

Crookfur Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council

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Minutes

DATE:

Monday 28th January 2019 at 1900 hrs

LOCATION:

Eastwood High School

CHAIR:

Denny Henderson

PURPOSE OF PARENT

The School Boards (Scotland Act) Act 1988 and subsequently the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 established partnership bodies of parents, school staff and co-opted members involved in the running of the school. They have a number of specific statutory rights and obligations. The main function is to promote contact and the exchange of information between the school, parents and the wider community. They should help to improve parents' understanding of what the school is trying to achieve, and they should carry out all their functions with a view to raising the standard of education at the school.

IN ATTENDANCE

| | | | |
|------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| Denny Henderson | PM | Maham Ahmad | PM |
| Sheena McGuigan | HT | John Brennan | PM |
| Claire Jamieson | PT | Gillian Plews | PM |
| Lisa David | PT | Cathy Thompson | CM |
| Ailsa Munro | PM | Adele Thomson | PM |
| Dawn Jamieson | PM | Shabana Hussain | CM |
| Kathleen McGeogh | PM | Karen McGrady-Parker | PM |
| Beverly Stoner | PM | Wendy Durie | PM |

PM – Parent Member CM – Co-opted Member

HT – Head Teacher DHT – Acting Deputy Head Teacher

PT – Principle Teacher

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Denny welcomed everyone in attendance, confirmed any apologies.

2. APOLOGIES

| | | | |
|---------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| Aisha Mahmood | PM | Kimberley Slorach | DHT |
| Conor Murphy | PM | Claire Dowse | PM |
| David O'Gorman | PM | Kari Gillies | PM |
| Michelle Wilson | PM | Alistair Gibb | PM |
| Waqas Waqar | PM | Cathy Thompson | CM |
| Catherine McLatchie | PM | Allyson Gilchrist | PM |

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th November 2018 were approved.

3.1 Actions arising from previous minutes

- Denny discussing handing out leaflets to advise safer parking, particularly at peak nursery times. Denny will email to seek a volunteer to organise parents to share information at 1pm in Crookfur Staff Carpark. Monitor bus lane parking and pavements in staff carpark.

ACTION - DENNY TO ORGANISE LEADER FOR CARPARK LEAFLETS (DH)

- Ms McGuigan provided a menu showing the Tuck items for sale. The items on the 'Goodies' list are not on sale on Tuesdays or Thursdays as cake is on dessert options at lunchtime on those days. Kitchen can reduce/restrict 'Goodies' on sale. Could consider offering cookies on a Friday for example. Will consider canvassing opinion of the parent forum.
- Ms McGuigan addressed sharing snack at assembly and highlighted allergy issues. Children are advised not to share snacks at playtime.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.1 Internal Parent Council Communications

- Denny advised no internal communications due to festive period

4.2 Communications from the Parent Council to the Parent Forum

- Coffee and chat sessions were arranged for nursery parents with parent council members present.

4.3 Feedback from National Parent Forum of Scotland PC Chairs

- No meetings to report on since last PC meeting.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY PARENTS

- Denny shared a parent concern that there was not a Christmas performance for each year group. Although there are Christmas shows for nursery, P1, P2 and P5, the other year groups (P3, P4, P6 and P7) do not have a specific Christmas event to parents to attend. Mrs McGuigan explained that each year group performs a show during the school year, but they can't accommodate all stages of the school to take part in a show at the one time of year due to logistics with rehearsals, performances etc. In addition, each class leads an assembly during the school session.
- Mrs McGuigan shared an issue raised that some parents would like there to be more than one performance of each show. She asked the parent council whether there would be demand for two performances of each show? Possibly a morning and afternoon performance may be considered, but not on the same day. Although an evening performance might be preferable for working parents, experience from other schools suggests that children often have other commitments in the evening and the full 'cast' is often unable to perform in the evening. By having a performance in the morning and afternoon it would allow more tickets (2 per child per performance), it might ease congestion in the hall as the audience for each performance might be smaller and it would allow working parents a bit more flexibility. This is something that will be considered further for 2019/20. The nursery is also considering splitting groups over several performances.
- Denny shared concerns raised by parents regarding the gritting of the carpark at Eastwood High School and the pathways approaching the school. Mr Weir, the Crookfur janitor will grit the paths within the Crookfur grounds. The Eastwood High School Janitors grit the pavement and path in front of the High School and Sports Centre. Correspondence with East Renfrewshire Council confirmed that the car park is not a priority route, but that the road around the outside of the car park was gritted during the recent icy spell. The area around the parking spaces (up and down between the spaces) is not, and will not, be gritted by the council as they don't have capacity for this. It remains the case that the Council Roads department have not adopted Eastwood Carpark and it remains a public carpark.
- P7 Parents enquiring when Hoodies will be given to leavers. Mrs McGuigan advised P7 children received the hoodies in June last year. School may consider giving hoodies in preparation for P7 Induction and athletics events.

