



**ST MODANS PTP MEETING  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Attendees:**

Sharon Welsh	Tracy Quinn	Gill Ryan
Denise Burns	Leona Cook	Eileen Fitzpatrick
Mags Taggart	Penny Crawford	Clare Malcolm
Ray O'Neill	Marie Urquhart	Thomas Joyce
Alie-Hilda de Vires	Marie Hargreaves Dennison	Clare McFeat
Trisha Morrison	Sean McGuire	

**Apologies:**

Andrew Solomon	Tracy Crossan
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Agenda Item	Action	Who
<p><b>1. Welcome, Introductions &amp; Apologies</b> The Chair opened the meeting at 6.15pm with the school prayer &amp; round the table introductions. The meeting was held in the new McCann library.</p>	Chair	SW
<p><b>2. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting</b> There was nothing to report from the last meeting.</p>		
<p><b>3. Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Parent council networking &amp; training</b> – The Chair shared the dates of the next 3 parent council networking meetings, and the “Parent Council Essentials” places can be booked as per the email that was circulated.</li> <li><b>Events Volunteer List</b> – We are trying to have a representative from the PTP at school events therefore a list was circulated for members to add their names to. This will also be emailed. There will be a another Boys Night the date has yet to be confirmed.</li> </ul>	SW	
<p><b>4. Treasurers Report, Lotto Draw, Fundraising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The treasurer reported that there is currently £2,473 in the PTP account, out of that balance the PTP will be giving £1,000 for the nurture room, £200 for dance t-shirts &amp; £400 for rugby tops.</li> <li>There is £280 in prize money for the lotto draws &amp; we currently have 163 current numbers. 3 draws were made during the meeting with the next draws due 18<sup>th</sup> of each month. It was suggested that the pupil council would help with the draws.</li> <li>Discussion regarding fundraising ideas, the Xmas raffle &amp; tuck shop is ongoing.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>5. Head Boy &amp; Girl Introductions &amp; Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new head girl &amp; deputy head boy introduced themselves to the PTP. There was a new S1’s welcome mass &amp; buddy lunch held where all S1’s who had requested a buddy had the chance to meet their S6 buddy’s, the S1 parents were also welcomed at the mass &amp; invited to look around the school, it was well attended. There is a new Chaplaincy team, new charities committee &amp; new mental health committee looking at all areas of mental health, The Chair asked if the pupil council could continue to help with the lotto &amp; fundraising &amp; asked what charity they would like to choose this year, Strathcarron hospice is the chosen charity, The Chair also asked if the pupil council could spread the word regarding this year’s boys night.</li> </ul>		

## 6. Head Teacher Update

- **SQA performance remains strong** - S4 - The % achieving 5 or more passes at National 5 increased by 4% on last year. This is the 2nd highest % achieving 5@ Level 5 in over 10 years. S5 - The % achieving 3 Highers by end of S5 increased by 7% to 34%. The % achieving 5 Highers by end of S5 increased by 6% to the highest ever 16%. S6 - Some very strong performances from individuals & huge achievements but this is not so evident in the SQA performance. Very little of the work done on courses with FVC, HES, skills for work or the work being done in our Training Centre are captured in the figures above.
- **Positive Destinations** - Sustained Positive Destinations figure released recently by Scottish Government measures the % of young people from our school who go on to positive destinations (Employment, Education or Training) & who remain there after 1yr: Our figure was over 95% – 3rd Highest in Stirling Council. A huge achievement. Increasing numbers are heading off to Apprenticeships & gaining employment directly as a result of work done through the Training Centre, FAST group, ME group & DYW activities (partnerships etc)
- **Improvement Planning – Draft Plan for Parents** - Thanks to those who attended the focus groups before Summer & those who supported our VSE last week. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is being finalised now & the leaflet (distributed) summarises where we are now. The leaflet summarises the key areas for school improvement this session. We had a Validated Self Evaluation ( LA mini-inspection) on week 2 to validate our self-evaluation processes which went well. The team, made up of HTs, DHTs & LA education staff met with groups of staff, pupils & parents to validate our work & reported back that we have a very good understanding of our school & that the SIP is wholly appropriate for the school’s next steps. It was also stated that the school is in a good position to take the SIP forward.
- **School Information Dashboard** - Set up by Scottish Government & launched in August. Simple to understand & updated regularly. Check it out for more information on aspects of our school’s performance eg Lit/Num/Destinations etc. Google ‘School Information Dashboard’ & select St Modan’s
- **Car Park Safety** - A revised plan for the main car park was circulated. The plan brings all buses to the near side of the car park & provides drop-off & pick-up points for parents. The HT will continue to work with Stirling Council to tweek the plans.
- **Budgets** - Our school is running with a much reduced budget now, with 2 less staff & significant target savings being made on top of staffing. A further member of staff will be cut at the end of this session, making a loss of 3FTE over 3 years. In addition our school roll is rising rapidly – by over 100 in 3 years. The net result is that staff are on minimum non-contact time, there is little flexibility in departments & covering classes with subject specialisms is less likely when staff are absent. We’ve been lucky so far that we’ve managed to get supply teachers but we won’t always be able to do this.
- **Staffing** – the school has some significant staffing issues at this time, particularly in the Sciences. The school has advertised for a Physics Teacher but got no applicants. This post has been re-advertised & the school hopes to appoint asap. Supply teachers are being used to support learning elsewhere & to ensure as much continuity as possible. The HT will keep the PTP updated when necessary. The school is looking to appoint a Modern Apprentice to support the Vocational Training Centre & the employability agenda. This post has to be re-advertised. The school has re-advertised for a PE/Sports teacher to support learning in the Autism Provision & hopes to appoint soon.
- **The REACH programme** (designed to support young people from deprivation into university courses such as Medicine and Law) is no longer offered to St Modan’s as the school has increased the number of young people entering these courses at university so no longer meets their criteria.
- **Travel** – the school travel plan is being updated, a plan has been issued & a questionnaire has been sent to students & staff. Parents views of issues such as the car park are being requested, there will be an update at each PTP meeting & asking PTP members for help if required. This was a requirement from the local council.

## 7. AOCB

- A parent asked if there was a protocol in place if a pupil misses their bus due to a bus driver not stopping, as a new bus driver failed to stop during the first week of term, the Headteacher confirmed there is no protocol for such an unusual event, since the bus picked some up but missed some stops due to there being a new driver. In this recent case the school was unaware that some young people had not been picked up until later. Perhaps there could be something in the new travel plan? The school does normally send out a tweet/text if there are issues with the school transport.
- There is still a problem with pupils standing on some buses. The school took pupils off full buses & are referring the problem back to the council & First Bus. The council has stated that there are not more bus passes issued than seats on the buses, so there should be a seat for all students. The problem seems to be that young people are boarding buses other than their allocated one.
- A parent of an S1 student was not aware that they needed to apply for a bus pass as their child is entitled to bus travel & thought the pass would be issued automatically. The parent asked if the school could make the process clearer. The HT will review info provided to new S1 parents.
- A PTP member asked if the school could re-inforce online safety to parents as the younger students have been experiencing issues.
- The Twitter account is not as active as usual due to new GDPR rules, the school is looking to manage this issue with the data protection team to find out what actually needs to be asked of parents for the school to comply with these new rules. Looking for a simple solution, a letter will be going out to all S1 parents to grant permission. Students 12 & older can sign themselves.