



Tìre High School – Ard-Sgoil Thìriodh

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Title:	Tìre High School Parent Council Meeting
Date:	Thursday 21 st September 2017
Location: Time:	Tìre High School 6pm

Chaired by:	Will Wright
Present:	Graham Wilks (GW), Julie MacLennan (JML), Mairi Forbes (MF), Jaclyn McNeil (JMN), Lynn MacCallum (LM), Will Wright (WW), Jo Bennett (JB), Aine Cooney (AC), Jo Vale (JV), Jayne Smith (JS)
Apologies:	Mairi, Julie, Sian,
Minutes by:	Will Wright

1. Welcome

WW welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Previous minutes and matters arising

WW noted the progress and changes that have occurred since the last meeting in April, and thanked all involved.

School transport – WW asked if the logbook system was put in place after the last meeting, and if improvements had been seen. No issues were reported and therefore the logbook had not been required. Behaviour on the busses was currently good.

School mini-bus: It was again asked if there was any potential for replacing the school minibus. WW updated that the Trust had been informed of the loss of the bus, and the needs that have arisen, and a request was made that should other groups express similar needs then a school/community minibus project might be possible.

3. Staffing update

David Boyce: Covering English supply till October, possibly after. Vacancy has been advertised though no applicants received on first round. For second round, with Jacks video, three applicants, reduced to two, interviews on 2nd October on Tìre.

Ishbel: Gaelic immersion teaching course started which will continue for this school year, Julie MacKinnon is taking her classes.

ELCC – 1140 pilot programme funding to allocate additional staffing, 14hrs (temporary till June 2018) gone to recruitment team and will be included in next stage of adverts. A number have expressed an interest.

David Buchan – tech teacher now in post, the room transformation was highlighted and appreciated. Delivery taking place of National 4&5 construction skills with 5 pupils. N5 Practical woodwork, 4 pupils. Drawing skills and woodwork to S1-3. SQA Graphics Communication would then be a potential course.

SQA results: N5 24 presentations(exams sat) of which 22 passed at A-C. Advanced higher 100% A-D, all highers (two) both A-D. Two S3 pupils sat exam early at N5 level and passed.

Curriculum developments



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Tech as above.

Music technology running for its second year with Laura. Another pupil is doing it this year.

Last years history pupils doing N4&5 passed and now moved on to do higher.

National 5 Biology had a successful result and is running again this session with N5 and Higher.

Argyll College supporting school to do cooking National Progression Award at Hynish with Fiona Malcolm.

Wider Achievement Awards this year within timetable as a trial.

S3 upwards doing DofE which also fits into WAA. Lots of kit has been purchased and trainers have been in school working with Andy Rossiter and a group of volunteers.

Our Children Their Future: Implemented last session, not widely read, interacting with parents is a large part of it, ongoing implementation. Perhaps dedicate some time next meeting.

ACTION: WW to send link to parents

https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/argyll_bute_vision_strategy_final_web.pdf

ELCC Update:

Aine gave a detailed report and presentation about the changes in ELCC.

Tíre Tots funding: £1,500 to be spent on an item of equipment. Thanks were given to the Tíre Tots group for this donation.

ACTION: WW to write letter of thanks

ACTION: Lynne to give bank details to Emma

GME:

Response to points raised at last meeting:

Trips – specific trips have been organised to support learning of Gaelic, there is no reason why staff for pupils in English medium cant organise similar trips as appropriate.

Loosing specialist teachers: following brief discussion it was reiterated that the specialist teachers are secondary trained, where as primary teachers are qualified and trained to deliver the whole curriculum to those age groups. This was noted to answer concerns about potential loss of quality of these activities. The lessons would still take place in specialist rooms, but delivered in Gaelic by their teachers.

Additional classroom assistant hours already allocated to help with these changes, and the changes are to take place after October hols.

English medium classes to retain specialist teachers as currently no sufficient capacity to cover McCrone time.

All teachers following curriculum in those subjects just as the secondary teachers would have done. Variations would be in the timing of the units.

Pupil equity funding: Closing the attainment gap based on free school meals, Graham/Willie doing badminton club on a Thursday night. Also possibly two study session clubs in the evening. Difficulty arising because of small nature of school.



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GW and AC were thanked for their detailed reports of progress in the school.

Next meeting 23rd January 6pm