



Parent Council Meeting

Date: 9th January 2018 **Time:** 7:00pm

Attendees: Leeann Currie (Chair), Claire Dilleen, Helen McNaught, Maureen Bell, Gillian Goodwin, Victoria Struthers, Michelle Campbell, Will Kay, Jennifer MacLean, Sharon McCafferty.

Denise Penman HT, Tamzin Grossert DHT (acting)

Councillor Earle

Apologies: Charlene Anderson, Natasha Woods Wakefield

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

- Leeann welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Parents / Staff introduced themselves.

2.0 Meetings of Previous Meeting and Outstanding Actions

- Charlene offered to ask Alloa bike shop if they would come to school to teach children how to maintain their bikes. **Action Charlene**
- Ms Grossert confirmed heart rate monitors have been purchased and are being used.
- SNP Councillor Graham Linsey and Jane Rough (Procurement Team) to come and look at Sunnyside regarding state of the school and desks etc. We could invite Graham to our next/future PC meeting. **Action LC**

3.0 Chair Person Update.

3.1 Safe Routes to School

- Leeann thanked Ms Grossert and Councillor Earle for their continued support and for liaising with the Council.
- Allan Murray; Head of Road, has agreed that the Yellow lines will be redrawn around the corner at Erskine Street / Ashley Terrace and will extend to the lay-by.
- There has been a good Police presence in the morning / afternoon. The Police have been talking to drivers and moving cars on.
- Sunnyside Pupils won the Walk to School badge design competition.
- The lock has been replaced on the car-park gate, which has deterred some parents from parking in it. There is a parent / carer who is eligible to use the disabled parking bay.

3.2 Panto

- The Panto was an excellent experience for all children attending. Behaviour was good.
- Due to the costs involved, Ms Grossert suggested this shouldn't be an annual occurrence; possibly every 3 years, to ensure pupils appreciate it.
- Mrs Penman advised that the Scottish Opera offer a quality musical experience suitable for the P6/P7's. The performance could also be shared with year groups and is considerably cheaper than the M&M panto. This is will be considered when reviewing options for future years.

3.3 Donation of £500 from Alloa Round Table

- It was agreed this money would be used to purchase 'much needed' new Sports Kids for the school.
- The school to identify their requirements and numbers / sizes required.
- The cost of kits to be investigated.

Action WKay

3.4 Funding from Education Centre

- Leeann has previously spoken to Jane Rough to enquire about funding towards the equipment, resources and furnishings purchased by the Parent Council. Feedback was that no money was available, however Craighbank recently had a new fridge for their Nursery funded by the Education Centre as the PC didn't have money available to fund it. It was agreed that this was unfair and inconsistent.
Leeann to feedback to Jane Rough

Action: LC

4.0 Head Teacher Report

4.1 Staffing

- 3 new members for staff have joined Sunnyside:
 - Teaching staff: Mrs Fiona McIntosh
 - Support staff: John Ferguson (P4-7) PEF funded
Angie Ross (P1-3) Early Intervention Officer – PEF funded post.
- The support posts will focus on supporting pupils and engagement with families. They will be a focus on improving attendance and lateness.

4.2 Parents Evening

- The next parents evening is on 13th & 15th March

4.3 Health & Wellbeing

- Loose Parts Play
 - This is being coordinated by Mrs Neil and is now well resources. There is a good source of palettes.
 - Most equipment is being put away each evening, although some are being left out as it's seen as a good resource for the community. However, there have been

reports of a small number of children throwing around equipment that has been left out. This needs to be risk assessed. **Action: TG/HN**

4.4 School Review

- Cathy Quinn, Improving Outcomes Manager, oversaw a school review in December.
- A letter will be issued from Cathy Quinn, stating the issues identified. These will be addressed to ensure consistency of learning and teaching throughout the school.

4.5 School Behaviour

- Mrs Penman confirmed that pupil behaviour within the school needed to be reviewed and improved as this ensures learning and teaching is successful for all pupils.

4.6 Monitoring & Tracking (Teachers professional judgement)

- 'Teacher professional judgements' were submitted in December. The results are disappointing and dialogue is required with staff to determine if these target results are reliable and the action required to get pupils back to the levels they should be at.

4.7 New Desks

- Parents were invited to see the new desks.

5.0 Treasurers Report

5.1 Money in Bank

- £7,198.07 currently in the bank, although £6,000 is to pay for desks.
- Desks are still to be purchased for a further 3 classrooms. Mrs Penman / Ms Grossert, confirmed they have made a significant improvement to the learning environments of the classes.
- Balance is £1,198.07

5.2 Fundraising Wish-Life

- Mrs Penman confirmed she would like to purchase class sets of 6-8 ipads to support learning. This will be approx 90 ipads in total.
- Initial costs quoted to Mrs Penman appear high. Costs to be checked. **Action HMcN**

6.0 Budget Consultation

- Leeann & Helen both attended the PC Chair Budget Consultation with Anne Pearson and her team.
- There are some very difficult decisions to be made regarding the funding cuts. A lot of the funding cuts are interlinked and will have significant impact within the schools. E.g.

