



PARENT COUNCIL

Email: bpsparentcouncil1@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BEARSDEN PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 18th MAY 2017 IN THE SCHOOL STAFF ROOM

Present Mrs Catriona Smith (Head Teacher)

Chris Dorman
January Morgan-White
Gillian Lennon
Stuart Dickson
Jill Gawish
Neil Cochrane
Thomas Aspray
Rachel Huston
Natalie Devine
Jennifer Shearer
Lise McCaffrey
Tara White (Clerk)

11/440 Welcome & Apologies

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming along. Apologies were noted from Lorna Mitchell, Claire Turner and Councillor Moody.

11/441 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

11/442 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

11/443 Chair Report

Chris paid special welcome to those parents attending for the first time and thanked them for coming along. Chris said it was really important to retain the strong sense of community that already exists within the school with the parent body and teachers working together and that recruiting new members would help to strengthen the existing ties. Some ideas regarding this were discussed. Chris asked if anyone had any issues to raise. Stuart Dickson said there had been a number of burglaries reported in schools and asked had any additional security measures been put in place and was the school insured for high value contents. Mrs Smith said that steps are taken to ensure that valuable items are locked away and that she would double check that everything is covered under the schools insurance policy. Stuart also noted that with the new hub there were a lot more pedestrians in that area and queried if there was support for a new crossing. Stuart also queried the issue of diesel emissions in the area of the cross and asked whether this is monitored by the school. Chris said that this data is available online and that the last time he looked the levels were ok. Wendy McLaren believes that there was mention of a new crossing and suggested referring back to either Councillor Cumming or Councillor Moody regarding this. Wendy asked if there could be an audit of how much each class has been asked to contribute towards school trips as this is something a number of parents have raised and Mrs Smith agreed to look into this. Neil Cochrane asked whether it was possible for the new hub to be used as a polling station instead of the school. A discussion took place and it would appear that the hub is already used as a polling station but for a different area than the schools. Chris will look into this. January provided an update on FRG news and said that the men's night had been a great success and over £1,200 had been raised.

The Summer Fayre is coming up on the 16th of June. The FRG are waiting on a spend request from the school and will feedback on this in the future. There will also be some further work on the playground, Karen McGregor has had a meeting with Scotplay regarding this and January thanked Karen for all the work she and others put into the playground. Wendy also mentioned the fact that there was no hot water in the toilets and asked could a gel dispenser be installed if this is down to Health & Safety reasons. Wendy also asked if there could be more sanitary disposal in the girls toilets. Mrs Smith will look into these issues.

Chris indicated that he is planning on stepping down from the position of Chair once his oldest son has moved on to the high school and whilst there is no urgency he asked if people could give the matter of electing a new Chair some thought. Chris will chair the AGM. Wendy also agreed to continue to attend the PCF meetings on behalf of the group. Chris said he would extend a welcome to the newly elected councillors in the area and hoped to continue with them the good relations the school has had with past councillors.

11/444 **Head Teacher Report**

Mrs Smith presented her HT report to the group which is attached to these minutes.

11/445 **Newsletter Suggestions**

There were no suggestions.

11/446 **AOCB**

There was no AOCB.

The next meeting will be the AGM on September 14th 2017 at 7pm.

Signed by:

Chairman BPS Parent Council

Date:

Head Teacher Update- May 2017

Pupil Roll Update

- Current role 435
- 60 Primary 1 pupils. Maximum of 60 pupils
- Current P3 classes have 32 and 31 due to exceptional circumstances. Max of 32 allowed.
- P6 only stage with numerous placing requests places available.
- Next session we have 48 children for P1.
- This will result in 15 classes across the school.
- All classes P3 up will remain as they are.
- Current P1 will be classified into 2 classes of 30 children. This will be done in consultation with the class teachers to ensure they are grouped in the best possible arrangement to take account of ability groups for learning and friendships.
- Teachers for the school have not been confirmed as of yet- Mr Prunty and Miss Gann will be leaving us, and we should have 2 new probationer teachers to join us. We will also have a number of maternity leaves to cover- Mrs Reid, Mrs Crossey, Mrs Macpherson, Mrs Bell.

