

## NORTH BERWICK HIGH SCHOOL

### PARENT SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP MEETING – MINUTES

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
<b>Venue</b>	Library, NBHS
<b>Purpose</b>	Parent School Partnership Meeting
<b>Present (PSP)</b>	Mark Lucas, Alistair Leckie, Mike Ingram, Eddie Clark, John Maslen, J Leslie, Lynne Turnbull, Arran Waldman, Susanna Harley, Tracey O'Connor, Karen Dunwoodie, Helen Bradley, Sasha Spring, Abigail Entwistle & Chris Morrison.
<b>Apologies</b>	Nina Thain, Liz Partington, Susan Begg, Lisa Howe, Stacy Cathcart, Sandra Gemmell, Fraser McCallum (DHT) & Lari Neri (DHT)
<b>Staff in Attendance</b>	R Jones (RJ) (AHT), & J Bloomfield, R Garrett & A McClintock
<b>Pupils in Attendance</b>	Heather Wightman (Deputy Head Girl)
<b>Clerk</b>	Minutes taken by Tracy Ann Lonie (TAL) (PSP Clerk)
<b>Circulation</b>	All Parent Forum, Local Councillors
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2018 (focus on curriculum)

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome</b> Mark Lucas, (Chair), welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Apologies were received as stated above.</p>	<b>Action</b>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</b> The minutes were accepted with the exception of 'Tracking and Monitoring' section of the Acting Head Teacher's Report, which should have stated that S1, S2 &amp; S3 will all receive both tracking and full reports. TAL has now amended this and the minutes of the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October can be published on the school website. <b>ACTION:</b> TAL to e-mail copy of minutes to Nikki Collingswood for school website.</p> <p><b>Matters arising</b> - School Transport Issues – Robert Jones informed the PSP that a pupil had now had their bus changed in order to address the bullying issues raised at the last meeting.</p>	TAL
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Focus on Mental Health – R Garrett and A McClintock (refer to handout)</b> R Garrett and A McClintock, prepared a presentation for the PSP on the importance of tackling mental health issues at NBHS. They circulate a document outlining the Scottish Government's 10-year Mental Health Strategy with the guiding ambition to prevent and treat mental health problems with the same commitment, passion and drive as we do with physical health problems. Mental health is one of the key priorities in the School Improvement Plan (SIP) with the aim that by June 2020 fewer than 5% of pupils will have a mental health and well-being issue which has a negative impact on their</p>	

	<p>learning.</p> <p>There are four key drivers within the SIP as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase skills of staff in recognising and managing mental health issues in their classroom</li> <li>2. Increase capacity of young people to recognise and manage their own mental health issues</li> <li>3. Increase effectiveness of intervention with young people when they need support to manage their own mental health</li> <li>4. Foster a positive, inclusive culture towards mental health within the school community.</li> </ol> <p>A mental well-being day in school is being planned for March 2018 and all pupils will be involved with plans for motivational speakers, stalls with local charities promoting their cause/support they can offer as well as activities for pupils to do to help such as yoga and teaching of mindfulness.</p> <p>A healthy discussion ensued with lots of parents willing to support this initiative.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Acting Head Teacher's Report (refer to handout)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Staffing</b></li> </ul> <p>Robert Jones (RJ) gave an update on the current staffing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NUMERACY – Callum Blair is now teaching at NBHS every Tuesday (from Knox Academy), which means that every certificated class is now covered by Maths Teachers.</li> <li>• ENGLISH – Annie Rankine is staying at Knox Academy until June 2018 and Julie Richardson is covering her classes.</li> <li>• BIOLOGY – Bryony Clutton will be taking maternity leave from January. Tess Watson will cover three days per week and the post has now been re-advertised</li> <li>• ART – Stuart McCorkindale will teach at NBHS one day per week</li> <li>• LAUREN RODGER – no news on the length of Lauren's secondment to Knox Academy.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pupil Equity Fund</b></li> </ul> <p>The NBHS Pupil Equity Fund (around £20,000) will be used to support the Fresh Start literacy programme, to provide some extra counselling support and to improve inclusion in extra-curricular activities. This will help those pupils who are entitled to a free school meal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Model United Nations</b></li> </ul> <p>NBHS played host to the second Model United Nations Conference in East Lothian on Friday 10 November. 170 pupils represented the views of countries worldwide in debates on issues such as North Korea, genetic modification, the housing crisis and 'fake news'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI)</b></li> </ul> <p>The final of YPI took place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November and the winning team won £3000 for the East Lothian Special Needs Playscheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>S3 Activities 2019 – update</b></li> </ul> <p>S3 pupils have now been informed about the new plan for S3 Activities Week at a special assembly. Plans are in place to e-mail all relevant parents to inform them of the new set-up. A discussion ensued about the lack of communications to Parents with them feeling ill-informed when their children came home upset about the change in the S3 Activities week. As discussed in detail at previous meetings, the change had been</p>	

	agreed for many reasons including inclusion, costs and direct link to the curriculum with one trip for all to avoid any disappointment. It was agreed that Parents should have been informed by e-mail at the same time of letting pupils know and that it would be beneficial to include a list of school trips at the start of the year with dates/costs so that parents can plan ahead with their children.	
5.	<p><b>Empowering Schools – A Consultation on the Provisions of the Education (Scotland) Bill</b></p> <p>This initiative has been introduced by John Swinney, Deputy First Minister of Scotland and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. A discussion ensued on the likely impact of this Bill with Eddie Clark commenting that it will take the power away from local authorities. The Consultation will take place at the end of January and any concerns should be brought up at the next meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. It was agreed that the school’s ability to influence at this time is limiting.</p>	All
6.	<p><b>Launch of Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) “Cost of the School Day” Resource</b></p> <p>Robert Jones circulated a document – ‘Toolkit for Parent Councils’ and asked that the PSP read this document and give their feedback to the school at the next meeting.</p>	All
7.	<p><b>Future PSP meetings 2017-2018:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018</b> – Curriculum</li> <li>• <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b> – Digital technology (TBC)</li> <li>• <b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018</b> – Developing the Young Workforce</li> <li>• <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018</b> – Review of PSP progress – School Improvement Plan 2018-2019</li> </ul>	
8.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sixth Year Leaving Do</b> – Mike Ingram raised his concerns at the cost of this year’s leaving party planned by the student committee. Costs could be as high as £80 per pupil not including party wear, which is significantly higher than previous years. Heather Wightman, Deputy Head Girl, reassured the group that all students had had a say in the choice of venue – Dynamic Earth, which had increased the cost this year. Possible staff involvement was discussed but this has never been done historically.</li> <li>• <b>East Lothian Area Partnership Meeting (ELAP)</b> – Joanne Bloomfield (JB) will attend the next meeting to be held at the Brunton Theatre on Wednesday 22 November. John Maslen also plans to attend if available.</li> <li>• <b>School Extension Plans</b> – Mark Lucas enquired about the plans for the school extension with the likely school roll increase with all the new houses in the local area. Robert Jones confirmed that this has been postponed due to a higher proportion of ‘empty nesters’ in the new houses than expected. <b>ACTION:</b> Mark to request an update from Cllr Goodfellow for the next meeting</li> <li>• <b>Dining Room Expansion</b> – it was agreed that this needed to be included in the expansion plans and that the flow of lunch traffic should be improved asap, Robert Jones confirmed that a proposal to change the tables to allow more seating was on the current wish list.</li> <li>• <b>Apologies in Advance</b> – Joanne Bloomfield gave her apologies for the next meeting as she will be away on the S2 ski trip.</li> </ul>	ML

9.	<b>Close of Meeting</b> The meeting finished at 21.00	