**Carolside Primary School**

**Parent Council Minutes – 27th March 2018**

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| **1. Welcome and**  **Apologies** | Present  Bryan McLachlan (BM) (Head Teacher), Jacqueline Dunn (JD) (DHT), Alison Woodman (AW) (Chair), Judith Currie (JC) (Vice Chair), Jonathan Black (JB), Fiona Hall (FH), Rebecca Nicholson (RN), Fiona McKenna (FM), Gill Christiansen (PTA), Alison Cameron (AC), Stevie Greer (SG), Fiona Hall (FH), David Fisken (DF), Sharon Henderson (SH), Vanessa taylor (VT), John Conner (JC)  Apologies: Susan Lyden (SL),), Kate Campbell (KC), Jackie Duckett (JD), Lynne Docherty (LD), Councillor Macdonald (CDM) Fiona Giles (FG) (DHT), Councillor Alan Lafferty(CAL), Lesley Watson (LW) |  |
| **2. Previous**  **Minutes** | Approval of previous Minutes was accepted by the meeting.. |  |
| **3.JRSO Presentation** | 5 Junior Road Safety Officers gave a presentation on the initiatives they are working on – and showed a video they’ve made to highlight road safety. There is a national competition through Living Streets to design a WOW badge, 4 students have entered. Aim is to encourage year-round walking to school. The JRSO’s will also be promoting The Big Pedal – 23 April – 4 May. They want all staff and students to walk or pedal to school – there is a new bike shelter. They will do daily class visits to record numbers and there will be prizes. BM said he has been talking to pupils about not being distracted by phones / headphones when crossing roads. AW – thanked pupils and invited questions. Asked pupils thoughts about people who park outside school? Pupils felt it wasn’t very safe. AW asked about the Tracker and pupils explained how they record the information and the class with most points wins prize. AC asked if they’d seen a decrease in cars at schools – too early to tell yet. SG asked if JRSO’s all walk to school. JCC – concern that some parents / children may feel embarrassed if not walking / cycling. JRSO’s mentioned park and stride can also be used and no danger of embarrassment. RN – any target for numbers? None currently. Anecdotally there are more bikes in shed. SG mentioned glass/fallen fence en route to school. Would more people cycle if it was done in groups? RN – cleared that lane recently, will speak to school re litter pick up involvement. AW- emphasised to JRSO’s that we want to help in any way, especially to encourage more people to walk and to be safe. Asked BM if any previous data – BM said not sure but would check for comparison info. Better weather should help boost numbers who walk/cycle. SH mentioned that Living Streets is a Government push and may have active travel money attached? |  |
| **4. Head Teachers Report** | Full report attached from BM.  BM stated there was a meeting of teachers at a similar stage, discussing evidence of progression, using shared standards to look at extent of differences. Mentioned Scottish Government approach to encourage regional collaborations across local areas (LA’s)The West Partnership means teachers from outside the LA’s working together. The Williamwood Cluster is a pilot scheme for this.  Brief discussion on past rumours of Carolside PS moving now appearing to be firmly off the table and the encouraging investment in keeping on top of the building maintenance. BM feels there is a sense of priority for CS.  P4 hosting Easter Service on Thursday AM, parents welcome.  JD talked through family-centred approach and the upcoming audit on how the school can best work in partnership with and serve the local community. Forum invites will be issued. There is to be a designated parents room, bookable for a range of purposes such as community workshops, forums, a comfortable place for parents to receive support etc. AW queried if anything required? JD welcomed this, saying project is in its infancy just now but will be prepped over the summer. |  |
| **5. PTA update** | GC stated there is £10k in the bank and the PTA are looking proactively to spend this, to ensure funds raised in year are used in year, noted that parents contribute large amounts. Great collaboration work on the new stage which has now been fully tested. JD explained there would be an extended show as a result of the new facilities – ‘Annie Junior’ people required for prop design/PR/Technical roles. There’s a P5 competition for ticket design. Question as to whether teachers were taking part- JD will take this back to them! AC suggested theatre group could be brought in to assist- Pavillion perhaps? JC suggested Williamwood HS – JD said timing not great due to exams. Fiona asked about PTA funding potential for workshops? GC – annual trip for every year group. Try and keep allocation as fair as possible given differing costs. Don’t like to subsidise unless its sustainable. AC suggested arts & music could use funding, GC said same criteria would apply.  Over £1k of PTA money awarded for ASN resources- noise cancelling headphones, and literacy/numeracy/writing materials. Money promised for Mrs Hills’ room and a wish list from BM also granted. Encourage staff members to approach Julia/Louise for funds. Current request for microscopes for Mr Doyle being reviewed. Seeking ideas for year group grants and it was suggested that Art/Music could benefit – AW to speak to Donald. RN asked about disco numbers and it was noted P4 numbers tend to drop. Boys possibly less likely to attend, issue re some not enjoying previous DJ’s who are no longer used and being mixed with P3.  PTA struggling for members, planning a concerted push and it was raised that there could be better communications as to role/duties of PC/PTA.  Request for P7’s to receive hoodies earlier to get more use from them. GC said this would ease logistics. BM no strong feeling on this. General agreement that they would be worn through year at weekends/Fit n fruity etc if given out earlier. GC to follow up.  Flagged that Mansworld is changing to Stevensons uniform suppliers on 3 April and PTA uniform commission may cease.  Summer Fayre is 9 June, volunteers required along with any suggestions for a theme.  . |  |
| **6. Traffic Committee** | SG has been chasing council re bus bay. Recent incidents put on Facebook include a car driving round the corner on the pavement and pavement parking issues around Mansfield Cresc. Feels there is a lack of support from the campus officer. Finally received update today from John Morley (School Travel Officer) who spoke of ‘holistic’ solutions and other schools sharing same issues. Discussed potential for bollards – cost/resource implications and maintenance. Law potentially being pushed to ban pavement parking. SG feels he doesn’t have sufficient authority to progress matters with Council – Councillor support could help if we can get them onboard? Park & Stride delayed by weather. AW to get bollard costings – 4 for bay and 4 for MC. Signage offered by Councillor Macdonald, not yet collected. BM stated with no sign people assume they can park there. Need to make a visible and significant stand on this. AW – people possibly not connecting their driving choices to impact on kids. Need something visible. SG – PTA banner? GC will ask. AW felt posters may be more effective. Comms/campaign via JRSO’s? RN – perhaps more people should contact Council to log concerns and try to force action. It was stated this is a very unresponsive Council dept. AW suggested a child’s eye view video of route into school? BM -be creative/different – email the video via Twitter, show council? SG has filming / sound equipment that could be used.  SG stated his ideas -1. Lock gate at bus bay and divert children to other gates 2. Adapt the muddy bank area into a circular waiting area. AW – cost implication of 2. Discussion about likely complaints if gate were locked and potential to cause other issues. |  |
| **7. Previous minutes** | AW – question on PE strategy to be carried forward again due to time – JD suggested inviting Chris Cox, active schools co-ordinator to next meeting.  Fiona – language provision, would like to input re approach  AW – welcomed meeting ideas as makes it easier. Summary of music info from last meeting to be issued. Internet safety evening was wonderful. No sign of public meeting re BYOD. No Equalities update this time. |  |
| **8. AOB** | AC – Cook School was very good. Mentioned idea for World Book Day of making potato decoration. Requested dates for open afternoons prior to Easter. BM said these would be supplied, there should be a month’s notice provided. RN- raised potential review date for school being sued as polling station and potential to suggest alternatives. Will send info to AW. JC – let people know to contact JD re support with show production/performance roles. JD sad yes, and an appeal would also be going out. |  |
| **8. Next Meeting** | **Tuesday 22 May 2018, 7pm.**  **Last of year before AGM.**  Cakes and biscuits always welcome! |  |

