

NORTH BERWICK HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP MEETING – MINUTES

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 22 nd November 2016
Venue	Library, NBHS
Purpose	Parent School Partnership Meeting
Present (PSP)	Mark Lucas, Alistair Leckie, Eddie Clark, Susan Begg, Nicola Semple, John Maslen & Liz Partington
Apologies	Mark Holling, Nina Thain, Fergus Watson, Sandra Gemmell, Michelle Moore (DHT) & Cllr Day
Staff in Attendance	Lauren Rodger (LR) (HT), Robert Jones (RJ) (DHT), Fiona Cairns (DHT), & Joanne Bloomfield
Pupils in Attendance	Adam Whiteside (Head Boy) & Rowan Baxter (Head Girl)
Parents in Attendance	Alison Clark & Sasha Spring
Guests	East Lothian Council: Cllr Jim Goodfellow (CllrG)
Clerk	Minutes taken by Tracy Ann Lonie (TAL) (PSP Clerk)
Circulation	All Parent Forum, Local Councillors
Next Meeting	Tuesday 24 th January 2017

1.	<p>Welcome Mark Lucas, (Chair), welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received as stated above.</p>	Action
2.	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising The minutes were taken as read and it was noted that the minutes of the meeting on 11th October can now be published on the school website. ACTION: TAL to e-mail copy of minutes to Nikki Collingswood for school website</p>	TAL
3.	<p>Head Teacher's Report The Head highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff – LR updated the group on staffing with the interview for the Guidance PT taking place today and she thanked Nicola Semple for her assistance. The long-leet interview for the DHT will take place on the 5th December with the short-leet interview the week after. There are some concerns over the delay in advertising for the Business Education Teacher with Carl Roderick's leave date not yet finalised and it was suggested that LR should follow-up with CllrG to see 	

	<p>if the job could be advertised under exceptional circumstances. It was also noted that Annie Rankin, English Teacher, has been appointed an acting PT at Knox Academy and will be leaving in January 2017. All information on all the new teachers will be included in the Head Teacher's Update on the school website.</p> <p>Finally, LR had attended the HTs Conference and noted that recruitment of teachers nationwide is an issue and of national concern.</p> <p>ACTION: A member of PSP will be required on the recruitment panel for the Business Education PT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Self-Evaluation – LR reported that she had been involved in a recent inspection by Scottish Borders Council of Peebles High School, which had been a highly valuable experience and highlighted the necessity of parental and pupil involvement in this process. ● Christmas – Christmas concerts will be held on 5 & 6 December and all pupils are preparing for their Christmas Dances with social dance practice being taken in PE. ● Grants – LR confirmed the good news that £2,500 had been granted by the NB Trust for extra-curricular transport. 	
4.	<p>Formation of new PSP Sub-Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scottish Government Governance Review LR circulated two documents entitled: 'How is Education in Scotland run now?' and copy of a presentation: 'Excellence & Equity in Education – A Governance Review'. A discussion ensued and ML pointed out the lack of mention of parents within this review and how parents need to take more responsibility for their children's education. FC highlighted the four main points to consider: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How should schools be run? 2. Where should the influence lie? 3. What adds value to learning and experience? 4. What should parents do within education? FC encouraged any feedback/questions be sent to the following e-mail address: governancereview@gov.scot ACTION: Review documents and provide feedback ● School Improvement Plan (SIP)/Curricular Choices RJ circulated documents outlining the column structure system followed by NBHS for curricular choices as well as rotas and X/Y splits for 2016/17. He explained the system used by NBHS to help students achieve their optimum choices with the flexibility needed for their studies. ● Planning Response for the Local Development Plan (LDP) EC reported that he had now submitted a response to ELC for the LDP on behalf of the PSP and he was thanked for his efforts. 	All
5.	<p>National Communications on Attainment Levels</p> <p>LR informed the PSP that a letter from Fiona Robertson, Head of Education, would be circulated to all parents tomorrow, regarding the curriculum for excellence achievement of a level in literacy and numeracy 2015/16. The statistics included in this letter related to S3 at secondary level and are classed as 'experimental'. NBHS achieved 93% in literacy and 83% in numeracy. Improving attainment levels will be discussed at the next ELPCM meeting in December and it was noted that good work is being carried out regarding this priority.</p> <p>ACTION: To be discussed further at a future meeting.</p>	All

6.	<p>School Trips & Duke of Edinburgh Scheme</p> <p>The priorities and value of school trips was raised by a parent in attendance and a discussion ensued on the benefits, cost implications and pupils' personal and social development of the trips currently offered and it was noted that the Duke of Edinburgh, (DofE), scheme had not been running at NBHS. RJ informed the group that a meeting had been held on 6th October to discuss S3 Activities Week with a view to change the offerings to S3 to a UK only based trip at a lower cost from 2019 in order to consider inclusion and equity issues. He also assured the group that the DofE will be offered again soon.</p> <p>ACTION: To be discussed in detail at the meeting next March.</p>	All
7.	<p>Pupil Update</p> <p>Adam Whiteside and Rowan Baxter attended the meeting and have recently been appointed as Head Boy and Head Girl for the 2016-2017 school year. Adam reported that they had held a senior council meeting and were focussing on fundraising initiatives with the PTA.</p>	
8.	<p>Dates of future meetings 2017:</p> <p>Tuesday 24th January 2017 Tuesday 7th March 2017 Tuesday 25th April 2017 Tuesday 6th June 2017</p>	
9.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Begg will attend the next meeting of ELPCM in Musselburgh on Thursday 8 December and has carried out a lot of work around the Governance Review following on from a meeting with Fiona Robertson. • John Maslen attended the North Berwick Area Partnership on behalf of the PSP and will provide an update at the next meeting due to time constraints • CllrG informed the PSP that a community consultation on school transport is to take place by an external company that ELC have employed. • RJ & JB gave their apologies for the next meeting as they will be away on the S2 Ski Trip. 	
10.	<p>Close of Meeting</p> <p>The meeting finished at 21.00</p>	