Report on the 11th May 2016 Island School Council meeting

Feedback to Island School from the ESF Stakeholder Survey
The Council received information from the ESF survey on the views of its students, parents and staff about the school. It was pleased to note:

- Island School’s response rate was greater than most ESF secondary schools.
- The results showed an improvement in perceptions of the school compared to the 2014 survey.
- Students’ scores for ‘I enjoy school.’ and parents scores for ‘My child enjoys school’ remain very high.

A substantial number of comments were also received. These are being analysed by the school and the Principal will feedback to stakeholders.

Nicola Myers and Kenneth McBride memorial fund
The Council was pleased to note that the PTA and other members of the school body had raised $162,500 which, along with other donations, will provide bursaries of $2,500 each to 105 selected students from local schools to help with the cost of their sixth form education. The awards will be given on the 4th June.

Decant timetable - 50th anniversary celebration.
While we have not received formal allocation of the Decant School sites, ESF has received reassurance from senior Government officials that this will be forthcoming and plans are on track for decanting in the summer vacation 2017. It was also noted that ESF has approved the staffing school’s increased budget for the period of relocation. This will enable the school to function smoothly and also enable class sizes to be reduced.

Plans are also being made for a 50th anniversary celebration on 10th June 2017 as a final major event in the current school buildings. It is hoped that many alumnae will attend.

Island Futures programme
This year sees the second cohort complete the Year 9 to Year 11 Island Futures programme. The formerly ‘dead time’ for Year 11 after GCSE exams is now being used both to finish the Island Futures courses, with an exhibition on 13th June, and on courses which provide a springboard for starting their IB Diploma studies in next term.

J Robert Gibson; Island School Council Chair