

NOTE OF MEETING OF PARENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES HELD ON THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2015 LADY ALICE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Everyone introduced themselves to the meeting.

1 NOTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The note of the previous meeting, held on 2 December 2014 was agreed.

Matters Arising:

- **'Working with your Parent Council' Training Session by SPTC for Senior Managers – 31 March 2015:** This session will take place in Clydeview Academy. The first session held in September 2014 had proved very popular and those who had attended had found it very worthwhile in taking the work of their Parent Council forward
- **Sessions for Parent Council Representatives by SPTC –Rhona has sent out information to Parent Council Chairs regarding 2 training sessions :**
 - *Involving all Parents – Wednesday 29 April at 7.00 pm in Inverclyde Academy*
 - *Parent Council Essentials (2) – Thursday 7 May at 7.00 pm in Inverclyde Academy*

Sheena asked that Chairs circulate this round members and let Rhona know if any members wish to attend.

- **Budget Update –** Sheena indicated that Patricia Cassidy had had to tender her apologies for the meeting. Sheena reported that Committee had now made the decisions on what budget savings would be taken to meet the £7m savings required in 2016/17. Shared Headships, which had been a cause for concern raised at the previous meeting, had not been taken as a saving. Parent Council members asked if Patricia Cassidy could give an update on the budget position and savings taken at the meeting on 26 May
- **GIRFEC –**Angela Edwards had given a presentation on GIRFEC at the Parent Council Representative's meeting in December. Further to this, Sheena asked Chairpersons and Parent Council members to find out who in their school is the nominated GIRFEC Champion and what they are doing in the school

2 DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE (Overview of The Wood Report)

Dougie Smith, Development Officer for More Choices More Chances, gave a brief overview of the remit of the More Choices More Chances Team. He indicated that Inverclyde was the second most deprived local authority in Scotland. However, in terms of the School Leaver Destination Report Inverclyde had been 6th out of all local authorities in the country last year in terms of being able to track schools leavers, with no young people's destination being unknown in terms of being able to track them one year after they had left school. 94% were in a positive destination in the

Authority, such as employment, training or further education and there were no young people who were unknown in terms of being able to track them. Dougie reminded the meeting that GIRFEC encompassed 3 – 18 year old young people. Building the Curriculum 4 was the building blocks used by schools to get young people ready for the world of work and further education. Inverclyde Council had a Youth Employment Strategy which was taking over from The Wood Report, this would allow for a more fluent service with this focus as opposed to 2 different strategies.

The Youth Employment Strategy had mapped 43 priorities in the local authority to date to see where we are (*information attached*). No school in the authority has fewer than 90% of young people going into a positive destination. Approximately one third of young people had gone onto university, one third to further education and one third into employment.

In Inverclyde schools young people now have the opportunity to undertake extended Work Experience placements. This can be in a variety of settings such as to allow them to have a taster of a specific occupation to see if they wish to pursue this as a career, college or in an area of interest to them.

Dougie also indicated that schools promoted the 'My World of Work' website, which is managed by Skills Development Scotland and has a great source of information and advice for both schools and young people on careers advice, creating a CV and further education courses. There is a simple registration process and Dougie recommended that young people are encouraged to do this.

Dougie reported that there is a lot of good work going on in schools and they are always looking at being better. He recommended that Parent Council reps go back and speak at their next Parent Council meeting to see what they are doing, what else could be done and have a conversation about how the school could get there.

3 CONSULTATION ON 'INVERCLYDE ALLIANCE – FAMILY SUPPORT & PARENTING FRAMEWORK' 2014 - 16

This report had been e-mailed in advance of the meeting to allow Parent Council Representatives the opportunity to have prior sight of it. Further to a brief discussion on the report, it was felt that it would be helpful if an Educational Psychologist were invited to attend the September meeting to talk through the Staged Intervention Model and also look at Restorative Practices being used in schools. Sheena will take this forward.

4 UPDATE ON NATIONAL PARENT FORUM SCOTLAND

Roslynn Oliver had tendered her apologies for the meeting but had given an update report which was circulated at the meeting (*copy attached*), along with a Publications Guide.

5 UPDATE FROM EDUCATION & COMMUNITIS COMMITTEE

Robin had attended the above meeting on 20 January. The main areas of interest, along with the capital programme and revenue budget were Study Leave arrangements, which would remain unchanged from last year in as much as there would be no Study Leave for S4 young people.

