

**BRAES HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Parent Council 20.1.22**

Present : H McManus (Chair), I Vosser, J Shaw, D Ironside, G McDonald, A Watt, K MacKinnon, L McNaughton, J Slater, A Johnson, A Mitchell, F Robertson, C Duncan, B Adams, F Seel, F MacPherson, D MacPherson, W MacPherson, A Watt, G McDonald

Apologies: D Dagger, C Lawson MacAulay, K Baird, M Lang, Donna Ainslie

Discussion	Action
<p><u>1. Previous Minute/Matters Arising</u></p> <p>The previous minute was proposed by K MacKinnon and seconded by A Mitchell.</p> <p>- I Livingstone updated on SQA Assessments noting these are well underway with positive approaches undertaken by senior phase pupils. The SQA's recent communications for parents/carers, noted in D Ironside's recent letter to parents/carers was noted.</p> <p>- I Livingstone noted the changes to how Lateral Flow Tests are issued in school and the school's ongoing efforts in encouraging registration of results</p>	<p>Minute noted as accepted.</p>
<p><u>2. Digital Learning update</u></p> <p>Fraser MacPherson (S2) and Jamie Slater (S2) presented to the Parent Council on their ongoing efforts as Digital Leaders, noting the forthcoming creation of a website to offer support to fellow pupils and their role in helping the school achieve the Digital Schools Wellbeing Award to add to the recent Digital Schools Award achieved last session. I Vosser (Faculty Heads of Technologies) praised the pupils for their work and presentation, giving further background on ongoing developments regarding digital learning in Braes, as did J Shaw (Depute Headteacher). H McManus thanked the pupils for their input on behalf of the Parent Council.</p>	<p>Digital Learning strategies to continue to evolve.</p>
<p><u>3. Pupil Voice and Self-Evaluation</u></p> <p>Ben Adams and Faith Seel, Senior Pupil Council Chairpersons, updated the Parent Council on their recent activity, giving thanks to the Parent Council for the donation towards screen protectors. Ben and Faith spoke about the Pupil</p>	<p>Self-evaluation activity to continue to inform school improvement priorities and planning.</p>

<p>Council's developing work using 'How Good is OUR School?', an Education Scotland resources supporting pupil voice in school self-evaluation. Ben and Faith reported that they were analysing in particular approaches to the celebration of successes and achievements. J Shaw commended the pupils on their work so far and noted the connection between the Pupil Council's activity and recent Parent Council focus on the best ways to celebrate pupil success.</p> <p>Supporting this discussion was input from Douglas MacPherson (S2) and Lawson McNaughton (S5), who were introduced by Gillian MacDonald (Teacher of Modern Languages) and D Ironside (Depute Headteacher). D Ironside and G MacDonald gave an outline of the young people's self-evaluation activity and plans also using the other elements within 'How Good is OUR School?' before Fraser and Lawson spoke positively and constructively about their work in this area.</p> <p>H McManus commended all the pupils for their efforts on behalf of the Parent Council</p>	
<p><u>4. General Update</u></p> <p>I Livingstone gave a general update on a number of other matters including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how the school will continue to monitor COVID-19 guidance and Falkirk Council procedures in relation to school operations</li> <li>- the ongoing management of higher than usual levels of staff absence to minimise disruption to pupils' learning</li> <li>- the Scottish Government's Free Bus Travel programme and planned further communications on this</li> <li>- Falkirk Council's plan to extend lamppost banners promoting appropriate litter disposal, currently in use in other Falkirk areas, to the Reddingmuirhead area</li> <li>- the confirmation of changed term/holiday dates as a result of the Jubilee holiday weekend</li> <li>- the potential for a parents/carers section on the Braes Brightside website</li> <li>- the ongoing Family Learning sessions presented in partnership with FDAHM</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- pupil involvement in the design of new House logos</li> <li>- notes of congratulation to Mrs Douglas and Mrs Liesse-Fernandes on their impending moves to promoted posts in other schools</li> <li>- the announcement of 'Anything Goes' as this session's summer school show</li> </ul> <p>K MacKinnon asked about the current capacity on school buses, noting that increased uptake of free bus travel could lead to some young people not being able to access the bus unless they had a Falkirk Council bus pass. I Livingstone noted that at present demand does not exceed capacity.</p> <p>K MacKinnon also asked if there was any feedback as to how parents/carers were finding the application process. I Livingstone noted the role of the school in supporting parents/carers through this process and that the situation would be monitored.</p>	
<p><u>5. AOB</u></p> <p>C Petty asked about timescales for pupils making course choices, with J Shaw advising appropriately.</p>	