

Turnbull R.C. High Virtual Annual General Meeting of Parent Council and Parent Teacher Association 15th September 2020

Chairperson
Stewart Collins

Head Teacher
Eileen Kennedy

Secretary to Parent Council

Angela Murray
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In Attendance	
Mr. Stewart Collins	PC Chair
Mr. Martin McBride	PC Vice Chair
Mrs. Angela Murray	PC Secretary
Mrs. Laura McManus	PC Parent member
Mrs. Sharon Hill	PC Parent member
Mrs. Michelle Cowie	PTA Chair
Mrs. Monica McGuinness	PTA member
Mrs. Eileen Kennedy	Head teacher
Apologies	
Cllr. Low	
Mr. Mark Hendrie	PC Teacher Representative
Mr. Andrew Vaughan	PC Church Representative

	Agenda Item
2.	<p><u>Introductions</u></p> <p>Mr Stewart Collins chaired the meeting and welcomed the virtual attendees and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Mrs Kennedy pointed out that Councillor Low was unable to attend due to software restrictions from his Council Offices.</p>
3.	<p><u>Head Teacher's Report</u></p> <p>Mrs Kennedy informed the meeting that she was unable to upload her presentation through Microsoft Teams and therefore emailed it to the individual meeting participants. The presentation shall be available on the school website in due course.</p> <p>Mrs Kennedy highlighted some of the key points of her presentation for the year 2019-20.</p> <p>Raising Attainment – All staff have been trained in Building Learning Power over the last two years and now the next steps are to introduce it to the young people and their parents.</p>

MPA qualifications, e.g. computer games design, are being introduced for Business. This is a Level 6 qualification (the same as Highers) but does not have a final exam at the end of the course.

Targeted Supported Study – focused study on specific areas ensuring young people are making the best use of their time.

The St. Columba base for young people with ASN continues to be a success.

There has been an improvement in numeracy, with increased presentation at level 6 and an increase in attainment.

Health & Wellbeing – There is an increased opportunity for young people to take on leadership roles. A number of targeted support programmes have taken place e.g. Teenagers managing change, Autism.

The school gym is available to all young people, equity young people can access the school gym free. Equity pupils can participate in a programme for personal development which is accredited by Kelvin College.

Attendance has increased and exclusions are below the national average. These are positive indicators for wellbeing.

Employability – Skills development is delivered through the curriculum Particular activities are examined and how it relates to the wider world of work is explored.

31 young people went on work placements however this has been impacted by COVID restrictions.

Results – Mrs Kennedy listed the changes between SQA awards and teacher estimates, with all (over 300 changes) but one being downgraded.

Mr. Collins stated that some parents had contacted him regarding teacher estimates. Mrs Kennedy replied that there is no appeal along these lines.

Mrs Hill asked if there were plans to hold the exam diet later. Mrs Kennedy replied that this would make sense to allow more time to cover what was missed during lockdown but had no firm answer from SQA as yet.

Mrs McManus asked if prelims would still be held before Christmas. Mrs Kennedy replied that she is still waiting on confirmation from SQA. She did expect it by 31.8.20 but it has been delayed due to 23,000 parental replies to the SQA survey.

Mrs Kennedy asked if members thought Parents meetings should be held before or after Prelims. All parents said, “after prelims”.

Mrs Murray asked if there were more class tests being taken perhaps with a view of having more data should another cancellation of exams occur. Mrs Kennedy replied that there was no school policy regarding this as yet – whole school decisions will be taken after update is received from Scottish Government / SQA.

School Improvement Plan

Mrs Kennedy informed the meeting that we are in Year 3 of the 3-year plan, however, this year is now focused on the “School Recovery Plan” and the four key areas as advised by the Scottish Government.

Health & Wellbeing – Mrs Kennedy talked the meeting through a series of slides which will be available on the school website. Staff members are being asked to volunteer for Mental Health First Aid training.

