

## Grange Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 via Zoom @ 19.00hrs

### **Attendees**

Kirsty Clelland, Pauline Patton, Amanda McKinlay, Shirley Curran, Nicola Newlands, Sam Wood, Richard Crawford, Morag Ross, Elaine Crawford, Viv Lambert, Alicia Clyde, Lee Cardow (guest), Kirsty Miller (guest)

### **Apologies**

Mary MacKinnon (resigned from Parent Council), Robert Johnson, Claire Bryson, Stephen Cowan, Sandra Mabon, Tom Cook

### **Approval of previous minutes**

Minutes – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – Amanda McKinlay & Pauline Patton

Minutes – AGM 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – Amanda McKinlay & Viv Lambert

### **Update on PEF plan and expenditure – Lee Cardow**

Lee Cardow presented to the Parent Council an update on PEF budget and expenditure for this year. It was agreed that information on this will be shared via school website / blog with updates on spend and pupil results and achievements.

Parent Council pointed out that consultations should be made with the parent forum on proposed PEF budget spend, this is not a decision that should be taken solely by the school without input from relevant stakeholders, we would expect this to be an ongoing consultation on proposed spend and run down on remaining PEF budget and any relevant updates to be provided regularly throughout the school year. Reports should be provided in advance of Parent Council Meetings.

PEF budget awarded to Grange this year is £156,433

From this budget Mrs Cardow's role is funded along with 1 classroom assistant and budget to recruit 1 further classroom assistant. Home Link workers, support teachers to work with small groups & travel costs are also funded from this budget. An investment has been made with Street League this year to work with disengaged S4 / S5 pupils, this is the first year the Grange has worked with Street League. They have been targeted to achieve 3 qualifications with the pupils they are working with. Street League can also offer links to apprenticeships programs and helping pupils move on to positive destinations after school.

A new first year nurture class is part of PEF spend this year, Mark Dixon – Pastoral care for Bruce House works with new S1s in 6 – 8-week blocks offering support on transition into 1<sup>st</sup> Year

Mrs Cardow would love to see a Support for Learning Hub within the Grange campus, there is a real need for this where bespoke curriculum could be used with high tariff pupils needing additional support through learning, social or emotional requirements.

## Main aims of PEF

- Raising attainment
- Closing attainment gap
- Literacy support
- Numeracy support
- Working with S4s to achieve NAT 4 qualifications prior to leaving school
- Forging strong relationships
- Improving attendance

It was confirmed that the previous SAC budget now forms part of PEF Budget.

## School Counsellors

Mrs Cardow advised we now have 3 Counsellors within the school funded from Scottish Government. Feedback so far has been positive. Pupils or parents can request support from counsellors and there is approx. a 1 week wait now to be seen.

Young people are offered blocks of 6 – 8 weeks with the counsellor, they can be re-referred after this block or can be referred for additional support elsewhere.

Again, Mrs Cardow will share information on the school counsellors and the service available to our young people via the school website / blog.

## Head Teachers Report (Elaine Crawford)

### Staffing

- Technical Teacher position has been filled – should be starting before Christmas
- Music – New teacher appointed - Mr Keachie leaving teaching.
- Social subjects – Interviews scheduled for Friday for social subjects' teacher

Short term absences due to COVID/usual bugs at the time of year. Technical and Social studies have been particularly struggling

### SQA

This has been passed to Lauran McLean (PT Science) working with Stephen Cowan who has previous SQA experience. Miss McLean is also part of the wider E.A SQA support group available across the area. Entries have been submitted last week; level changes can still happen.

SQA appeals – 6 were submitted from Grange – no changes to grades were awarded, pupils are aware of the results.

Assessment Blocks (previously prelims) – Miss McLean is linked with coordinators across the authority. Assessments due to take place in January. Still to be confirmed if these can take place in the assembly halls under exam conditions due to Health & Safety and ongoing COVID situation.

As always, some assessments would be due before Christmas (H.E & Music)

Members of Parent Council would encourage this where possible. It was also noted that exam conditions do not always bring out the best in some pupils.

## S1 Parents evening

Thanks to Stephen Cowan for all his hard work arranging this, online appointments are arranged for later this week – Thursday evening.

Prom

Excitement being felt across 6<sup>th</sup> year, Mr Johnson send his thanks to Parent Council for taking on the arrangement of this event this year.

Santa Run – Mrs Crawford to ask Mr Johnson if this can go ahead.

School Uniform Review

Possibly look to consult on this in April 2022, Mrs Crawford to speak with Mr Johnson re this.

### **Active Schools Coordinator – Kirsty Miller**

Kirsty introduced herself as the active school's coordinator across the Grange Cluster.

Support is being sought from Parent Council on applying for funding from Awards for All to help with extracurricular clubs and activities. Mr Allan (P.E) has been driving this and run a pilot scheme across breaks and lunches within school hours which has been well supported and shows excellent results across attendance, bullying, positive relationships with other pupils and teachers, new friendships, improved focus in class and raised attainment.

This could also be used with the wider community out of school hours and across cluster for P7 transition. The max grant than be applied for is £10K. Mr Allan has offered to manage any funds awarded with assistance from other staff, Kirsty Miller, possibility to work with other local clubs, senior pupils, DoE candidates and parents and wider community.

Mr Baird is looking to consult across pupils and Kirsty would consult across parents.

A working group of Alicia Clyde and Shirley Curran will take this off-line and meet to discuss how to proceed, thoughts, ideas, analyse consultation etc. They will meet with Kirsty Miller and Ross Allan.

Kirsty Clelland to pass on Alicia's and Shirley's details.

### **Treasurers Report**

In Bank £1475.52

Shirley Curran, Kirsty Clelland & Amanda McKinlay will be signatories on the Parent Council Bank account.

Formal report will be produced once all receipts and notes of expenditure, funds due in from school have been received. Full report will be given at next meeting.

If any expenditure differs from what has been agreed in previous PC meetings Shirley will contact PC members for approval.

It was proposed to take PC banking online and also to request a bank card for the account - this will override the need for multiple signatories – Shirley will provide a procedure for this going forward to accompany the role description of Treasurer.

**AGREED BY ALL TO BOTH ONLINE BANK ACCOUNT AND BANK CARD**

### **Fundraising**

12 days of Christmas Raffle – This is going well with good prizes being received, Amanda will collect these from the school office and collate for the raffle. Kirsty Clelland to check with office if it is ok for prizes to be dropped off.

Kirsty to check if we can advertise on FB page / school website re prizes for raffle from parents.

Santa dash – if approved, other schools in the campus could also looking to be involved.

Kirsty has asked re possibility of outdoor carol concert – awaiting on update from Stephen Cowan.

Prom – 45 deposits paid to date and prom committee busy making posters to place around the school to advertise.

Amanda McKinlay to check with Stephen Cowan re adult supervisor ratio needed for prom and if this will be covered by teachers or if any parent helpers would be required.

Deposit to Park Hotel due - £300. Proposed for Parent Council to cover this until deposits come over from ParentPay in December.

### **AGREED BY ALL TO PAY DEPOSIT**

Amanda and Shirley will meet at Park Hotel to pap deposit (this is refundable)

### **Meetings for rest of year.**

Kirsty proposed alternate days of the week for our meetings to occur to allow more flexibility for attendees.

Proposed dates

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

### **AOB**

Traffic issues in Beech Avenue, cars causing an obstruction at end of school day, Kirsty Clelland to raise to campus cops and issue reminder to be considerate on FB/Blog

Issue also raised re vehicles sitting with engine idling and general road safety particularly around crossing on Irvine Road– again reminder to be issued re this.

Meeting closed 21.07hrs