The next meeting will take place on 10 March where the agenda items included:

- *The School Leaver Destination Report*
- *Cyber Bullying*
- *Attendance Report*
- *Best Practice from schools*
- *And the Capital Programme which included any refurbishments*

Robin indicated that, if there was anything that Parent Council's wished raised at the meeting to let him know.

Robin reminded the meeting that all committee papers are available on the Council's website.

[Inverclyde Council • Education and Communities Committee](#)

6 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT UPDATE

Sheena has arranged an afternoon when any Parent Council Chairperson can come in and have an informal chat with her. This may be something that would be beneficial to newer Chairpersons. The date for this will be 2.00 pm on Wednesday 13 May in the Library Meeting Room in Wallace Place. Rhona will e-mail Chairpersons regarding this and if they could let her know if they wish to come along that would be helpful.

As indicated earlier, SPTC were undertaking training sessions for Parent Council members. Sheena took the opportunity to remind the meeting that their website had a wealth of information which could prove helpful in taking forward the work of the Parent Council in schools. Chairpersons had been issues with log-in details to allow them to access the member's area. If they no longer had the log-in information they should contact SPTC who will re-issue them. The undernoted is a link to their website with contact details:

<http://www.sptc.info/>

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Further to discussion, the agenda for the next meeting would focus, along with updates from Roslynn and Robin, on the following areas:

- Budget update and discussion
- Looking at developing a parent version of the Positive Relationships Positive Behaviour
- Sharing Good Practice
- A Q & A Session

The date of the last Parent Council Representative's meeting for this session will take place on **Tuesday 26 May 2015 in St Ninian's Primary School at 7.00 p.m.**

<p align="center">PARENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES MEETING Thursday 5 March 2015 Lady Alice Primary School</p>

ATTENDING:

Paul Smith	Ardgowan Primary School
Ian Dyer	Clydeview Academy
Morag McCracken	Craigmarloch School
Anna McEwan	Craigmarloch School
Sheena Beaton	Education Services
Dougie Smith	More Choices More Changes, Education Services
Rhona Turner	Education Services
Robin Thomson	Inverclyde Academy/Wemyss Bay Primary School
Fiona MacEachran	Kilmacolm Primary School
Gayle McSheffery	Moorfoot Primary School
Anne Hughes	Notre Dame High School
Jeanette Ramsay	Notre Dame High School
Donna Scott	St Andrew's Primary School
Eugene Lafferty	St Columba's High School
Mary MacDonald	St John's Primary School

APOLOGIES:

Patricia Cassidy	Education Services
Colette McKendry	Lady Alice Primary School
Glen Miller	Port Glasgow High School
Roslynn Oliver	National Parent Forum Scotland
Jamie Walker	St Mary's Primary School
Gerry Watt	St Michael's Primary School
Tommy McDade	St Stephen's High School

Consultation on draft GIRFEC guidance - Named Person, Children & Young Peoples Act (Scottish Gov)
Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (Educ Scot) - possibly already covered by previous speaker
(please see attached sheet)

Education Committee Clerk - heard how the committee works with Scottish Government, etc.

Insight - Colin Sutherland - Benchmarking - National Dashboard

2014 information now live, the system will allow staff to view 5 years' information (once we have 5 years). HT's should now have up-to-date information to share with parents to explain how it works.

Glow update

Early Years Collaborative update

Budget - the budget problems will not be going away soon. They are suggesting that it will be 2022-23 before we get back to 2008-09 levels.

National Digital Learning Forum - Scotland need to encourage more women to study STEM subjects with greater cultural change. 73,000 people are employed in the digital industry, 40% in software roles, 74% of Scotland's workforce requiring some degree of digital skills every day. "ScratchJr" an app for 5 year olds to become coders (programmers) developed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It is essential for teachers, career advisors to understand technology jobs, to bring them to life for young people.

In 2015 10% of all global jobs will require coding skills. In 2016 the UK will have a 900,000 person skills gap. Yet 1 million young people aged 16-24 are unemployed.