Staffing Update

Primary 1 Room 4 Mrs J Drysdale
Primary 1a Room 9 Miss N Beattie
Primary 1b Room 10 Mr R Cameron
Primary 2 Room 1 Mr A Findlay
Primary 2a Room 2 Miss K Jaycock
Primary 3 Room 3 Miss P Gann / Ms Thomson
Primary 3a Room 5 Miss L Graham
Primary 4 Room 7 Mrs A Templeton
Primary 4a Room 6 Miss Gray
Primary 5 Room 12 Miss A Mackenzie
Primary 5a Room 17 Mrs A Mathieson / Mrs K Macpherson
Primary 6 Room 13 Mr P Prunty / Mrs Wilson
Primary 6a Room 19 Mrs G Bell / Mrs L McGonagle
Primary 6b Room 20 Miss Mullen
Primary 7 Room 15 Mr D McGregor
Primary 7a Room 14 Mrs F Rattray/SLT
RCCT – Various – Ms P Cowan
RCCT – PE – Mrs E Irvine
RCCT - French – Mrs Capaldi
Depute Head Teacher – Mrs L Stewart
Depute Head Teacher (0.6) – Ms Janice Thomson
0.4 Acting DHT Vacancy – Mrs Wilson

Head Teacher – Mrs Catriona Smith

Ms Macpherson will be finishing at end of May and Mrs Mathieson is increasing her days to cover this until the summer holidays.

Mrs N Johnson will be returning in June which will release Miss Cowan to work part of week with Mrs Rattray in P7.

*Still challenges accessing Supply Cover due to national shortage.

School Improvement Plan

- Attainment and Achievement

Transitions- working on improving transitions across the year- teachers are working on ensuring this is accurate and useful and time has been allocated to focus on this before classes are organised. All staff will work on this on 8th June and there will be an afternoon where all children will move up to meet their new teacher (where possible). This will be in June.

- Personalised Support

Peer observations have taken place and the focus of this was effective differentiation. Staff have shared what they do in different stages and have action points to work on from this.

- Cluster working- Moderation of a level

All teaching staff across the cluster came together on Inset day and looked at sharing the standard from Early to Third Level. The work was then moderated and exemplars were given for each level. This will

now also be shared at the Parent Transition event to Bearsden Academy on 1st June and Mrs Stewart will be there with other staff from our cluster schools to explain how this work was taken forward.

- Curriculum: Literacy Focus

Focus of Open Afternoon was Poetry to allow parents to see the progression through writing in this area. Staff have met and moderated writing pieces together to ensure consistency of the standards expected. This was continued into the inservice day on 4th May and teachers shared standards of writing from P1 to P7 to ensure consistency of approach and standards required.

Curriculum : Enhancing Learning through Play

P1 staff have now presented the work at Headteacher and practitioner meetings. We have had a great many requests from other schools to come and see the work in action and had 2 open mornings for staff to observe how this is organised and share our practice with others. Anne Dalziel, QIO, is working alongside the teachers and they are now evaluating the impact of play. This will now be used to roll this out across East Dunbartonshire to other primary schools.

2017-18

- Attainment- Literacy and Play
- Assessment- Learning Journeys, involving parents in learning
- Health and Wellbeing- Resilience, Leadership of children
- Cluster work- Maths

Pupil Equity Fund

- Bearsden Primary was allocated £12000 to tackle the poverty related gap.
- The way in which we use the money will be evaluated through our School Improvement Plan and the Standards and Quality report- these will have to evidence the impact on closing the poverty related attainment gap.
- As a school, we are working on what we believe our gap to be and all staff have suggested ways to use the money to close the gap.
- All parents will be asked for their thoughts on this via email- a number of responses were received – Growth Mindset, Critical Thinking, Mindfulness, Curriculum information for parents and STEM.
- Initial thoughts are that we use some to contribute to a cluster approach to training staff on ensuring high quality learning and teaching- Growth Mindset and SEAL Maths

Active Travel and Cycling

- From the trips organised, the need for clearer information to parents became apparent - an improved letter has now been given out to parents.
- Trips that have been done have been very successful.
- 4 staff are being trained to be cycle leaders.