ACTION – School to consider timing of P7 Hoodies (SMcG)

6. Anti-bullying policy – revised ERC circular

- Mrs McGuigan shared the revised East Renfrewshire standard circular addressing anti-bullying and prejudice-based bullying. School will review/adapt policy to ensure in line with standard circular from council. Bullying policy to be shared from early age and highlight the impact of bullying with a focus on prevention.
- Worry boxes being used throughout the school. Children identify who can help them with issues they are worried about and staff will talk with the children individually
- Parent Leaflet about school lateness/absence shared with parent council

ACTION – School to publish the documents for parents on the school website (SMcG)

7. School Report – roll, staffing, events, updates & news

- School Roll - 447 pupils with 90/90 nursery
- Staffing - interviewing 4th February for CDO two posts. Roll-related Depute Head post interviews 15th February. Teacher staffing allocation for 2019/2020 will indicate how many vacancies for the session, there is currently one vacancy.
- Events
 - P1 had an event in January with the museum in a box (funded by the Fundraising Committee)
 - The P4 show and P6 shows took place in January
 - Parent meetings next week (6/7 February)
 - The P7 provost debates received excellent feedback
 - Safer Internet Day - 5 February - Campus Cop to visit P6 and P7 to discuss cyber safety and cyber bullying
 - Reading Recovery Programme - Miss Atkin has been doing the Reading Recovery training this session and currently implementing the programme in P2 which has been very successful. This consists of one-to-one half-hour sessions for between 8 and 20 weeks combining reading and writing. Teacher will then support child in class to ensure learning being transferred. Read Aloud event planned, and children will be invited to attend with special guests. Together Better Readers - PSA focus on intensive reading support two days per week.
 - Barhead News - Beat the Street 15th Feb-29th March, Electronic posts in Barhead and Newton Mearns to collect 'beeps' on the route to encourage fitness and activity. Can participate in school team or individual.
 - Fundraising event for activity trail - Pupil Council organising one event to raise money which is a sponsored mini mudder. They will run separate infant, middle and upper mini mudder sessions on 22nd February.
 - Crookfur's Got Talent - Children enthusiastic about CGT 2019. Application forms ready to issue to children from Pupil Council.
 - P3 Spring Show in planning stages
 - World Book Day will be celebrated but not by dressing up
 - RSBCA animal welfare workshops planned throughout the school
- Mrs Jamieson explained expansion of hours in August 2020. Nursery hours increase from 600 hours to 1140 hours. Crookfur nursery will offer 5 days of 6 hrs or 3 days of 10 hours only term time with no wrap around. Maidenhill Nursery and St. Cadocs Nursery have been added to nursery application form. Different establishments will offer different patterns of hours – details on the East Renfrewshire website to explain different offerings <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/9655/Do-you-qualify-for-the-increased-1140-hours>
- Mrs McGuigan summarised the results received from the recent Transitions Review, which reviewed all schools in the Eastwood cluster. The results rated Crookfur as GOOD for *How effectively is the school leading and managing change to deliver excellent outcomes for all learners?* and VERY GOOD for *'How good is school at providing all learners with excellent experiences'*
- Crookfur has seen improvements in baseline numeracy and literacy results (children entering P1) with numeracy increasing from 97 to 102 and literacy from 96 to 102. The East Renfrewshire standardised average is 100. In addition, the percentage of children reaching their developmental milestones has increased from 83% to 89%. These statistics

are a very positive reflection on Crookfur Nursery as many of the children starting P1 came from the nursery.

- Expecting two Crookfur babies, Miss David and Mrs Denholm, both due end of May.

8. Cost of the school day

- Gillian and Claire used toolkit sent by National Parent Forum Scotland to help create an anonymous parental survey about cost of the school day which will be emailed out to parents. There will be a focus on school uniform, travel to school, fundraising, eating at school and attitudes to poverty. The timing of this survey is still to be confirmed.

9. Fundraising update

- Restructured to a sub-committee basis. Different people will take on different roles to share planning of events. Hopefully provide more opportunities for other parents to get involved.
- Thursday 21st February P1-3/P4-7 discos
- Friday 22nd March Ladies Event will be BYOB with stall for top ups and a DJ. All profit for activity trail
- There is a new Fundraising website which will be used to share news, sell tickets and organise volunteers for future events. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/crookfur/index.cfm?event=News#XIfFmij7SUk>
- Bookstall at Parents Evenings volunteers required

10. AOCB

- Roads Department have secured funding to survey traffic usage at Eastwood Carpark

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Parent council – Tuesday 19th March 2019
- PC Chairs – Wednesday 20th February 2019
- Equalities forum – Thursday 16th May 2019

On behalf of:

Ms Denny Henderson

Chair, Crookfur Primary Parent Council