

# TIREE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Date	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Time	1800hrs
Venue	Tiree High School
Present	<b>Present: Peter Bain, Damian Deanie, Jayne Smith, Jen Skinner, Will Wright, Jaclyn McNeil, Aine Cooney, Fiona Armstrong</b> <b>Members of the Public : 6</b> <b>Trust Staff: Louise Reid and Willie MacKinnon</b>

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

- The Chair welcomed all present apologies were received from Jo Vale, Ishbel Campbell, Elspeth MacKinnon Jo Vale, Julie MacLennan, Ishbel Campbell, Mairi Forbes and Catriona Barbour.

## 2. Previous Minutes

- The previous minutes were circulated and discussed. There being no amendments the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

## 3. Review Update

- Peter Bain was welcomed to the meeting and gave an update on progress with actions from the review. The update is as follows:

### There are a range of identified weaknesses in the strategic leadership of the school which require to be immediately addressed

- Executive Head Teacher appointed to ensure THS improvement plan developed and implemented; to develop leadership at all levels: ensure national, LA and school guidance and policy followed; provide support and professional learning opportunities to ensure sustainability.
- Senior DHT appointed in THS and OHS to ensure operational issues taken forward; to act on behalf of EHT.
- PT Primary/ELCC appointed to lead operational aspects of the role in line with the LA job description /GTCS Standard for Leadership and Management.
- PT Guidance/ASN appointed to lead operational aspects of the role in line with the LA job description / GTCS Standard for Leadership and Management.
- It was also noted there will be opportunities for both Oban and Tiree teachers to link in and share ideas. It is hoped teachers from Tiree will visit Oban High School and vice versa.
- Staff will have counterparts in both schools whereby they can contact to ask for advice or run ideas past.

### The leadership remits and responsibilities in the school need to be clarified, including Principle Teachers

- The leadership roles have been realigned to reflect the appointments noted above. Remits have been clarified.
- Further additional responsibilities are still emerging as further consultation, observation and analysis of current learning environment takes place.
- Curriculum responsibility for subjects where THS does not have a subject specialist have been passed to PT's in OHS, to ensure that subjects are progressing with national Education Scotland guidance and SQA requirements, for example Damian Deanie, assisting with technical subjects.
- In the absence of a full time school janitor/awaiting a permanent appointment the Head Janitor of OHS will oversee Authority Returns. The head janitor will become the head janitor of THS janitorial staff to ensure consistency of provision and provision of staff training and development of new/ supply staff
- A new admin and finance assistant has been appointed, who will cover both OHS and THS.

### Developing policies around key areas, such as literacy and numeracy and learning and teaching.

- All OHS policy / Guidance documentation based on existing good practice from OHS/Argyll and Bute Council/Education Scotland has been shared with THS.

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- Policies are being re-drafted to reflect current good practice e.g. Self- evaluation Policy; Respect (promoting positive behaviour) Policy; Assessment and Reporting Policy; Learning and Teaching Policy; Literacy and Numeracy Policy; DYW Guidance.
- The PT Literacy and PT Numeracy will visit THS on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

## **The use of SEEMIS in the primary and secondary department needs to be developed and implemented**

- Staff in OHS and THS have open access to both in an effort to share good practice, for example, development pupil tracking; pupil assessment; establishment of G-suit (Google Classroom)

## **A programme of observed lessons, peer support, and learning visits should be implemented**

- Almost all members of THS (Secondary) have been partnered with a member of staff in OHS in an effort to share good practice and to ensure consistency in an application of a single curriculum/course structure/lesson delivery. This will allow a greater degree of clarity between professionals when sharing good practice.
- All PTs will be partners with a PT of PTs in OHS to ensure that they can share good practice/seek advice from another school.

## **A planned programme of professional learning on AIFL approaches should be implemented**

- Kevin Champion has begun professional learning discussions with staff around self-evaluation and effective learning and teaching. These sessions will continue every second week until the Easter Break. The February in-service days will include a number of sessions focusing on Professional Standards; HGIOS; Our Children Their Future; Scottish Attainment Challenge; DYW agenda; National Improvement Framework.
- PTs and DHTs have discussed the implementation of a new promoting behaviour and relationships policy to facilitate good learning and teaching.

