

Musselburgh Grammar School Parent Council AGM

Musselburgh Grammar School Training Room

7 October 2024 at 7pm

Attendees:

Shona Blakeley (Chair)
Councillor Ruaridh Bennett
Andrew Forshaw
Councillor Andy Forrest
Jodie Hannan (Headteacher)
Jo Harknett
Andy Horrell (part of meeting)
Katie Horrell, Head Pupil (item 1 only)
Lydia Kerr
Tansy Main
Jenna Mc Birnie
Clare Morley
Laura Munro
Susie Rose
Summer Stirling, Head Pupil (item 1 only)
Karen Trotter
Nicola Watson (Depute Headteacher)

Apologies

1. Apologies had been received from Jules Augley, Sara McCann, Councillor Shona McIntosh, Councillor Kenny McLeod, Michelle Peet, Lesley Steedman and Margaret Stuart.

Head Pupils' Report

2. Katie and Summer updated the Parent Council on their roles as part of the Head Pupil team of 3, with each taking a lead on a strategic and operational issue. Summer highlighted the work she was leading on junior leadership, which had led to the appointment of an S3 junior leadership team. Katie explained her work on promoting a pupil podcast, which was intended to be monthly. Parent Council members noted how useful the first one had been.

Curriculum Presentation

3. Nicola gave a detailed presentation on how the school's curriculum was set up, and how the school's approach to coursing sought to maximise pupil choice, with flexibility to respond to changes in demand for subjects from one year to the next.
4. The coursing days for S2, S3 and S4 to S6 were scheduled for late January and early February.

Headteacher's Report

5. Ms Hannan provided her Headteacher's Report, she noted that:
 - the school roll was currently 870 and projected to fall to around 800 in 2025-26;
 - the roles of the Principal Teacher of Equity and Pupil Support Worker focussed on attendance were key interventions to support pupils;
 - the S4 exam results had been good, but the S5 results were not what the school had hoped for.

6. Ms Hannan provided a detailed breakdown of exam performance over the previous decade, and Parent Council members noted variation in attainment between years. She explained that more data would be available shortly, through the Insight tool, and offered to discuss attainment in more detail at a future Parent Council meeting.

Chair's Report

7. Shona undertook to email her report round, to allow more discussion of the Headteacher's report.

Parent Council Membership

8. Andrew Forshaw and Sara McCann resigned as members of the Parent Council, and were thanked for their contributions. Yvonne Sommerville and Karen Trotter agreed to join the Parent Council, and other members all agreed to continue their membership.

Parent Council Roles

9. Laura Munro agreed to represent the Parent Council on the Musselburgh Area Partnership, and it was assumed that Elizabeth Hunter was willing to continue as Treasurer. Shona Blakeley agreed to continue as Chair, but noted that after two years as Chair, it would be good practice for the role to handover to a different person. She asked members to consider the role, including sharing it, and offered to have a conversation with anyone who would be interested.
10. Shona noted that she would update member details for the Parent Council email distribution and WhatsApp group.

Treasurer's Report

11. The Treasurer's Report would be emailed round following the meeting.

Constitution

12. Shona noted that she would circulate the amended constitution to members again for their agreement.