

**Deans Community High School**  
**Parent Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday 24th November 2020**

**Attendees**

Angela Ritchie (Chair), Pauline Allison (HT), Dawn Fleming (DHT), Stacey McCallum, Patricia Miller, Heather Marriot

**Apologies**

Caroline Bennett, Janice Ritchie, Ali Hatcher, Susan Begley, Anne Runciman, Mark Cockburn, Sandra Fannon

**Agenda:**

1. Review of Previous Minutes
2. Update from DHT – D. Fleming
3. Head Teacher's Update – P. Allison
4. AOCB

**1. Review of Previous Minutes**

There was a review of the minutes from previous meeting held on the 27/10/20 via Skype for business. An update on these minutes: Stephen Small is in the process of making a video for the P7 open evening, this will be uploaded to the school website, for all parents to access.

**2. Update from DHT – D.Fleming**

New report system for all pupils has been introduced. Focus on subject reports at key points in the year now including action points for students in order for them to prepare for upcoming assessments.

Virtual twilights for senior phase have also been offered to pupils, with a group call sent to parents to advertise these, with a look for pupils to work towards achieving grades.

Some staff have been delivering online 'live' lessons for self-isolating students at home, feedback on this has been positive from the pupils and parents.

Focus groups of S1-3 and S46 have been set up via TEAMS. The groups have been discussing aspects of the curriculum, access to resources and IT, overall the feedback from pupils has been positive although they do miss the face to face interactions in times of self-isolation.

The tracking sheet used in the school has been updated with added functions relating to the COVID education recovery, for example pupils who have been in self-isolation as well as those non-engaging. If pupils are self –isolating the SMT have been calling home to ensure the pupils have the resources they need whilst isolating.

An update on higher level is expected in February, however the deputy first minister is said to be pushing the SQA to provide schools with information prior to this.

### **3. HT Update – P. Allison**

Staffing update – at time of writing there is a stable staffing situation with no changes to report.

PTC's have been working with a member of Education Scotland focussing on middle leadership of the school. Pauline Allison is awaiting feedback from this, in order to reflect and work on any findings highlighted by Education Scotland.

Face to face twilights have been postponed as these were resulting in more pupils mixing and increasing numbers of pupils having to self-isolate. Some departments have been running virtual twilights for pupils.

On days where pupils have PE they can now come to school in their PE kit. This was to reduce contact between pupils in the changing rooms as staff cannot see who they are mixing with and for how long. Pupil have responded positively to this.

Pauline Allison provided an update on the school budget.

There was an update on Coronavirus given by Pauline Allison, including the process used by the Health Protection team in deciding on self-isolation cases.

Within classrooms, staff teaching spaces are marked off and all staff are following the guidelines closely. Mask wearing has improved in the school and most pupils arrive to school wearing a mask, although the school are providing them for pupils who do not. Mask wearing on the buses was discussed.

### **4. AOCB**

- S2 choices: parents will receive tracking information in the coming weeks as well as a fuller report prior to choices being made. SMT are trying to find an alternative to the usual in-school face to face course choice interviews. Course choice booklets will also be uploaded to the school website as well as sent to parents.
- There will be three parents evening in February using the new parents evening system.

**Date of next Parent Council Meeting (AGM) will be on Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 18:00 via Skype for Business.**