

COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR Department of Education & Children's Services Minute/Note of Meeting	TITLE	Parent Council Meeting		
	DATE	17 th June 2013	TIME	5.30pm
	VENUE	Rm 34		
	DISTRIBUTION			

Present:	Mary Bella MacRury, Archie MacDonald, Miller MacDonald, Roddy MacIsaac, Rachel Kirk, Margaret MacDonald
Apologies:	Catherine Ferguson, Kenny MacDonald
Absent:	

Agenda Item	Summary	Action	Who?	When?
1 Previous Minutes	<p>Asymmetric Week – After listening to parent concerns, HT decided to go with the 2 day closure, however this was overruled by the department. Therefore the school will go with the early closure on Friday afternoon. There will be issues with bus routes and primary school placing requests however the department will have to organise this. The benefits of one early closure are the same as with the 2 early closures.</p> <p>MBMR – 3 periods in the afternoon is too long without a break, there will be a lot of pupils asking out to the toilet/to get water, too much of a distraction to the lesson. HT explained that the earlier lunch was to compensate pupils leaving very early from Eriskay and Berneray.</p> <p>Will there be enough space on the service buses in the afternoon if pupils stay for activities? Council will need to organise this with transport operators.</p> <p>Lunchtime activities may be affected by shorter lunch break.</p> <p>Schools in the Highland region work on a similar timetable so we will monitor it once we start it in August.</p> <p>School Blazers – Prefects and Captains will be selected early term. It is planned that these S6 pupils will wear blazers that the Parent Council will buy. Pupils will pay a deposit for each blazer which will cover the cost of cleaning when they are finished with it. SMT want to</p>			

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	<p>tighten the uniform policy next term and with this pupils who do not comply will have priveleges taken off them, this may include not going on school trips or to the Christmas dance. RK - There are different messages given to pupils and parents in regards to the uniform, the policy should be more specific.</p> <p>Lunch Service – with the implementation of the new timetable, it will be important for kitchen staff to get through service quicker as they have a shorter period of time. MBMR – with the introduction of the no ‘chips only’ there is a lot of food being waster, also pupils are having to spend more money just to buy chips.</p> <p>Column 8 S3 Courses – The enterprise projects have begun in Art and Music.</p> <p>School Concert – postponed – playlet will be performed at Open Evening.</p>			
2	<p>Headteacher’s Report</p> <p>School Improvement Plan</p> <p>The SIP and Standards & Quality Report are now on the school website. There are 6 projects in the SIP that the school need to focus on next year: Project 1 Self Evaluation – the school needs to improve on this. Focus groups with pupils and parents to discuss opinions and suggestions. Project 3 Learners’ Experiences – to all pupils to take more responsibility in their learning. Project 5 Leadership – improve leadership with pupils and staff across the school.</p> <p>The S&Q report reviews everything that has happened in the school in the last year and what we should do in the coming year.</p>			

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	<p>Tapestry Programme</p> <p>School Issues</p> <p>Vacant Posts</p>	<p>Working groups have been set up over the past year, one of these groups is for Parental Involvement. One idea that came from this group was the Open Evening to encourage more parents into the school as attendance at parent evening has fallen. Parents will have the opportunity to speak to teachers informally about their child. Another group is the anti bullying group. HT sees the Parent Council having a role with this as members of the community, pupils may find it easier to talk to adults who are not teachers.</p> <p>Over 20 teachers have signed up to the Tapestry programme which was brought in to improve learning and teaching in schools.</p> <p>Website is being updated at the moment. Each department will have their own section. Information on new National courses will also be available on the website.</p> <p>Pupils are known as their new years although they are still following the same timetable. New timetables are almost finished. HT said that this has enabled pupils to finish work in practical subjects.</p> <p>It is important to re-establish the Pupil Council within the school. This would also see a link between the school and the Parent Council</p> <p>Vacant Maths post will be interviewed for on Wednesday.</p> <p>Due to voluntary redundancies the Maths department and Business and Computing Department will be merged with one Principal Teacher overlooking both. Miss Walker and Mrs MacIntyre are both retiring. Only one of these teachers will be replaced. As there will only be one BCE teacher and low numbers the school cannot offer Business Management and Computing to the senior pupils and S2 pupils will not receive a period of ICT – this will be taught through Social Subjects. HT explained that the courses for the senior pupils may be reintroduced next year or be taught via e-learning or distance learning. HT also said that the school may offer Accounting and Finance.</p>			
3	Pupil Toilets	The following issues were raised:-	HT will speak to Donald MacLellan, Technical		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could parent council purchase Sanitizers for outside toilets • All toilets checked – none had soap in the soap dispensers • The toilets that did have bars of soap, many were cracked posing a potential health problem • 2 boys toilets were locked, leaving 1 toilet downstairs (technical) and 1 toilet upstairs (maths) available to boys • There was no running water in 3 out of 4 taps in the girls' toilet in the Music Department and the one running tap was cold water. There were no plugs. • In the girls' toilet in the Technical Department, the hand dryer was broken and the toilet seats were broken. • It appears that pupils use the "Community toilet" which they are not supposed to use. <p>Iain Gordon Smith, Head of Resources has promised money to purchase new drinking fountains in the school.</p>	Services		
4	Date of Next Meeting			