	<p>S1 transitions – P.E., R.E., and P.S.E. are delivering the “Building our Community” programme.</p> <p>Review of transitions – due to COVID restrictions, school visits cannot happen, therefore Turnbull will be looking to develop alternative ways to deliver continuity of learning</p> <p>Targeted in-school support for identified S1-S6 young people affected by COVID-related situations.</p> <p>Need to identify “who is where” in terms of their learning due to lockdown. Many young people have experienced a loss in concentration. Turnbull High have received a budget of £10,000 to “plug” gaps in learning both in the Senior phase and in BGE. Blended Learning is being further developed in case of isolating young people, teachers, classes, years etc.</p> <p>Building Learning Power – parent group and young people ambassadors.</p> <p>Parental Engagement Strategy – Communication strategy for equity</p> <p>Parental Involvement in Homework policy review, Building Learning power, Mental Health and Blended Learning.</p> <p>COVID – Mrs Kennedy summarised the current procedure in place. She stated that 31 young people had been tested to date but all were negative.</p> <p>Mrs Hill asked when indoor P.E. would be allowed. Mrs Kennedy replied that Mr Cuthbertson P.E. Principal teacher would be re-instating it as soon as Government advice allowed.</p> <p>Mrs McManus asked why lockers are not being used. Mrs Kennedy replied that there was a danger of different year groups mixing. Different lunch times mean canteen area (where lockers are situated) is used at different times by BGE and Senior Phase. The clean as you go policy would also be difficult to supervise in regards to use of lockers.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Overview by Parent Council Chair</u></p> <p>Mr Collins stated that it had been an unusual year, a mixture of in-person meetings (before lockdown) and virtual meetings. He emphasized the need to recruit more parents to the Parent Council as a minimum of 5 are needed as per the Constitution.</p> <p>Mr Collins inquired if it would be possible for some Pupil Council members to join our next meeting to perhaps tell us their experiences of school during the current restrictions. Mrs Kennedy replied that as young people cannot meet across year groups and some are not happy to meet in person, they would need to hold virtual meetings instead.</p> <p>All Office Bearers confirmed they are happy to carry on in post for the forthcoming year.</p> <p>Mrs Hill said that she had questions from a number of parents.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are parents allowed to park in school car park? Mrs Kennedy replied under normal circumstances, parents are NOT allowed to park in the school car park. Only when they have been called to the school to pick up their child, are parents allowed into the car park. 2. A number of parents have commented that the standard of school uniform seems to have slipped. White trainers, cut-off jumpers and jackets instead of blazers have all been observed by parents. Mrs Kennedy replied by saying that there had been some confusion regarding blazers as the Authority had sent out information before the return to school to say that blazers were not obligatory, however Turnbull is still encouraging blazers to be worn. Some parents have been contacted by SMT and have agreed to rectify their child’s uniform. A further communication regarding the school uniform will be sent out to parents.
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Parent Teacher Association</u></p>

	<p>Mrs Cowie stated the PTA had only 1 virtual meeting since March. The Treasurer has left as her child had left school and as yet, there was no replacement for her.</p> <p>The one event that had been held, a “Through the Years” disco had not been well attended.</p> <p>The Snow Ball was a success and raised a reasonable amount of money. At the moment the 300 club is the PTA’s only source of income.</p> <p>Mrs Cowie then went on to list various recipients of the PTA funds and concluded by saying that at the next PTA meeting, accounts will be updated and minutes would be sent out as soon as possible after that.</p> <p>Mrs Cowie stated that the GoFundMe money raised by the Turnbull High Community to fund the manufacturing of face shields for the NHS by the Technical department still had an outstanding sum. A discussion between all the attendees ensued with the consensus being that the remainder of the money go to buy COVID-related equipment for use in the school and in the community.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p><u>A.O.C.B.</u></p> <p>Mrs Kennedy asked the Chairs of the Parent Council and PTA to write a piece for the Turnbull Times calling on parents to join each of the school bodies.</p> <p>Mr. Collins requested that a Groupcall be sent out inviting parents to “attend” the next meeting.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the Parent Council will be on Monday 19th October 2020 at 7pm.</p>