Digital Technologies are worth £6bn to Scottish economy supporting 100,000+ jobs from software, telecoms, games, apps to digital agencies and more. 50,000 new people will be needed in the next five years. Biggest need is for Software Engineers, especially female Engineers who currently make-up only 18.5% of the workforce. The IT industry needs greater awareness of the job roles available. Especially as they are continually changing, because of technology eg agile development, ever informal employment environments etc. "This skills shortage must be filled" Not just in Software, but also for technology jobs in Renewables, Life Sciences, Teaching, food and Drink sectors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like more information on any of the above:
inverclyde@npfs.org.uk or follow twitter Npfs roslynn oliver @roslynn_oliver

MORE INFORMATION -

East Renfrewshire NPFS are hosting a CfE information evening on 25/3, if you are available to attend. I will be attending as is the rep from Renfrewshire. (car pool).

NPFS International Conference is being held in Strathclyde University on 14th November. It may be possible, if local authorities are available to hold mini conferences that a satellite link from the main conference can be set up (NPFS will fund).

Visit website for up-to-date information on various issues including National/Highers. Please also look out for the primary section providing tips for primary Parents Councils to discuss at their PC meetings
<http://www.npfs.org.uk>

Any ideas on how we can get to all parents. Our last newsletter was sent to 2544 individuals within schools and 877 directly to newsletter sign ups - 471 people opened the link. Please try to circulate all correspondence as widely as possible, if the chairs don't forward the parent forum don't know.

What other authorities are doing

Skills Development Scotland has created My World of Work which also has a section for parents - myworldofwork.co.uk. A very useful site, especially as the Wood commission becomes policy and schools offer career pathways to all pupils.

An Edinburgh school is encouraging all pupils to stay-on in school after S4, bucking the old tendency for schools to dispose at S4 those pupils with low prospect of achieving traditional academic qualifications. Their method is to redefine the school as a bridge to not just University but offering more vocational learning experiences and qualifications through S4-6 through partnerships with local business, agencies and further education. Examples cited:

Examples of new learning paths in S4-S6

Boat building
Mountain bike riding and maintenance
Confectionery
Photography
Vehicle maintenance

Examples of partnerships with school

Banks
Hotels
Solicitors
Transport companies
Leisure clubs
Youth development groups
Colleges

Their next step is to introduce more elective skills based choices in S2 and S3. The prize for doing this? The S4 stay-on-rate increased from 56% to 92%, pupils are more positive and better behaved and their positive destination rate is 92% and aiming for 100%.

"Are Companies willing to partner with schools, for free, to train the next generation to get them ready for work?"

Planning for choices and changes

Learners need to experience opportunities which are designed not only to raise their awareness of future choices but also raise their expectations and aspirations. They develop the skills for personal planning and making decisions in the context of curriculum, learning and achievement which will prepare them for next stages in life.

Learners should experience activities which enable them to develop the skills and attributes they will need if they are to achieve and sustain positive destinations beyond school. Demands and employment patterns are changing, so it is particularly important for all young people to develop high levels of skill and also an understanding of the world of work, training and lifelong learning so that they can embrace opportunities.

	Early	First	Second	Third	Fourth
	In everyday activity and play, I explore and make choices to develop my learning and interests. I am encouraged to use and share my experiences. HWB 0-19a	Through taking part in a variety of events and activities, I am learning to recognise my own skills and abilities as well as those of others. HWB 1-19a	Opportunities to carry out different activities and roles in a variety of settings have enabled me to identify my achievements, skills and areas of development. This will help me to prepare for the next stage in my life and learning. HWB 2-19a	I am developing the skills and attributes which I will need for learning, life and work. I am gaining understanding of the relevance of my current learning to future opportunities. This is helping me to make informed choices about my life and learning. HWB 3-19a	Based on my interests, skills, strengths and preferences, I am supported to make suitable, realistic and informed choices, set manageable goals and plan for my further transitions. HWB 4-19a
	I can describe some of the kinds of work that people do and I am finding out about the wider world of work. HWB 0-20a / HWB 1-20a	I am investigating different careers/occupations, ways of working, and learning and training paths. I am gaining experience that helps me recognise the relevance of my learning, skills and interests in my future life. HWB 2-20a / HWB 3-20a / HWB 4-20a			

Curriculum for Excellence

SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS > CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS > RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS > EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS

Health and wellbeing: experience and outcomes > 4

Developing the Young Workforce
Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy
Implementing the Recommendations of the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce 15 - 16

