



# Bell Baxter High School Parent Council

Minute of Meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at 7.00 p.m.  
in the Conference Room, Bell Baxter High School

**Present:** Karen Brown (Chair), Mandy Bateman, Elaine Blake, Sharon Callaghan, Steve Fearn, Clare Finnie, Jon Gill, Julie Goad, Ian Jones, Chantelle Kidd, Gordon McBrearty, Alex Moodie Julie Struthers and Gordon Tannock.

**School Representatives:** Philip Black (Rector).

1. **Welcome and Apologies:**

Karen Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies from: Holly Clark, Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Marjoram, Sara McQuitty, Hayley Oram and Anita Petrie.

2. **Previous Minutes:**

Approved.

3. **Rector's Report**

*Appointment* - Carrie Lindsay, Head of Service, has been appointed Executive Director for Education and Children's Services.

*Teaching Union* - SSTA have taken issue about teacher workload.

*Billy Elliot Production* - We are the only school in Scotland to have a licence for the production. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved. Clare Finnie reported that a family member was previously involved in the West End production, offered to make contact for the school.

*Colours Ceremony* - The Proclaimers have been invited as Guest of Honour at the annual Colours Ceremony in April.

*U18 Rugby* - Final of the bowl competition against Morrison's Academy at Murrayfield Stadium tomorrow.

*P7 Information Evening* - Refinement of the format of the evening proved very successful.

*S1 Parents' Visits* - Successful, potential for workshops for S1 parents focussed on supporting their child's learning.

*Parents' Evenings* - events for S4-S6 pupils took place last month and two evenings will take place shortly for S1. All events are well attended.

*Staffing:*

Louise Menmuir, Curriculum Leader Mathematics, is retiring at the end of term. Alan McCormack has been appointed to the post.

Graeme Lamb, House Head, also leaves us at the end of term. An appointment has been made on a temporary basis.

4. **S1/S2 Progress Reports**

Query raised by a member of the group prior to the meeting about a lack of explanation of the performance level banding. Mr. Black acknowledged this, confirmed the levels to the group and reported that this will be rectified for all future reports.

5. **Governance in Schools**

Presentation made by Mr. Black. The current review period ends on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Discussion followed with questions related to how any additional funding would be allocated and would there be any conditions linked to the funding. Mr. Black was not able to confirm anything related to funding at this time.

The group were also interested on how much autonomy the change is likely to bring.

It was agreed that the group should submit a response to the review to represent the parents of Bell Baxter.

*Agreed Action:* Karen will request comments and questions from group members to collate a group response.

6. **Chairperson's Update**

*Parents' Evenings:* Thanks to those that have been involved so far.

*Blazer Swap Shop:* One of the donated blazers was sold at a Parents' Evening in November.

*Consultation:* Letter received from Jacqueline Price, Education Officer, regarding consultation on 'Our Families Matter'.

*Forthcoming Meetings:*

Next Meeting – Course Choice, presentation by Ms Manders.

7. **Treasurer's Update:**

£382.54 fundraising account - £150 raised from the Parents' Evenings this year so far.

£1,846.17 500 Club account – a small number of new members.

8. **A.O.C.B.:**

None.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

Sylvia Docherty,

Clerk

6<sup>th</sup> December 2016.