

Blackhall Primary School Parent Council
AGM
14th June 2023
Minutes

Parent Council Members Present

Julia Pearson	P1 rep	Jill McIntyre	PSA Rep
Kate Walker	P2 rep	Colin Chisholm	Treasurer
Sine Munro	P4 rep	Jane Browning	Secretary
Nyssa Pinkerton	P5 rep	Michael Duncan	Chair

Other Attendees

Kirsty Martin, Head Teacher, Gail Middlemiss, Depute Head Teacher and 9 other parent/carers.

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Ian Cameron, Emma Orr, Tashya Abhayaratna, Linda Rennie, Cllr Hal Osler and Cllr Max Mitchell.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the joint meeting for the Parent Council and PSA AGMs. He noted that both groups have different roles in supporting the school, parents and children.

1. Annual Report from the Chair

The main points covered in the update were:

- Embedding committee business away from complaints to helping the school deliver improvements. Issues to bring to PC should be concerns or problems that effect policy and more than one group of students.
- The chair and secretary were involved with the recruitment of the Head Teacher. It was noted that this was a very positive experience and we were able to hear about aspirations for the school and the way that children experience school. One of the things that impressed us about Mrs Martin was her willingness to try new things to make our children's school experience even better. That in itself creates risk and not everything will work as hoped and the Chair urged parents to give Mrs Martin the freedom to experiment. Not everything will work out – but many things will and that will have a positive impact on the school.
- Engaging with the pupil council was a highlight for the Chair.
- Parent Council are represented on the school's new Finance committee.
- There has been a vacancy for the ASN rep, this year, but we are delighted that one of the new P1 parents has volunteered to fill the role next year.
- Report from the Head Teacher at each meeting have been invaluable in understanding the data and monitoring behind improvements.
- The new report cards have had a mixed response, but there were complaints about the previous version and these new ones were developed in conjunction with a small group of parents. The school will be reviewing the feedback received.
- The Chair thanked the PC members: the year group reps, the office bearers, school management team and our local councillors, for their commitment and support during the year.

2. Annual Report from the Headteacher

The Head Teacher provided a summary of all the highlights from each term. Refer to the attached slide deck.

The PC and PSA Chairs were thanked for all the support provided over the last year.

3. Approval of the accounts

The Treasurer provided an update on the accounts. PC accounts are very straightforward. The external auditor is still to check them. Those present approved the accounts, subject to completion of the independent examination and ratification at the next Parent Council meeting.

4. Election of members to serve on the Parent Council

Thanks to those that are able to stay on for the next year – there's strength in having both continuity and new blood each year.

The following were nominated and seconded, as Parent Council members for next academic year 23/24. The aim will be for the P1 and P3 rep and PSA rep to be coopted on to the PC at the start of the year.

P1 rep	vacant
P2 rep	Julia Pearson
P3 rep	vacant
P4 rep	Emily Orr
P5 rep	Sine Munro
P6 rep	Caroline Irvine
P7 rep	Linda Rennie
PSA Rep	tbc
ASN rep	Tashya Abhayaratna
Chair	Jane Browning
Vice Chair	Ian Cameron
Treasurer	Colin Chisholm
Secretary	Kate Walker

5. Presentation by NSPCC

Other parents arrived to hear the presentation on Online Safety. Topics covered were modelling good behaviours, Gaming and Social Media. Links to other resources will be provided for sharing with the wider parent body.