

Carrick Academy Parent Council AGM
Wednesday 12th September 2018
At 7pm
Meeting Room, Carrick Academy

In attendance Johnny Rusk – Deputy Head Teacher, Aileen Fisher - Chairperson, Moira Paton - Treasurer, Emma Broun - Secretary, Elaine Gibson, Caroline Alexander, Jennifer Findlay, Lindsay Cunningham, Lesley McWhirter, Shelley Baillie,

Apologies Sharon Robb, Deirdre Cuthbertson, Donna McDowall, Linda Izatt, Brian Connolly, Sarah Hall, Shona McMillian, Sam McWhirter, Shona Stevens, Hugh Paterson

Aileen welcomed all and introductions were made

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approved by Moira Paton seconded by Shelley Baillie

Chairpersons Report

Aileen gave her report & thanked all members & advised she would be stepping down

Treasurers Report

Moira gave her report showing an opening balance of £3162.62 and a closing balance of £881.75 at 31/8/18. Moira also advised she would be stepping down

Ratification of Constitution

All members at the AGM agreed on the changes made to the current Constitution

Election of Office Bearers

The Parent Council for the session 2018/2019 will be

Chairperson – Lindsay Cunningham

Proposed by Caroline Alexander Seconded by Elaine Gibson

Vice Chairperson – Elaine Gibson

Proposed by Jennifer Findlay Seconded by Moira Paton

Treasurer – Shelley Baillie

Proposed by Aileen Fisher Seconded by Moira Paton

Secretary - Emma Broun

Proposed by Aileen Fisher Seconded by Shelley Baillie

Committee – Lesley McWhirter, Caroline Alexander, Jennifer Findlay, Aileen Fisher

It was hoped that Hugh Paterson & Sharon Robb would stay on as Co-opted member, as they were not in attendance this would need to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Brad Gibson & Sarah Mcilroy should also be asked to attend future meetings as School Captains

Date of next AGM

September 2019 date tbc with Shona Stevens

Carrick Academy Parent Council Meeting following AGM

Chair of the meeting was handed over to Lindsay Cunningham as the newly appointed Chairperson.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approved by Aileen Fisher seconded by Jennifer Finlay

Head Teachers Report

Given by Johnny Rusk

1. Staffing:

There will be a number of staffing changes in August; these are as follows:

The following staff took up post in August:

- > Nicola Crawford PT Social Subjects
- > Nicola Campbell Biology
- > Juliette Carnejac Modern Languages (0.6FTE)
- > Lesley Finlayson Art and Design (0.6 FTE)
- > Lauren Ball Geography (0.8 FTE)
- > Martin Ritchie ICT Technician

- > Pat Manderson School Assistant
- > Lynsey MacPherson School Assistant
- > Shannon Andrew School Assistant

We will have two Probationer teachers:

- > Andrew Irvine Business Studies
- > Julia Banks PE.

We have been unable to fill the HE vacancy despite several adverts. The National class are now studying PC Passport and Wellbeing which will result in two qualifications by the end of the year. The S3 class will also gain the SQA Wellbeing award.

Rowan Parry has resigned from her PT English post but will remain in the school as a class teacher. Louise McCarron was appointed to the PT English post on Monday, we await her start date. Louise is a former pupil of Carrick Academy.

Gavin Pitt has been seconded to South Ayrshire Council as a Quality Improvement Officer until the end of the financial year; his post has been advertised within the school and interviews will take place on Friday morning.

Lindsay McBain PT Pupil Support has resigned her post; the job has been advertised.

2. SQA Attainment:

TS Stevens reported her delight in the results again this year. Most subjects and levels have resulted in an increased percentage pass compared to last year. The number of Grade A passes was significant in PE, Admin and IT, Art, Woodwork, and Metalwork despite the last two now having a written examination. English had a significant number of young people converting a C pass at N5 into a Higher – some achieving A grades. Overall we increased the pass rate of N5 by 2%, despite the national pattern decreasing by 2.5%. The number of pupils achieving one Higher was 63% - the highest recorded in the last 10 years. The 3 Highers were down to 29% but this is our 2nd best performance in 10 years. The 5 Highers stayed the same at 11% although it should be noted that 11 pupils achieved 5 Highers whereas only 10 did last year. 18 S6 leavers left with 5 or more Highers demonstrating the value we add to their achievements in their final year.

An evaluation of the Senior Phase 6, 6, 6 model has been undertaken across South Ayrshire Council and it clearly indicates the impact the new model is having on attainment. It is hoped that the authority will share their findings with all parents. At Carrick Academy, all young people take 6 subjects in S4, 6 in S5 and 6 in S6; in some schools, they still have study periods. The S6 who just left are the first cohort to go through this model; the impact of this is demonstrated on the handout.

3. IT Refresh:

SAC replaced 147 PC's in the school; there should be a second roll-out in the near future.

4. New School:

Carrick SMT and the Primary HT's met with BDP Architects who delivered a presentation on the proposals for the new school; this is similar to the one delivered previously. They provided a scale model of the Carrick site and scale sized buildings for the new schools which will feature on the site. Attendees were asked their views on the positioning of these based on the models. From the models provided, it would appear that the proposal includes two rugby-sized astro-turf pitches which can obviously be used for other sports, 4 MUGA pitches, a rugby base as well as potentially a swimming pool. There will be a nursery, a primary school building for St Cuthbert's and the new school along with a secondary school building. Access can be via Whitefaulds or from the A77; it was agreed that Whitefaulds was not a viable access site for cars or buses. The company will meet with the Parent Council chairs on Thursday night to carry out a similar consultation process. No funding for this project has been released from Scottish Government as yet but it is hoped that it will be before the end of the year; consultation now will hopefully speed up the building of the new school when funding is in place.

5. School Improvement Plan and Standards and Quality Report:

These were discussed at the last meeting; the copies are now available on the school website.

6. Rights Respecting Schools:

The school achieved this award after Stephen Kidd spent a morning in school assessing our work, meeting with staff and young people. Congratulations to Shirley Connor, Jodie Mackie, Jean Climie and all the young people who worked throughout the year to achieve this award.

We plan to continue this work towards achieving the Gold Award. Miss Climie will set up a working party to take this forward. It was agreed that we would use assembly time to link the work that we do to the rights of the child as well as capturing some of the work done within depts. The rights that we are working on together are:

Article number 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion

Article number 16: Right to Privacy

Article number 23: Children with Disability

Article number 28: Right to Education

Article number 29: Goals of Education

Raffle Update

An update was given on the raffle items donated for our cancelled 80s night, it will be discussed further at the next meeting. Shelley Baillie agreed to check if there was an expiry date on the 4 ball at Turnberry.

A.O.C.B

Emma Broun raised concerns about pupils no longer obtaining their Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate in the absence of a H.E. teacher. It was suggested that this may be able to be obtained through other ways as it was an advantage to our young people going into the community seeking part time employment in local business such as Turnberry, Culzean & Dowhill which are all catering based employers. Ayr College run a one day course for this Certificate.

It was agreed that the Facebook page for the Parent Council should be closed as Twitter is more encouraging.

It was suggested about sending a text message for agenda items

The Christmas Concert is on Tuesday 11th December 2018 @ 7pm. The Parent Council were asked to provide refreshments & a raffle

There will be a Christmas Fair at the end of November

A funding request was placed for £1500 to reduce the cost of 30 pupils attending Lockerbie Manor. The Parent Council discussed this request and will be further discussed at next meeting.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 7th November at 7pm