# Grange Primary Parent Council

## 9th March 2021 Minutes of Meeting

### Present

Emma McGahon (Chair)

Melissa Littlewood (Co-Vice chair)

Mrs Claire McCallum (Co-Vice Chair)

Kerry Perry (Treasurer)

Rhona McColgan (Member)

Lisa Tennant (Member)

Leon Hunter (Fundraiser and Member)

Lynne Ogg (Fundraiser and Member)

Melanie Stuart (Secretary)

Mrs Tweed (Acting Head Teacher)

Mrs Landsburgh (Acting Depute Head Teacher)

### Apologies

Wendy Gallagher

### Minutes of last meeting

We had said the School Improvement Plan 2021-2022 to be added to agenda in March but it was decided to wait until children have settled back at school- to be added to next agenda.

### Parent Council Update

#### Finances

* Signatories have all been sorted out. KP had to do a lot of work behind the scenes co-ordinating and chasing up. It was even more difficult to sort in Lockdown. All sorted now so CM, EM and ML are all authorised signatories now. Big thanks to KP for sorting.
* The Wishlist – couldn’t find items on the list anymore so we need a new updated list when possible. KP had sent in a suggestion for playground equipment (attached) Will save in a document until a time when the children at school can revisit playground equipment again. Anyone to send in ideas. The majority of the money will remain allocated to playground equipment.
* Noticed some items were wooden; a mud kitchen, wooden teepee and similar. A dad (joiner) would be willing to oversee and help others to make items if the PC buy the materials. To do a skills and time audit of parents to find out who may be able to volunteer at/for the school and PC in the next year as little or as much as they would like.

#### Constitution

* We went through the changes to the aims and agreed. Looked at the numbers of members in the Parent Council which was set at 15. Some discussion that the number didn’t really matter we have a pretty good spread across year groups. We really would like lots of the parent forum to attend and have their say in meetings. Everyone is welcome. Will leave the numbers as is and review annually before AGM. Send out updated constitution on all platforms. Added after meeting – we could start to think about applying for different funding streams with an agreed constitution.

**Class group updates**

* Book fair on until tomorrow evening and we are nearly at a level where we can get more books for the school. – Update – level met. Good news.
* There have been general worries about children returning to school and relationships in class and in the playground. Mrs Tweed assured the PC that there will be plenty of adults in the playground to support children. The focus for the next while will be wellbeing, relationships and routines.
* There was some discussion about how disruptive the year has been and ways to deal with this. One suggestion was it might be beneficial to keep current class teachers into the next school year. The school leadership team are considering every option very carefully but reinforced it’s not quite as simple as just moving P7 teachers to P1. There will be numeracy and literacy assessments coming up in the next few weeks so that teachers can find out where everyone is, if there are there any gaps and create a targeted class specific recovery plan for term 4.
* Feedback will be sought on an ongoing basis – check this is correct

#### Parent Council Communication Health Check

* PC are going to go through and email in 3 things we do well, 3 things that we can improve now and 1 longer term improvement for the next year. Share checklist again with minutes.
* When the school communication policy is up for review it could be good to include the PC in that to help PC communication complement school communication and vice versa.
* VT said parent updates have been responsive to ongoing changes in Scottish Government guidelines at the moment and very specific down to lockdown. It is hoped that things will become more structured again soon so PC could contribute to that regularly.

**School Update**

* Back on 23rd Feb 57 parents responded about home learning questionnaire. As a result of feedback the school
  + Were able to loan Chrome books where required
  + Adjust lesson layout to reduce amount of printing required much and teachers were able to adjust their content to reduce printing.
  + As of last week, every p4-p7 had the opportunity to join a class teams meeting
  + Live learning videos worked well, gave a balance of flexibility for parents and teacher contact time.

**Back to School**

* Next week staggered starts will be back in place. A classes from 8.50am -3.10pm and B classes 9am-3.20pm to reduce the number of adults at drop off and pick up
* Almost all adults in school do the lateral flow test and this is improving staff confidence
* Reading café at home went well, P3’s and 4’s will follow soon.
* Grange has got talent will be making a comeback in a slightly different way this year and everyone is looking forward to that.
* P5-p7 are going to be taking part in a community art project for a Monifeith Art Trail. Artists will be working with children across Monifeith to create several art installations.
* The school had identified Digital Literacy in their School Improvement Plan and it was recognised that many children have been upskilling themselves over lockdown.
* To build on this 20 chrome books have already been purchased and 20 more are arriving soon. 16 new iPads are also arriving which will allow every teacher to have an ipad and the rest can be timetabled so each class can use to support learning. 2 new Prowise boards have also been purchased for the Nursery and Purple room.
* School have applied for a COVID grant for food vouchers to support families and should they be successful a message will go out via dojo to all families.
* Reading accreditation – School are working towards a gold accreditation and Mrs Anderson leads this. Staff book club, newsletters, readingwithgrange, reading café, we are looking for safe ways to progress, next step will be community links.
* Health and Well-being is going to be a big school focus in the coming weeks – getting back into a routine and play will be priorities. School will be using Bounce Back and Check in, check out tools. Miss Kean is the lead for well-being and the school are taking part in the North Sea Run-more info will be available in next meeting.
* There was a brief update on P7 leavers and P1 starters and work going on there. Idea to include PC in P1 introduction to school to introduce new parents to the Parent Council.

**Reporting**

* Continuous reporting hasn’t been possible this year – Mrs Tweed described the report that would normally go out around May – June. It was thought that it should be a positive experience. A parent meeting option would normally be available after the report and still will be although may be a phone call rather than a face-face meeting.

**School dates**

Mother’s Day, national wellbeing week, Kiltwalk. Sports day probably won’t be the traditional sports day but Mrs Kean is thinking about it now.

**Fundraising and Fun**

* Bake off went well lots of good engagement, perhaps next time hold competition by similar age groups or year group. To consider doing again at another time of year. Video prize announcements were particularly liked.
* Grange Parent Council give Rabbie Burns a go – Thanks to everyone who took part, hope everyone had fun taking part. Felt it was a good opportunity to let school community see who parent council were. Maybe consider doing another Grange Parents give something a go? Art activity or a reading activity to support the Reading award. No need for more videos but may be a fun way to engage in learning. Ideas and volunteers welcomed.
* Easter – it was acknowledged that everyone is feeling fatigued by everything the last year has thrown at us. For Easter we will do a straightforward Easter egg design contest and some Easter egg prizes. Following the feedback from the Bake Off we will group by ages.
* KIltwalk – This year the focus is on being active
  + PC action group are coming up with ideas including class challenges, scavenger hunts, activity bingo, parent videos focussing on wellbeing, yoga and physical activity,
  + If anyone would like to fundraise for the Parent Council, please do sign up with grangers gang as your team. However we are not focussing on fundraising this year, we hope that everyone will enjoy participating in some of the fun activities
  + Any funds that are raised we hope to use towards events through the year.
* We are considering selling small items such as pedometers, wrist bands or bandanas that will maybe make 50p each for the PC. To ask the Parent Forum to see if there would be any interest in purchasing items.

### Any other business and Next Meeting

Kiltwalk meeting – 18th March 7.30pm

Parent Council Meeting – Wed 5th May 7.30pm – 9pm