

NORTH BERWICK HIGH SCHOOL PARENT SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF PSP MEETING OF 30 APRIL 2019

Present: N Bradley (Chair)
K Dunwoodie, Parent Member
L Gurney, Parent Member
J Massie, Parent Member
L Turnbull, Parent Member
L Johnston, Parent Member
E Clark, Parent Member
J Leslie, Parent Member
L Forrest, Parent Member
S Spring, Parent Member
H Way, Parent Member

Attending: Lauren Rodger, Head Teacher
Robert Jones, DHT
Joanne Bloomfield, Staff Member

In attendance: Allison Cosgrove, Clerk

Others in attendance: E Davidson, P Bott, S Grant, K McCarthy

1. *Minutes of previous meeting:* These were agreed by all present.
2. *Matters arising:* Information on the ownership of land currently owned by the Trust would be circulated when this was available.
E Clark had attended Recruitment and Selection training – there was a need for more parents to attend so there was a larger pool available for interviews. Noted that interview time could be lengthy.
Link to leaflet on study strategy – R Jones advised that leaflets were available in the Library, and pupils had been advised of this.
E-Eco Committee – The Chair reported that he had written to the Committee but not had a response. Mrs Rodger noted that a new Committee would be starting after the summer.
Parents evening – An electronic appointment system was to be piloted, but this could not take place because of GDPR. Mrs Rodger hoped problems would be resolved in time for next year as although 42 parents had seen the teacher of their choice, 17 had not been able to. It was noted that Meet the Teacher event was seen as a P7 evening, rather than S1 and it was hoped that the new system would resolve this. The Chair reported on setting up separate accounts for parents representing the year groups. The Council had recommended WhatsApp but he was not in favour as phone numbers would be available. The IT Dept were working on a new app. Law Primary was trialling this for a month, but there were questions as to who would administer this; however Bev Skirrow from ELC was checking out the generic gmail position with David Gilmour, Web Advisor.
It was also noted that the parent council section of the website was out of date.
Mrs Rodger would put PSP items into her weekly email.
3. *Head Teacher's Report:*
A report on Staffing was made to parents. There was particular concern around vacancies in the PE Department, especially for Saturday morning cover, where support from parents was required. This was

not a resource issue but one of staff capacity, and including the Duke of Edinburgh Award activities, which was dependent on parental assistance.

Mrs Rodger also reported on the SQA exams, the GTCS Excellence in Professional Learning Award, the inclusion of NBHS in the Professional Learning as Critical Enquiry initiative, Activities Week and a whole school and community ceilidh on Friday 28 June.

4. *Common School Day:*

Mrs Rodger advised how this could be put into practice, noting that North Berwick and two other secondary schools would not be going live until 2020, while Dunbar Grammar was already practising this system and the remaining two senior schools would go live in 2019. Lunchtime would be reduced to 40 minutes and the end of the school day would be 3.25. The curriculum would need to be re-worked.

Mr Jones brought forward a Curriculum Structure Option Paper, illustrating the various options open across the senior and junior school. Parents asked questions on staff numbers, two year Highers and the reasons for a common school day. A meeting will be arranged soon to share the proposals with parents
Sederunt – S Spring left the meeting.

5. *Issues raised by Parents:*

Parents asked about the local authority review, and Mrs Rodger queried whether S3 should have the choice of 8 or 9 subjects. Parents present voted unanimously to have 9 subject choices.

The School Improvement Plan- would be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 4 June.