



Chairperson:

Mr Matthew Cox
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Clerk:

Miss H Sinclair
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Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Thursday 24th November, 2022, at 6pm, Baltasound Junior High School.

Matthew Cox	Erika Brown	Murray Brown	Mrs Victoria Mouat
Mrs Karen Gray	Mrs Lauren Spence	Mrs Linda Thomson	
Mr Paul Thomson	Miss Hazel Sinclair		

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Jane Macaulay and Lisa Johnson.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Read and approved.

Matters Arising from Minutes

School Lunches/Waiting in Line – On the whole this is much better – this item will be added to the pupil council agenda.

Costumes/Jumpers – This was successful with quite a few outfits coming in and being recycled. The Christmas Jumpers will remain in the porch and it was agreed that an email will go out to parents asking for donations of dresses/shirts etc (clothes which would be suitable for the school dance or Christmas). Hazel will send out an email to this effect.

Music – This has been covered internally up until this week. A qualified Instructor has been interviewed this week and will hopefully start before the end of term.

End of Year Raffle / Concert

The Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday 14th December. Members will organise and run the raffle. There will be an EY and Primary Nativity which will have a Strictly Come Dancing theme and the Secondary will be running a Baltasound's Got Talent type of event.

School Improvement Plan Update

Reading – Working towards accreditation to make us a Reading School. Book Week Scotland saw various members of staff reading to the primary students who enjoyed it so much we would be looking to make it a regular thing. Would any PC member like to take part? Grandparents?

HWB – meets regularly throughout the year (AF/CH).

Pedagogy – Learning + Teaching – spending time on assessment (summative and formative assessment).

Farmers' Market

Sunday 11th December @ Baltasound Hall. This is an important fundraiser – all the pre-covid costs are creeping back in (a bus to MYJHS for football/netball costs £400).

Could we ask parents for donations of raffle prizes? If you asked for smaller items the PC could make up Hampers. The Farmers Market Raffle and Christmas Concert Raffle could be merged into one draw to take place on the Concert night as they are so close together.

A list of what's needed could go on the PC Facebook page allowing everyone to comment on what they are able to make/take.

Paul will make up a quiz sheet with his class and will ask Kerry/Margaret if they would like to make reindeer food or packs of reindeer sweets. The secondary BM class could also run their merchandise stall.

Residential Trip

Matthew wrote to the Saxavord Space Centre asking if they would be willing to make a donation towards trip costs, but has had no response so far – he will chase this up.

MYJHS had received an indication that Cooke and Scottish Sea Farms would be willing to make a donation towards their trip costs, but hadn't indicated an actual amount.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Baltasound Parent Council will be in the new year.

AOCB

Nursery Entrance

Some parents had expressed frustration at having to use the outside entrance to the Nursery during the recent spell of bad weather. It will continue to be policy to use this entrance which is due to child protection procedures and not covid as some parents believe. Lighting will be installed and drop kerbs are also to be put in place.

PC Feedback to the Wider Parents

The PC will produce a piece to add on to the regular school newsletter – information for parents about the parent council, its members and duties.

Cost of Living

We are all living in difficult times with the cost of living continually on the rise, so members wondered if leaflets from citizens advice could be made available on parents' nights. Many parents will not ask for help, but may pick up leaflets should they be made available.

Breakfast Club

The school is fortunate enough to have a Pupil Equity Fund which could be used to set up a 'breakfast club' in the mornings. Maybe school could start at 9am instead of 8.55am – bringing the period times in line with the times in MYJHS which could be beneficial to shared staff.

A table could be set up in the main dining hall with toaster/freezer for frozen bread – details will need to be figured out, but all members agreed it would be a great asset to have.