



St Modan's PTP Meeting

13th November 2017

Attendees:

Sharon Welsh

Denise Burns

Alie-Hilde de Vries

Maureen Gunn

Gaynor Murphy

Ray O'Neill

Victoria Roberston

Tracy Quinn

Eileen Fitzpatrick

Tracy Crossan

Penny Crawford

Ellie Kane

Claire Friel

Anne-Marie McKinlay

Gill Ryan

Jo McGettigan

Cynthia Holden

Louisa Haire

Benjamin Kessack-Morrison

Barry McGurk

Apologies:

Clare Malcolm

Trisha Morrison

Andrew Solomon

Leona Cook

Janine Simpson

Lisa Yeaman

Mags Taggart

Agenda Item	Action	Who
<p>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies The Chair opened the meeting at 6.15pm with the school prayer and round the table introductions. The meeting was held in the new McCann library.</p>	Chair	SW
<p>2. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting There was nothing to report from the last meeting.</p>		
<p>3. Closing The Attainment Gap</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil Equity Funding - in 2017/18, £120m is being allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. Every council area is benefitting from Pupil Equity Funding and 95% of schools in Scotland have been allocated funding for pupils in P1-S3 known to be eligible for free school meals. This funding is to be spent at the discretion of Headteachers working in partnership with each other and their local authority. Schools should now have their plans in place for using their funding and will be implementing those plans. • St Modans have received £84,000 for their Pupil Equity Fund and are using this fund in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literacy, to improve literacy using an accelerated reading program, initially in S2 but will be extended to other years if appropriate. The school have also introduced a new reading/nurture program called "Reading with Dogs". 6 pupils who struggle with confidence and reading aloud have been identified to read aloud to Jetta, our "therapet" dog. - A Principal teacher of PEF/Digital literacy will be appointed to collect and collate evidence of impact and data throughout the year as well as developing a strategy for developing digital literacy in young people and their families. - Cost of the school day, investing in more school uniform to be provided to those pupils coming from poverty areas, removing home economics fees (£30 in S1/S2 rising to £60 in S3/4) for pupils in the poorest areas using SIMD as a measure. - Principal teacher developing the young workforce, targeting lower 		

<p>school looking at employability skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employability appoint a Principal teacher to develop a better mental health strategy and to work with counsellors to support in-house referrals, also supporting positive behaviour with a recognition and rewards scheme. - Active Stirling sports apprentice, increase extra-curricular activities and research into who is using it. • A PTP member asked if any of this money could fund bus passes for those pupils coming from poverty areas, but this is not being considered at the moment. Another member reported that the SMHW app is not being fully utilised by teachers and the school explained this is still the transitional year and the app will be fully utilised in the future. 		
<p>4. Communications Group Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group discussed the SPTC checklist as mentioned at the last meeting and the results of the school survey. • The new PTP twitter account is now active. At the moment, the chair and treasurer have access to it. • It was felt that a member of the PTP should be available at school events eg parent’s evenings and social events. • “Whats app” was discussed as means of communication between the parents involved in the communication and fundraising groups. The Chair has asked for more volunteers in these groups so that we have a bank of people to help at various events. • A parents community career fair was discussed which will link with the school’s idea for a careers fair to be organised in January 2018. The school has already signed up to the Founders for Schools website where a link is available for companies to opt-in, but targets businesses rather than individuals so the PTP will link up with Mrs Pert to discuss arranging for parents to attend the careers fair to talk about their job roles. Also the chair and another PTP member have been invited to meet with Dunblane High PC in January to share PC ideas and hear how they ran their Careers Fair. 	<p>SW will circulate an events form for the PTP members to sign up to volunteer.</p>	<p>SW</p>
<p>5. Fundraising Group Update and Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First draw of the 100 club will take place Monday 20th November. So far 127 numbers have been allocated, the treasurer will notify members of their numbers. The head boy and girl will do the first draw with the Pupil Council taking on future draws and deciding on the charity at the end of the school year. • The Treasurer has advised there is £714 in the account • The fundraising group are meeting Monday 20th Monday to discuss the Christmas fair/concert evening. Volunteers will be required for this. • Volunteers for the Boys Night (March 15th 2018) will meet after Christmas, This event will be promoted at the S1 parent’s evening. 		
<p>6. Head Boy and Girl Update on the Pupil Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil council have been busy this year helping with the design of the new school library and new vocational building and helping in the recruitment process for new teachers. Due to the large number of pupils in the council, rotas and separate groups have been set-up within the council led by S5 pupils, looking at areas such as leadership skills which came from the parent feedback on the recent surveys. • Events that have taken place are the Awards Night – S1 social responsibility week discussing sectarianism through a group called ‘Nil By Mouth’ – career focus week held during SMART sessions, helping with CV’s etc... and Miss Kettles held future pathways for pupils, motivating pupils by showing them different pathways into careers and promoting school skills – Morrisons Construction came into school to 		

<p>meet with those pupils going through the construction course – an inspirational Map of the World has been created showing the careers of famous past pupils – All Saints Day Mass and a Memorial Mass was held with wreaths being laid in the memorial garden – Halloween party – SMART afternoon concerning the FAST group helping with CV’s and looking for parents to attend to talk about their careers, especially those in retail for the retail course pupils – new WOW (Wall Of Wonder) up and running recognising brilliance throughout the year with pupils, parents and staff all able to nominate pupils to appear on the Wall, you can vote using the #stmwow or contact the school direct and the pupil council will pick the top 15 pupils.</p>		
<p>7. Head Teacher Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In discussions with Traditional Building Skills Forum to CITB form a partnership with the school utilising the new training centre. • The girls toilet has now been sorted out. • Carpark safety is still an ongoing situation, health and safety have been contacted and designs are being drawn up with a dedicated drop-off area being considered, but the earlier plans are on hold as The Peak is still undergoing its redesign. The school is talking with parents for their views. • Mr McGurk gave an update on the change to the National Qualifications – the Scottish Government have made the decision to remove mandatory unit assessments from the National Qualifications, initially at National 5 level but there are plans to make changes to the Higher and Advanced Higher levels. This is to reduce the assessment burden on pupils and the admin burden on teachers. During this interim period, pupils who are deemed to have the potential to attain a Nat 5 level will be given that opportunity but for those pupils who are on the cusp of a Nat 5 award, and potentially facing the risk of failing the exam and having no award at all, will be presented for Nat 5 units as well as Nat 4 added value units, resulting in a pupil gaining a Nat 4 award if they fail the Nat 5 exam. • Mrs Friel’s update on the school Improvement Plan Update was cut short due to time however a leaflet has been produced by the school detailing the 5 priorities which have been agreed as a direct result of annual self-evaluation and survey feedback, the leaflet will be distributed to parents. 		
<p>8. AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a discussion about the breaks being too short between some of the prelim exams. Mr McGurk who schedules the timetable explained the rationale behind the timetabling and stated that if changes were to be made the prelim exams would take 4 weeks to complete, meaning teaching time would be lost from subjects. • Next PTP meeting is scheduled for Monday 29th January 2018. 		