## **A quality assurance calendar should be developed and regular, planned time should be given for the process**

- This is still to be addressed

## **Training identified through professional review and development around GIRFEC and Respect-me should take place.**

- Respect me developments will emerge through the planned professional learning sessions prior to Easter, although a full implementation of the Respect me programme will take many months.

## **The allocation of study time should be reviewed in terms of its impact in improving attainment for pupils**

- Study time has been removed from senior timetables and has been replaced with additional delivery of SQA units, including the Leadership Award at SCQF level 5 and 6; Customer Service Award, Level 5 and 6; and Scottish Studies, Level 5.
- Study time in S1-S3 has been removed and replaced by an interdisciplinary learning course, which will see pupils tackle real life scenarios and use different skills.

## **Learner journeys should be planned more consistently from primary to secondary, particularly at transition points.**

- This is still to be addressed.

## **There needs to be a planned quality assurance meetings between SLT and Principle Teachers Improvements should be the agreed and enacted at department level.**

- Discussions have taken place over the design and operation of both the primary and secondary curriculum; involving THS and DHTs/PTs from OHS and HT from St' Columbus Primary, Oban.

## **Resource issues of interest:**

- The old part of the building will have a new roof installed in February.
- New offices have been built for the PT Primary/ELCC and PT Guidance to ensure privacy when working with parents. New Clerical office in Secondary has been developed.
- A new fitness studio will be built to facilitate additional PE/SQA courses.
- New computers and printers have been purchased.
- New textbooks have been bought for new courses.
- New learning materials have been brought in to facilitate new IDL course.

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- **Thanks were given to PB for his report**
- It was noted that some classes have now merged in such topics as PE and Gaelic, where group work is encouraged.
- It was advised that resources such as 'My World of Work' and 'Skills Development Scotland' are good resources for parents and children.
- William Angus MacLean from Tiree Community Development Trust introduced himself and gave a brief background of TCDT and possible ways in which links could form between TCDT and Tiree Highschool with regards to Youth Work, Apprentiships and possible funding opportunities.
- It was noted that the suggested line of contact for parents should begin with the class teacher, then the Principle Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher, and then if still unresolved the Head Teacher should then be contacted.
- It was noted that the email system is the best form of contact, and every enquiry will be passed on to the relevant department.

## 4. Staffing

- It was noted that there is currently no music teacher in Tiree High School. Pupils have been linking with Oban over VC and some have been given the opportunity to work and perform with the Oban Pipe Band.
- It was confirmed that there have been no cuts to staff and all key teachers will be replaced when the opportunity arises.

## 5. Extracurricular Activities

- Beavers is no longer running, it was noted that TCDT are working with members of the PTA to run a similar session, it was agreed to try and take this forward.
- It was noted that staff are under no contractual obligation to provide after school sessions, however it was suggested that if moral grows in the future so to may the number of after school clubs.

## 6. Nesbit Trust

- **WAML** gave a brief background of the Misses Nesbit Trust, it was suggested that the PTA invite a trustee to attend a meeting and give an overview of the fund and its guidelines and application process.

## 7. Fundraising

- There is currently £3169.71 in the bank account
- There is a possibility that there may be an opportunity for the PTA to run the Easter Fayre this year.

## 8. School Trips

- An application for School Trips is currently being prepared to submit to the Windfall Fund.

## 9. Meetings and Communications, School and Parent Council

- It was agreed to add members of the PTA onto the Tiree High School Facebook page, so that all communications are coming from a central area.

## 10. AOCB

- **PB** proposed that in order to facilitate the change in curriculum the running of the school day should be changed. It is proposed that the school day will run from 0900hrs- 1540hrs. All present agreed this was a good idea and that it should be taken to the community for further consideration.
- It was noted that the Pupil Parliament have shown interest in the introduction of a School Uniform for Senior Pupils, one which differentiated them from the primary pupils. The PTA agreed this was a good idea and agreed to investigate further.

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- **PB** introduced a vision statement for Tiree High School, all present agreed this should be adopted: *We at Tiree High School believe that the school has a responsibility to ensure that everyone achieves the best possible qualifications. We also believe that we need to nurture and develop their social, emotional and vocational knowledge and skills to enable them to achieve their full potential throughout their lives.*

*There being no other business the meeting was closed at 2100hrs, thanks were given to all in attendance, the date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.*