

WICK HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes – 22nd February 2021

This was a virtual meeting due to coronavirus restrictions

Present: Iain Baikie (Chairperson), Sebastian Sandecki (Acting Rector), Grant Mackenzie, Eric Baijal, Laura Harper, Paula Fraser, Maureen Forbes, Kerry Gunn, Julia Dunnet, Gina Johnston, Arlene Martin, Karen Sandison, Somer Malcolm, Claire Mackay, Colleen Pellow, Aimee Millington, Yvonne Maclean

Apologies: Gillian Dunnett

Welcome

Chairperson Iain Baikie welcomed all tonight which due to Coronavirus restrictions was another virtual meeting.

Head Teachers Report

The following points were addressed by the Rector in his report: - Remote learning will continue at present. From Monday 22nd February, senior pupils have been invited to come into the school to complete practical subjects needed to gain qualifications. SQA submission of provisional grades had now moved to 25th June. Online model has been successful and has been praised by pupils, parents, and staff. There has been more communication with parents for example, daily attendance check text messages and weekly engagement reports. Parent members of the PC agreed that this lockdown was more successful regarding the pupils' learning and engagement reports were good. The Rector was also asked about live lessons via chrome book, but explained each teacher has their own way of delivering lessons, different styles and abilities, but all are available online during the lesson for pupils' questions. Any problems with online learning or if any pupil is struggling with communication issues or feeling isolated please get in touch with the school and they will then be supported by the Guidance team.

Chrome Books – The Rector informed us that faulty ChromeBooks are taking five to six weeks to come back from HC technical support, at present some 45 chrome books have been sent away. There are no extra devices in the school to replace the damaged ones, so some pupils have nothing to work on.

IB wondered if the Parent Council could help with this situation and after a vote it was decided to appeal on the PC Facebook page that we are looking for laptops which could be used by pupils working from home. If we manage to acquire any laptops, they will be made safe and appropriate, for use by pupils.

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Action 1: The Rector will find out how many ChromeBooks are still awaiting repair as they are then sent straight back to the pupil's home address not via the school.

Action 2: JD will organise for this appeal for laptops to be put on PC Facebook page.

Recognition Awards

Some departments have already sent out recognition awards to pupils, but all departments will be involved in this over the next couple of weeks.

Report cards/Tracking reports

IB commented on minimal information on the tracking reports and they are not really any use. There is comment space for teachers to complete but very few have done this. IB was worried pupils would have choice forms handed out to them without proper guidance from the school. The Rector explained that 1 full report, and 3 tracking reports are published in a year. In the tracking reports comments from teachers are optional and at present unions are involved about how much reporting is needed to be done. In the full report there is lots of information including teacher comments. Subject Choice Forms should have been distributed this week but have been held back and will be published in a couple of weeks.

Fighting

The Rector reported that 1 incident had taken place in the school and 1 incident outside the school since last meeting. When fights happen outside the school, the school does not get involved and are not able to use sanction systems. In -school incidents sanctions are delivered on an individual basis with the last resort being exclusion.

School Sign

The school sign is now ready, and a cheque will be issued by PC.

Action 1 – JD will organise delivery to the school.

Boulevard and Pitch Access

IB informed the PC that HC keeps changing their dates when the boulevard and pitch access will be ready to go.

IB will speak to Allan Farquhar of the Stakeholders group but is hopeful when the school restarts the work on both should be finished as promised by HC. The school should not lose another term with no access to either.

The next meeting of the PC will be on 24th May 2021 at 7pm.

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