Bringing back children in residential establishments, but at the same time making cuts to LA's & pupil / teacher ratios.

- The proposed cuts are for 6% of the current education budget as any further cuts are not legally possible.
- The general feeling from the meeting is that the Council is not utilising the revenue streams effectively. Parents in general agreed they would be prepared to pay more for Services, such as Breakfast Clubs, Sports Development, buses, etc.
- Each Parent Council was advised to submit a letter to the Councillors outlining the general impact the cuts would have on their learning community.
- There are still public meetings to raise concerns about the impact of the budget cuts and the online consultation is open till 2nd February.

7.0 Parent Forum Issues

7.1 P7 Residential

- Kilbowie near Oban is currently being considered as an alternative location.
- Ms Grossert & Mrs Green; Park PS are to visit Kilbowie on Wednesday 17th Jan to assess it suitability / accessibility.
- It is planned to move the P7 residential to May, so it integrated into the P7 transition.
- The number of nights is being reviewed to ensure the benefits are balanced against the cost of the trip.
- Ms Grossert to provide an update at the next meeting **Action TG**

7.2 P6/P7 Composite Integration

- Due to the small number of P6's in the current P6/P7 composite, parents have enquired how the school plans to support and integrate these pupils back in with existing P6 classes as they move into P7.
- DP /TH to monitor and review with existing class teachers (ongoing). **Action: DP / TG**

7.3 Behaviour / Language of Senior Pupils in the morning

- A small number of P7 pupils are hanging about the bike sheds in the morning, using inappropriate language and being verbally abuse to pupils as they walk into the playground.
- SMT to monitor when they are in the playground in the morning. **Action : DP/TG**

7.4 Star Pupil Assemblies

- Parents are keen to see the star pupil assemblies continue. Mrs Penman confirmed they would continue.

8.0 AOB

8.1 Change to Morning Routine

- During the bad weather conditions pupils have been allowed entry to the school from 8:50am, with supervision provided by school & learning assistants / SMT until 9am
- Teachers have reported that this additional time has enabled pupils to get settled and are 'ready to learn' a lot sooner. This is currently being trialled. DP will continue to monitor and review with staff. **Action DP**

8.2 Communication: Text & Xpressions App

- The use of the Xpressions notifications was queried as not all parents received text messages that the school was closing due to the snow.
- Ms Grossert confirmed that notifications via the xpressions app will take priority over other communication methods selected, e.g. text message; in order to save on costs.
- The Xpressions App will be the preferred method of communication going forward, although sign-up has been slow, with only about 30 parents currently using it. The school will continue to promote this.

8.3 P7 Leaver Hoodies

- All information about the leavers hoodies have been passed to Miss Smith.
- Due to the cost of the hoodies, parents have expressed a preference to purchase these at the start of P7, to ensure pupils get maximum wear out of them. Previous P7's have stopped wearing their hoodies at the start of the school holidays.
- Ms Grossert to liaise with P7 teachers to establish what has been agreed for the Hoodies. **Action: TG**
- The school is to review the options for Leaver Items; for both the short and long term, to ensure inclusive options are available. **Action: DP**

8.4 School Uniform

- Due to the increase in the range of garment options now available, the uniform has been diluted and there is not a consistent uniform across the school. Polo shirts are also in various shades of yellow, due to supplier and age of sweatshirts, etc.
- An initial discussion on School uniform will be added to the agenda for the next meeting, with a view to putting out to a full school consultation.
- Suggestions included replacing yellow polo with white polo shirts, agreeing on a uniform colour, with the potential of changing the uniform colour for P7's.

8.5 Dates for the Diary

- 22/3/18 Spring Disco
- 25/3/18 Easter Egg Hunt
- 28/3/18 Walking Breakfast
- 04/5/18 Non Uniform (for Summer Fayre)
- 12/5/18 Summer Fayre
- 28/6/18 Walking Breakfast

9.0 Date of next meeting

- Date of next meeting:
 - Tuesday 27th March
 - Tuesday 8th May
 - Monday 4th June AGM

10.0 Summary of actions arising from meeting

Ref	Action	Owner
2.0	Alloa bike shop to be contacted to ask if they would be involved in bike maintenance sessions.	CA
2.0	Councillor visit to assess condition of school	LC
3.3	Cost of sports kits to be investigated	WKay
3.4	Inconsistency / unfairness in Centre funding to schools to be fed back to Jane Rough	LCurrie
4.3	Risk Assessment on leaving loose parts play resources which are left out to be reviewed within the school	TGrossert / HNeil
5.2	Cost of ipads to be confirmed with IT Services	HMcNaught
7.1	P7 Residential Update	TGrossert
7.2	P6/7 integration back into their year group	TGrossert /DPenman
7.3	SMT to monitor behaviour in the playground in the morning.	TGrossert /DPenman
8.1	Impact of changes to morning routine to be monitored	DPenman
8.3	Arrangements for P7 Hoodies to be confirmed with the P& Teachers	TGrossert
8.3	Options for Leaver Items; for both the short and long term, to ensure inclusive options are available	DPenman