**Jedburgh Grammar Campus Parent Council Minutes**

**26th January 2022 via zoom**

**Present**

Katie Warnock, Diana Hickson, Diane Palmer, Tammy Yourston, Leanne Stevenson, Jenna Valasek, Susan Oliver, Paul Fagan, Julie Forsythe, Lynne McKay, Grant Kearney, Katrina Barbour, Rhona Hedley, Lynsey Hall, Alison Monteith, Joanna Pringle, Davina Hyland, Fiona Ralston, Zoe Turnbull, Gemma Keddie, Lynsey Graham.

**Apologies**

Lynsey Laing, Lisa Fisher, Shirley McGlasson.

**STEM Pilot Feedback – L Hall (PT of science)**

P7 has STEM sessions in lab every Friday, going well, good feedback from staff and parents and pupils. Excellent for transitions as science teacher getting to know all the P7s. Some of the younger children have had sessions in the science labs as well. Something to continue and develop.

**Head Teachers Report – S Oliver**

**Headteacher’s Report to Parent Council**

**Wednesday 26th January 2022**

**Staffing Update**

* We started the term by welcoming Mrs Karen Cuthers (Principal Teacher of Pupil Support 2-18), Miss Louth (English) and Ms Hastie (English/Drama) to the Campus.
  + - * Mrs Elder has joined us as an Additional Needs Assistant and Mrs Laura Sinclair will be also be joining our Pupil Support Team after the February holiday in the role of Link Worker, supporting young people and families across the campus.
* Miss Anderson will be joining us to replace Mrs Younger who left JGC at Christmas. However, for continuity Mrs Baird will continue in P3.
* We are in the process of recruiting a replacement for our primary Curriculum Support Teacher, Mrs Fraser, who retired at Christmas.

**General Update**

* **Covid-19.** Mitigations in place previously remain and we continue to follow government requirements for self-isolation. We are grateful to pupils and staff who are supporting us by continuing with twice-weekly lateral flow testing.

We are currently experiencing higher levels of staff absence than at any other time during the pandemic. As previously, we are able to ensure that teaching and learning continues with supply staff, our own staff and a lot of flexibility and goodwill!

We have secured funding for additional supported study opportunities for senior pupils in the run up to the external exams. Some opportunities may be offered during the Easter holiday.

* **Family Learning**

Our Community Adult Learning Worker, Lesley Anne Nevins, is offering an online learning together opportunity for parents/carers of children from birth to five years old. The Peep programme offers ways to encourage child learning and development and will run on Wednesday mornings 10-11am, starting 2nd February. More information available by speaking to a member of our ELC staff or emailing [JGC@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:JGC@scotborders.gov.uk)

* **Burns Celebrations**

Our Junior Head Team led outdoor celebrations, with Callum Yourston giving an outstanding address to the Haggis, Mrs Baird playing the bagpipes and P4 performing the Selkirk Grace.

* **Learning for Sustainability**

Weather permitting, the next phase of tree planting will begin on the campus site this Friday, This project is being led by pupil and staff members of our Campus Eco Team, and supported by Community Learning & Development, Borders Forest Trust, Mainetti and Generations Working Together.

* **Filling Station**

Pupils have named our secondary breakfast provision as the “Filling Station”. Pupil Equity Funding was used to establish this provision, but we are also grateful for the ongoing support of staff volunteers and local organisations in sustaining this valuable start to the day. Primary classes have been offered a “Wee Filling Station” in their classrooms, which offer healthy breakfast snacks for anyone who would benefit.

* **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

We will be submitting a bid to the Platinum Jubilee fund with a plan for a celebration event, along with a lasting legacy on site.

* **Extra-curricular Activities**

We are delighted to have a range of opportunities up and running now, and very grateful to the fabulous volunteers and organisations who lead these activities in and around the Campus. We are collating details about activities on offer, including contact details, so parents/carers can access up to date information and get in touch with the right people regarding any queries.

* **Parental Engagement around Learning**

We received very positive feedback this week on the use of Satchel One in secondary, highlighting that we are the top school in the region for pupil and staff engagement and second in the region for parental engagement.

The long-awaited roll out of Showbie has begun, with P4-7 receiving their sign up letters. P1-3 will follow shortly and we are continuing to look at how we can use digital methods to share pupil progress more effectively and efficiently with parents and carers.

**Key dates:**

Wed 9th Feb S3 Parents’ Consultation

Mon 14th Feb In-service Day (school closed to pupils)

Tue 15th Feb Holiday

- Fri 18th Feb

Tue 15th Mar S2 Parents’ Consultation & Info. Evening

Thu 17th Mar Parent Council

Primary reports will be issued prior to the Easter holiday.

School holidays for this session and next can be found on the Scottish Borders Council website:

[School term dates for 2021-22 | Term, holiday and closure dates | Scottish Borders Council (scotborders.gov.uk)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20009/schools_and_learning/621/term_holiday_and_closure_dates)

Please note school will be closed for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday on Friday 3rd June.

Working on how to get information out to parents on extracurricular activities and new ideas for parental engagement.

**Recognising Achievement – A Monteith**

New house system in progress, children voted for houses to be named after Jedburgh ride outs. Currently allocating children/families to the houses. Hoping to announce in February. Will be used to allow interhouse events and recognising achievements etc.

**SQA Update – G Kearney**

Exams will be going ahead; prelims are in progress which is a good opportunity as many of the pupils have never sat exams before.

**Parental Feedback Survey – P Fagan**

Same questions used as HMIE. (Pupils, teaching staff, non-teaching staff and external groups will all be asked in time) 16% response rate which is good when compared to other schools.

Mostly positive feedback. Data has been compared to other well preforming schools and much of it is comparable. Looking into areas which could be improved. PC visibility is an area which could be improved. Paul Fagan is happy to go over the results in more detail with anyone who is interested.

**P7 Residential Bus – G Kearney**

Asking if PC could help to contribute to buses. Main bus is estimated to be £235, and a further £200 so daytime only pupils can attend in a minibus,

Funds sit at: JGS acc. £534.69, HBPS acc. £158.47, PSPS acc. £163.37. So have funds to do this. Will need to find a way to fundraise to replace the money.

**Parent Council Going Forward**

Discussion about running the PC going forward.

Ideas – having some more informal meetings for specific issues that only affect certain parts of the school, fundraising committee, having parent representatives from different age groups in the school who may seem more accessible to parents.

It was felt that many issues for parents are taken up directly with the school by them and this is a good thing.

Always teacher presence at home time in the playground for parents.

Parent Council visibility – Up to date email address on website/school handbook/weekly school emails. Publishing the meeting minutes. Mentioning meetings in group calls and weekly school emails.

Fundraising – Ideas – Outdoor bring and buy sale on carpark, Student designed Christmas cards etc.

Hoping next meeting can be in person – possibility of holding it in a public hall if parents can still not enter the school.