Events and successes

- Euroquiz team entered and Bearsden team came 6th out of 20 teams.
- P6a took part in the Thomas Muir art competition and we had 2 finalists chosen- Sarah Johnston and Alasdair Padmanabhan- both paintings were framed and are now on display beside the school office.
- The chess club played another dragons chess tournament on the 5th Feb which they received a merit for - thanks to Mrs Crossey for this.
- Netball girls played another cluster tournament and won 1, draw 1 and lost 1. They also played in the netball festival on the 27th March.
- The P7 yearbook committee have also been working hard to write articles and collect photos of their year so far. Yearbooks are now available for ordering.
- 2 different cross country events which our children were very successful at- thanks to Mrs Mathieson and Mr Prunty for giving up their Sunday for this. Mr Prunty's race was in tough conditions and the following medals were won on Sunday 26th Feb:

P6: Matthew Burnside - 2nd place

P7: 1st Place -Alexander Napier, 2nd Place- Kristian Webster

- Bulb competition- we had some school winners and Bearsden Primary won overall for the Bearsden Area.

- FairAware Fairtrade Award. We achieved this by the P6's completing a questionnaire about fairtrade, completing a survey on the products we use in school, the P6 teachers taught a fairtrade lessons and provided feedback and we had our fairtrade breakfast. We are now looking to progress to the next stage of the award.

- Rotary Quiz- Mrs Templeton took along 4 children and they came second- beaten by only one point!

Budget Update

- Last budget was fully spent.
- A significant amount was spent to ensure that the reading books are replaced where we were short or through wear and tear.
- £1000 grant was awarded for improving play in P1 and this has been used to buy further resources.

- This year's budget now available- meeting with School Support Co-Coordinator to identify savings for the school- this will be given at next meeting.

P7 Residential Trip 2017/18

- Lockerbie Manor booked
- Deposits asked for from children
- 69 deposits paid.

P6 Residential Outdoor Education Experience

- A request from the centre to change the date by one day
- As a result they will give us money back which we will give to the children as spending money.
- 59 deposits paid.

Facilities Management Update

- No further feedback at present on next phase- awaiting costings.
- Cycling container moved to remove the need for wood to block entrance which was causing a health and safety risk.

Events

1/6/17 Pre entrant afternoon 2-3pm
 1/6/17 Bearsden Academy induction day
 2/6/17 Bearsden Academy induction day
 5/6/17 P4 Room 7 Cycle trip to Erskine Bridge
 7/6/17 P5 Room 12 Cycle trip to Kelvingrove
 8/6/17 School closed—General Election
 9/6/17 Sports Day at Thorn Park 9.30am
 12/6/17 P1 Room 10 Assembly 9am
 12/6/17 P5 Room 17 Assembly 9.45am
 12/6/17 Boclair Academy induction day
 13/6/17 Boclair Academy induction day
 14/6/17 P2 at National Museum of Rural Life
 16/6/17 Fundraising Group Summer Fair 6-9pm
 19/6/17 P1 Room 4 Assembly 9am
 19/6/17 P4 Room 7 Assembly 9.45am
 21/6/17 P7 leavers assembly 6.30pm
 23/6/17 Summer Church Service at 9.30am
 26/6/17 P1 Room 9 Assembly 9am
 26/6/17 P4 Room 6 Assembly 9.45am
 28/6/17 School closes 1pm