Schools	Colleges	Apprenticeships	Employers	Equality
<p>Work Relevant Learning from 3 – 18</p> <p>During 2015-2016, we will see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An increase in uptake of vocational qualifications available to those in the senior phase An increase in the quality and number of strategic partnerships between local authorities, schools, and colleges, to widen the offer to young people in the senior phase DYW programme reflected in college outcome agreements and curriculum planning DYW programme reflected in local authority strategic plans Mechanism to influence community plans is established Guidance and support developed by Education Scotland and Skills Development Scotland for teachers and practitioners to support young people in S3 to learn about finding, applying and getting a job Relaunch My World of Work website with a greater learner focus linked to career pathways Guidance and support developed by Education Scotland and Skills Development Scotland for teachers and practitioners on the world of work aimed at ages 3-18 A new standard for work experience in place in schools Lessons from Scottish Funding Council early adopter activity regions disseminated widely Scaling up of the foundation apprenticeship pathway to other local authorities Engagement with young people, teachers and practitioners, parents and employers to actively promote the range of options available Expansion of wide range of qualifications included in Insight tool A quality assurance review for the careers service as part of a continuous improvement regime is in place Agreed standard for careers guidance for all young people including those who require additional help and support is in place Education Scotland publish an aspect review of My World of Work The establishment of Regional Invest in Young People Groups working in partnership with local authority education teams across Scotland 	<p>A Valued and Valuable Choice</p> <p>During 2015-2016, we will see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication by Scottish Funding Council of an analysis of the commitments made by colleges in their 2015-16 outcome agreements – including plans to develop senior phase vocational pathways in all regions A plan from Scottish Funding Council to enhance college engagement in Community Planning Partnerships Young people benefitting from better work-related learning experiences Scottish Funding Council publishing a plan to reduce gender imbalance on courses in joint action with Skills Development Scotland and other partners College outcome agreements signed off for academic year 2016-17, with implementation plans agreed with local authorities Scottish Funding Council develops a strategy to promote the value to employers of engaging with colleges Early adopter activity evaluated and lessons inform the development of college outcome agreement guidance Capacity building to support enhanced employer engagement in the college sector Regional curriculum planning established informed by Skills Investment Plans and Regional Skills Assessments 	<p>Access to Work Based Learning for All Young People</p> <p>During 2015-2016, we will see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced apprenticeships model designed working with University of the Highlands and Islands and Strathclyde University Engineering Academy Foundation apprenticeship pathway undertaken in other local authorities Model and funding profile for MA expansion programme developed STEM expansion plan produced as part of wider expansion plan MA supervisory board meets for the first time with an initial focus on evaluating current MA processes and advising on where expansion activity is best focussed Modern Apprenticeship Group formally reviewed to ensure model for developing MA frameworks remain fit for purpose Targeted MA campaign activity developed Early assessment of engineering foundation apprenticeships pathfinder activity Education Scotland quality assurance of MAs pathfinder begin Pre-apprenticeship access pilot launched for those not in school and from the labour market Support to small and medium enterprises to incentivise participation in MA programme developed Easier access to Modern Apprenticeship vacancies available through My World of Work 	<p>Their Investment in the Young Workforce</p> <p>During 2015-2016, we will see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry led Regional Invest in Young People Groups established across Scotland New services provided to growth companies by the enterprise bodies Introduction of Regional Selective Assistance (RSA) conditionality where appropriate A revised approach to the Scottish Government's recruitment incentives established with local authorities and other partners Regional industry led groups established across Scotland Supported employment opportunities in the third sector provided for care leavers and other groups of young people who face significant barriers to employment Lead body identified to support recruitment of young disabled people Good practice in public and private sector procurement in relationship to the development of the young workforce identified and promoted Development of options for introduction of voluntary levies in sectors experiencing skills shortages Integration of the activity of Regional Invest in Young People Groups and that of Investors in People Scotland in the promotion of the Investors in Young People accolade Education Scotland capacity building activities and approaches to external evaluation are more informed by the needs of employers Education Scotland curriculum, learning and assessment groups will include industry representation Guidance on school-industry partnerships established with input from local authorities and the National Invest in Young People Group 	<p>Developing the Talents of All Our Young People</p> <p>During 2015-2016, we will see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish Funding Council publishing a plan to reduce gender imbalance on courses in joint action with Skills Development Scotland and other partners Targeted Modern Apprenticeship campaign activity developed Supported employment opportunities in the third sector provided for care leavers and other groups of young people who face significant barriers to employment. Lead body identified to support recruitment of young disabled people