

**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE PARENT COUNCIL OF THE JAMES YOUNG HIGH
SCHOOL ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2019**

In Attendance:

Eric Lumsden, Mike Paterson, Douglas Pirie, Audrey Wright, Vicky Walker, Ruth McMaster, Evelyn Russell, Clare McTiernon, Trisha Gallagher (Head Teacher), Claire Duff, Andy Walker, Lesley Crichton, Susie Fairweather, Linda Brogan, Peter Heggie, Donald Morrison, Sarah Henley, Claire Kerr, Gillian Adens; Emma Lumsden; Angus Paterson

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Gillian welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Parent Council for this Session. Gillian explained that she was chairing the meeting until a new Chair had been appointed as she no longer had any children at the school. Everyone introduced themselves and Gillian welcomed the new school captains, Emma Lumsden and Angus Paterson, to the meeting.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

The previous Minutes were proposed, seconded and agreed.

CHAIR REPORT

Gillian gave a comprehensive report over the last Session activities of the Parent Council, including the appointment of Trisha Gallagher as the permanent Head Teacher. Gillian recorded her thanks for the support of the senior management team throughout her time on the Parent Council and, in particular, when she has chaired the Parent Council and wished the school every success, going forward.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Mike Paterson was elected as Chair, Louise Elder was elected as Vice-Chair, Donald Pirie was elected as Treasurer and Eric Lumsden as Clerk. Mike as new Chair of the Parent Council, asked for it to be minuted his and the Parent Council's thanks to Gillian for chairing the Parent Council for a number of years

and for her active participation in the life of the school. The Head teacher made a presentation to Gillian.

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Trisha Gallagher had provided an updated on the National and other qualifications from the recent diet and it was recognized these are quite exceptional and have increased again this year. The Parent Council agreed that the results in examinations and other qualifications being obtained are a real reflection on the expectations of the school and the support being provided. It was noted that a detailed presentation when the Insight results are available will happen at one of the next Parent Council meetings.

The Head Teacher also provided a report on the recently concluded validated self-evaluation which was carried out by West Lothian Council. The report is entirely favourable but the Head Teacher was at pains to express that the journey was continuing and the next report would be expected to be even better. The view was expressed by the Parent Council that the Head Teacher was being rather hard on herself and the school as it was a very favourable report.

CEDARBANK SCHOOL

The formal consultation and the relocation of Cedarbank School to ground within the precincts of the James Young High School is now formally open. The Parent Council agreed that they are supportive of the relation of Cedarbank School.

S1 PARENTS TRANSITION FEEDBACK

A number of S1 parents were present at the meeting and provided very favourable feedback on the transition experience of their children. There remain difficulties with children out with the catchment schools who come to the school through placing requests and that is an area that the Parent Council can look to assist the school with. Around 20% of S1 pupils are at the school through placing requests.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Douglas Pirie gave a detailed account of the finances of the Parent Council.

FUNDRAISER REPORT

A new fundraising team is being put in place and will certainly continue with representation at parent events.