

Elgin High School Parent Council
Meeting held on 30th August 2011 at 7.00pm

Attendees: Lesley Johnston Mary Dow (Secretary)
Jeanette Netherwood Tina Stephens
Fiona Watson Andy Simpson
Anne Duncan Cllr John Divers

Apologies: Marina Rose (Treasurer) Sue Cameron
Frances Garrow Ann Griffin
David Main Lyn Young
Cllr Graham Leadbitter Cllr John Sharp

1.	<p>Previous Minutes – 16th May 2011</p> <p>These were approved:-</p> <p>Proposed: Lesley Johnston Seconded: Tina Stephens</p>	
2.	<p>Sederunt</p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>	
3.	<p>School Status</p> <p>Mary Dow gave an update as follows:-</p> <p>10th June 2011 – MSP's visited and agreed to offer support.</p> <p>5th July 2011 – Thanked MSP's for visiting EHS and supporting the Parent Council's endeavour to secure match-funding from the Scottish Government. Also asked to keep us up to date with any progress.</p> <p>MSP's who visited either wrote to Moray Council and Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning or raised the issue during Questions and Answers in Parliament. Responses to these letters have been received from Moray Council – Copies available from Mary Dow.</p> <p>Response received from Michael Russell to the letter from an MSP stating that discussions will shortly take place to identify at least 18 more school projects for the third phase of the Scotland's Schools for the Future building programme. EHS will be considered as part of that process, alongside other schools which require investment. Copy available from Mary Dow.</p> <p>24th August 2011 – Mary Dow wrote to Michael Russell inviting him to visit EHS during his Cabinet visit on 6th September 2011. Awaiting response.</p> <p>Mary Dow advised that support has been received from feeder schools, Elgin South Area Forum and the C&RBoE Community Council.</p> <p>It was agreed to meet again on 12th September 2011 at 7.00pm to discuss further action.</p> <p>It was noted that in the Strategic Development, City for the Future, Regional Sports Facilities maybe sited at Kinloss. Cllr Divers advised that a meeting regarding the City for the Future had been arranged for 26th September 2011, 7.00pm in the Town Hall. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.</p>	

4.	<p>Attainment</p> <p>Andy Simpson circulated an initial analysis of the SQA Results and advised that these did not reflect all achievements in the school i.e. 11 pupils received A or A* at GCSE level. Andy Simpson advised that pupils achieving 1+ Higher had increased. However, he was disappointed in the number of pupils attaining 3+ Highers and 5+ Highers. He also advised that the more able pupils were cause for concern, some did exceptionally well but some did not perform as well as expected. The number of pupils attaining 5+ Level 3 had increased from previous years which was welcoming.</p> <p>Andy Simpson advised that an Action Plan/Follow-up had been produced and this was circulated.</p> <p>Andy Simpson advised that S5 parents whose children were sitting 3+ Highers were invited to attend a meeting on 29th August 2011 to discuss how they can support their youngsters. This was very well attended.</p> <p>Members felt that it was difficult to know how much studying was taking place during study leave and felt this should take place at school. Andy Simpson advised that space was a problem, but this would be looked at in the future.</p>	
5.	<p>Parent Forum – 27th September 2011 – 7pm</p> <p>Mary Dow agreed to confirm membership and advised that Lyn Young would be resigning.</p> <p>It was agreed to have a Panel with the emphasis being on improvements to the school.</p>	
6.	<p>Fundraising</p> <p>Everyone agreed that the Summer Fete was a great success. It was also agreed to keep the Fundraising group separate from the Parent Council.</p>	
7.	<p>Parent Council Finance</p> <p>Andy Simpson advised that £336 had been credited to the account from Moray Council for funding of the Parent Council. Mary Dow advised that she had received confirmation of membership of the SPTC for 2011-2012, which also included Public Liability Insurance.</p>	
8.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Andy Simpson asked members for feedback on the Prize Giving event. Members felt that holding this in the Town Hall gave the sense of occasion and everyone agreed that it was very good.</p> <p>Andy Simpson stated that it was planned to hold this event in the Town Hall in the future.</p>	
9.	<p>Date of Future Meetings</p> <p>Parent Council meeting – 12th September 2011 at 7.00pm. Parent Forum – Tuesday 27th September 2011 at 7.00pm.</p>	