 10 (7) | 11 (7) | 12 (6) | 20 (3) | 17/19 | **18/19** | 20 |

\*All figures are percentages based on the relevant S4 roll:

For 2015: S4=103 S5=92 S6=107

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| KEY | Level 3 | Access 3/National 3 |
|  | Level 4 | National 4 |
|  | Level 5 | National 5 |
|  | Level 6 | Higher |
|  | Level 7 | Advanced Higher |

We are continuing with the tracking and monitoring of S4 – s6 pupils this year as it is clear that the increased communication with our young people and home has supported this improved attainment. Our staff have already set aspirational grades for our young people informed by their prior attainment.

**Staffing**

This year we welcome the following staff:

* Sam Johnson, English
* Ann Marie Malcolmson, English
* Leigh Phillips, PE NQT
* Ainsley Stewart, HE
* Tom Dowman, HE/General cover
* Susan Love, Art and Design NQT
* Nicola McKinlay, Music NQT
* PC Willie Porter, Campus Police Officer

We have advertised the HE vacancy 3 times without success; we have collapsed a class and Ainsley Stewart has been redeployed from Cluster Pupil Support to support the delivery of the curriculum.

**Accommodation**

The new Art room was completed over the summer term; we are awaiting adjustments to the work surface at the sink and the room will be ready. Liam McGill, the school janitor has sanded, stained and varnished the floor in the old Art barn. We have ordered chairs and tables and we hope that the department will be ready to move in before the October break.

The Wi-Fi room has now been fully wired and fitted with 30 PC’s. Pupils are already using this space to support their learning.

The Technical room has been rearranged to accommodate 20 PC’s; this is to support the changes in the N5 Graphic Communication curriculum; new desks have been purchased for this room.

PC Porter is using the office in the SMT corridor.

Claire McMorland (School Nurse) and Lynn Kermack (Careers Advisor) have a new office in the old building – all pupils have been informed of their new location.

**Budget**

The school was informed yesterday that there would be an immediate and permanent deduction in the ‘General Equipment Budget’ of £4794; this is a 15% reduction in this budget line and on top of the 10% cut already made across all budget lines this session. The money within this budget line is used to fund departments. Principal Teachers use this money to buy the essential equipment and resources, which are used to deliver and support their curriculum. As the budgets have already been issued to departments, and to minimise the impact on teaching and learning, I have taken this saving from the ‘Teacher Supply Cover Budget’ this session but it will impact next session.

**Communication**

With the recent parent survey we are increasing the communication we have with parents to try and keep them informed of their child’s progress and how they can support their learning.

Our website and twitter are both updated regularly with events and activities that are happening throughout the school. The Parent Zone holds updated information on all school policies, the Standards and Quality Report and the School Improvement Plan.

We held our first Parent Information Evening last night to provide information on National Qualifications and examinations.

On the 28 September we will hold a Parent support session for Literacy and Numeracy; Robert McCallum (PT Maths) and Alex Mattinson (Acting PT English) will lead the workshops. There will be a 15 min introduction on general support and then specialised learning in Maths and English; both of these sessions will be 45 mins in length. This session is aimed at S4-6 parents; a similar evening will be organised for parents of S1-3.

On Tuesday 20 October, we will host our bi-annual Open Evening where each department will ‘showcase’ the work they do to deliver the broad general education; this is open to parents of P6 and P7.

**House System**

This is now up and running with 3 Heads of House:

* Culzean House (Blue ): Michael Wright
* Crossraguel House (Red): Gordon Brown
* Cargill House (Yellow): Linsey Gibb

All pupils have voted for their class representatives and they now meet as part of the Junior/Senior House Council. The sponsored walk will take place on the 17 September as part of the inter-house challenge. The Carrick Centre has also approached the school to take part in supporting the Syrian crisis.

**Correspondence**

All correspondence is being circulated by email and Sina will discuss with Sharon how to take over this task.

Sina will advise County Building of a change of Chairperson.

**A.O.C.B**

A discussion was held around, “Colours for Commitment” on blazers and this is something the school are looking into for the future.

The P6/P7 Open Evening will be on 20/10/2015

The P.C. agreed we would write to S.A.C and ask for an explanation as to the deduction of the General Equipment Budget.

**Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday 11th November 2015 at 7pm**