



## **BOCLAIR ACADEMY**

### **PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in school**

**PRESENT:** Claire Arthur, Duncan Beattie, Ruth Candy, Elaine Dallas, Dominic Gonzalez, Keith Harrison, Fiona Lockhart, Joanne McArthur, Jill McIntyre, Geoff Miles, Jillian Mooney, Chris Sheerin, Susan Rae, Claire Taylor, Angela Thomas, S

**Staff:** Douglas Brown, Fiona Curran, Clare Morgan, Glenn Thompson, Maxine Traynor, Nick Walsh.

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

Geoff Miles opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Apologies: Gaynor Bilton, Jenny Kerr, Graham Murray, Christine Lee, Kirsteen Graham.

#### **2 Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were approved by Jillian Mooney and seconded by Dominic Gonzalez. Head Teacher report will be added before publishing minutes on website.

#### **3 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

#### **4 School Leavers Information Insights**

Douglas Brown gave a very indepth presentation on the Insight Information. Details of this will be published in the School Newsletter which will be issued very soon.

#### **5 Summer Fayre – idea generation**

The PC group split into breakout groups to generate ideas for the school fayre. Information on thoughts and suggestion will be emailed to PC for further discussion before the next meeting.

## **6 Head Teachers Report**

### **Staffing update**

D Brown updated the meeting on staffing.

Ms Sheridan is due to start maternity leave at the start of May. Ms Morrison has been recruited to cover her maternity leave post

Mrs Robertson is due to start her maternity leave at the start of May. Interviews will take place tomorrow for her maternity leave post.

The school is now only two members of staff short in the school office – while new staff are trained there will be an impact on the response time to emails and phone calls. D Brown again thanked parents for their patience as the school works to resolve this issue.

The school is currently three SLAs short in Support for Learning due to illness. Again, D Brown thanked parents for their patience as the school work to resolve this issue.

### **Course Planning and Timetabling**

The course planning process has been completed and the timetabling for next year is well underway. There are some uncertainties around staffing for next year as NQTs are not allocated to schools until the middle of May. D Brown will update the PC regarding this at the next meeting.

### **Family Learning**

Thanks to all parents who attended the most recent family learning event. This was an interactive learning event with colleagues from across the school leading sessions in their curricular areas. Thanks also to staff who volunteered to deliver sessions.

### **SQA update**

N5 folios and assignments have been completed and sent to SQA. The deadlines for Higher and Advanced Higher are fast approaching and young people are working hard to complete these.

We have agreed with the SQA Invigilation team that morning exams during the SQA diet will now start at 9.15. This will alleviate some of the stresses around travel and ensure young people have a positive start to their exams.

### **Spring Revision and Study Weekend**

Spring Revision takes place in the first week of the holidays – Tuesday to Friday. Over 210 young people have already signed up and there is a full programme of courses on offer.

Plans are in place for the Study Weekend just prior to the exams in April on the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup> April.

## **S6 Last Day arrangements**

The final day in school for S6 is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. The day will start with shirt signing and breakfast rolls (retro) followed by a trip to painballing.

Hoodies and yearbooks are in the process of being completed,

The final event for the whole year group is Prom at the end of May.

## **Insight update – March 2024**

D Brown provided an update on school attainment following the February refresh. This is now based on leavers' data and is a measure of how well the school has performed within the context of young people leaving school last session.

Overall the school has performed very well within all measures and against the Virtual Comparator and EDC as a whole. Local Authority Officers and the Education Scotland Attainment Advisor visited the school this afternoon to discuss this recent update along with the work the school is doing on closing the poverty related attainment gap.

## **7 Date of Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in the school.

## **8 AOCB**

RC asked that it be minuted that it had been noted that work had been carried out on the school website with very useful information and that this all seemed to be working well now.

SR asked when events are coming up, can they be advertised a few weeks in advance. In particular things like Open Events at Colleges and Universities, can these be highlighted to parents as otherwise they would not know. SR asked if this information can be available from S4 upwards, as quite often S4 would be very interested in these events too.