

NORTH BERWICK HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP MEETING – MINUTES

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| Date of Meeting | Tuesday 30 th August 2016 |
| Venue | Library, NBHS |
| Purpose | Parent School Partnership Meeting |
| Present (PSP) | Fergus Watson (FW), Anne Duncan, Nina Thain (NT), Mark Holling (MH) and Alistair Leckie (AL) |
| Apologies | Mark Lucas, Mike Ingram, Cllr Berry, Robert Jones (DHT) and Fiona Cairns (DHT) |
| Staff in Attendance | Lauren Rodger (LR) (HT), Michelle Moore (MM) (DHT) and Joanne Bloomfield |
| Parents in Attendance | Anne Whiteside |
| 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 | AGM: Tuesday 13 th September 2016 |

| 1. | Welcome | Action |
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| | Fergus Watson, (Acting Chair), welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received as stated above. | |
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| 2. | Minutes of last meeting and matters arising | |
| | The minutes were taken as read and any outstanding actions were carried forward or have been included in the items on the agenda. | |
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| 3. | Head Teacher's Report | |
| | <p>The Head highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff – LR pleased to report that all posts have been filled with 13 new teachers starting the new school year including 4 NQTs. A part-time pupil support teacher and auxiliary are currently being advertised. LR confirmed that information on all the new teachers will be included in her Head Teacher's Update, which she aims to circulate by e-mail every month. • Work to Rule – John Swinney, the new Education Secretary, is currently looking at teacher workloads and considering 35-hour work to rule contracts with the Scottish Government keen to tackle this issue. CllrG requested this be an agenda item for the next meeting to consider the paper in question: 'Delivering Excellence'. <p>ACTION: Link to paper to be sent with minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget – LR confirmed that, with the recent cuts in budget, there will be no departmental budgets this year apart from an allowance for photocopying. | LR/TAL |

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| | <p>Creative ways to fundraise for the ‘extras’ including transport for extra-curricular activities such as hockey and rugby will need to be looked at with closer partnerships required between the PTA, PSP and the school. It is hoped that the parent forum will engage in fundraising activities in order to raise funds for the school. CllrG suggested an application going to the Area Partnership via the PTA for funds to help with raising attainment with up to £100,000 available for up to three years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam Results – the school is delighted with this year’s exam results across the board. A very pleasing number of pupils achieved 5As at Higher level and there was a marked increase in the number of As achieved at national level in S4/5. The final data will be released in early September when the school will be compared to its virtual comparator and the benchmarks assessed. Only 13 marking reviews were submitted this year and it was noted that there would be more certificate of merits awarded at prize-giving on Thursday 8th September with two prize-giving ceremonies this year – one at 6:30pm (for nationals) and the other at 8pm (for Highers/Advanced Highers). | |
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| 4. | <p>‘You Said We Did’ Parental Consultation</p> <p>A paper was circulated by e-mail in advance of the meeting with a request from LR for some feedback on this latest consultation, which took place in May/June 2015 with the next one due in 2017. The paper had been posted on the school’s website before the summer holidays but no feedback had been received as yet. It was agreed that this was a good exercise to carry out twice a year with the ‘headlines’ featuring in the Head Teacher’s e-update. NT referred to the e-praise positive referral system, which is used effectively in her school and linked to the house point system in a user-friendly way.</p> <p>ACTION: Re-visit the e-praise system to recognise success and consider cost implications.</p> | LR/MM |
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| 5. | <p>Future Provision for Physical Education, Sport and Outside Space at NBHS</p> <p>A paper was circulated by e-mail in advance of the meeting, which had resulted from a meeting held between LR, CllrG, Ronnie Jeffries, Alan McDonald, Eddie Clark and Eamon John, Manager Healthy Living Service at ELC. This paper has been sent to Fiona Robertson, Head of Education, and to all members of the NB Trust who are keen to move ahead to ensure that NBHS has the extra outside space it needs for its increasing roll. It is likely that a future extension of the school will include a two-storey building for more classrooms and a full size sports hall. It was agreed that a timeline was now required in order to meet the planning deadlines.</p> | |
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| 6. | <p>Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)</p> <p>MM circulated a paper on DYW: ‘Market Place: information for education’ and explained that this is now a national priority that when pupils leave school they are ‘employable’ with this initiative starting as young as three years of age up to 18 years. The digital marketplace, which has just gone live, is an exciting development and a fantastic resource with 19 businesses already offering to work with the school.</p> | |
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| 7. | <p>Named Person Initiative (NPI)</p> <p>LR updated the group on the latest news regarding NPI. East Lothian Council are still</p> | |

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| | going ahead with the planning of the NPI and staff are being trained but the launch is being put on hold until the Scottish Government make their decision whether it is still to go ahead – they have 42 days to respond to the Supreme Court decision. | |
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| 8. | School Budget for 2016-2017 - refer to item 3: 'Head Teacher's Report'. | |
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| 9. | <p>AGM Preparation and plans for year ahead</p> <p>LR met with Mark Lucas, current Co-Chair, on Monday 29th to discuss plans for the upcoming AGM. Mark suggested he report on the PSPs work over the last year with an emphasis on looking forward and he asked LR to speak about the partnership between PSP and the school and to touch on the main priorities including mental health and wellbeing and the 'app' soon to be launched for all pupils to install on their mobile phones free of charge. A discussion ensued on ideas for the AGM with the aims as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise awareness of the PSP amongst the parent forum and increase membership of the PSP • To prioritise the planning and development of the school in light of the increasing roll • To emphasise the importance of communications • To highlight the positives – academic and sporting achievements <p>ACTION: Agenda to be prepared for the AGM.</p> | TAL |
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| 10. | <p>Dates of future meetings 2016-2017:</p> <p>Tuesday 13th September 2016 (AGM)</p> <p>Tuesday 11th October 2016</p> <p>Tuesday 22nd November 2016</p> <p>Tuesday 24th January 2017</p> <p>Tuesday 7th March 2017</p> <p>Tuesday 25th April 2017</p> <p>Tuesday 6th June 2017</p> | |
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| 11. | <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Challenge, Nicaragua 2018 – FW requested this be included as a future agenda item and LR suggested that all residential trips could be considered in the discussion, including the Malawi trip every three years, the Boston Science trip scheduled for August 2017, the choice of S3 trips on offer and the annual S2 ski trip. | |
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| 12. | <p>Close of Meeting</p> <p>The meeting finished at 20:40</p> | |