

Kyle Academy Parent Council

Parent Council Meeting – Tuesday 30 April 2024

Present: M Byrne, K Anderson, J Brady (S1), S Cooper, A D’Amico (S5), M Ford (S4/S6), C McClung (S2), K McHarg (S3/S6), L Morrison (S3), S Robertson (S5), A Somerville (S2), M Thomas-C (S3), A Wilson (S3)

Chair: M Thomas

1. Minutes of last Parent Council meeting

Minutes proposed and seconded.

AD gave an update on the Astro pitch. She has spoken to Counsellor Cullen who will approach L McRoberts again with the new figure that would be required if SFA support the bid.

2. Head Teacher’s Report – M Byrne

3. Work Experience

MB and KA, PT of Skills and Employability, gave an update on the school’s work experience strategy.

All young people at Kyle Academy have the opportunity to attend a work placement. The aim is to offer relevant and appropriate work placements that support our young people to make informed decisions about their future careers. There are different models of work placements to meet the different needs of pupils.

1. **Taster Work Placements** – short placements to allow pupils to experience the world of work and trial different career opportunities. This is a universal offer for all pupils in S4 to S6.
2. **Targeted Work Placements** – this is a targeted offer for S3 to S6 to support school leavers and to increase engagement and motivation with learning by providing a goal to aim for.
3. **Career-Focused Work Placements** – this is for S5/6 who know the career they wish to pursue and require experience in that area to support applications.

The chamber of Commerce support the school to identify work placement but the demand has increased and the school is looking to develop their own database of employers/parents who can help.

ACTIONS

- KA to email all parent council with the list of placements we are currently looking for.
- Parent Council to publicise with their networks.
- MB to letter all parents to identify businesses that would be willing to help.

4. Mock Interview

The current S3 are currently writing CVs and covering letters to apply for jobs. The mock interviews will take place on Tuesday 18 June. Parents were invited to join the interviewers who are made up of local employers and UWS business students. This initiative ran for the first time last year and was very successful. Employers talked highly of pupils. This year, the process will contribute to all S3 achieving an employability award in S4.

ACTIONS

M Ford, L Morrison and A Wilson will participate as interviewers

5. Promoting the Parent Council

MT asked the Parent Council (PC) to consider how they could involve more parents in their work. Suggestions included:

- Continue to inform parents of what will be discussed at PC to encourage them to come and give their views.
- Personalise the discussions by indicating which year group the meeting would be of particular relevance to
- Continue the mix of online and in person meetings in case face to face meetings feel intimidating to join
- Reframe the PC in less formal way – promote the community aspect of knowing staff and other parents; getting a voice and being involved in decision making; not about being asked to do something, just about knowing what is happening and feeling part of community
- Survey parents before meetings using MS Forms to bring more opinions to the meetings
- Ask for items to be put on the agenda
- Invite all new parents at the P7 info evening in May – member of PC to talk at the event
- Involve more pupils in attending PC and sharing their work

ACTIONS

- MB to create a flyer about PC for new S1 parents
- Member of PC to attend P7 info evening on 21 May to talk about the work of PC

6. AOCB

K McHarg will represent the Parent Council at the interviews for School Captains on Friday 21 June.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 4 June 2024 in school – last meeting of the session