Carolside Primary School and Nursery Class

**Head Teacher’s Diary**

**27th March 2018**

I trust that this update will be a helpful one.

**Staffing**

There are one or two updates with regard to staffing, so I hope that this information is helpful to you.

**Miss Farrell –** Appointed to the post of Acting PT in January. Congratulations to Miss Farrell, who will continue to teach P7 four days a week. Grateful to Mrs McCandlish for covering the class each Tuesday . Miss Farrell’s teaching post not back-filled.

**Mrs McKay** – Left to take post as PT in Ayrshire over the February weekend. Her class is now being taught by Miss McBride.

**Mrs Finlayson -** After a lengthy period of absence Mrs Finlayson will take early retirement on the 15th of April. I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs Finlayson for five years’ service as DHT here at Carolside. We wish her a very long, healthy and happy retirement.

Recruitment for a teacher to place tomorrow, Wednesday 28th March. One permanent teaching post and one long-term supply post to be filled.

**School Improvement Planning**

**Vision, Values and Aims**

* Consultation complete and the final decision made:

*Vision*

*A happy and safe school, providing rich learning opportunities, where everyone is treated with respect and kindness.*

*Aims*

### *We aim to provide children with a variety of rich learning experiences which meet the needs of the whole child.*

### *We aim to encourage all children to take responsibility for upholding their own and others’ rights.*

*We aim to foster resilience within all of our pupils.*

*Values*

*Respect, friendship and honesty are important qualities we endeavour to develop in all our pupils.*

*Curriculum*

*In Carolside our curriculum is designed to offer a wide range of learning experiences that provide breadth, depth, challenge and opportunities for children to lead their learning.*

* Launch of Vision, Values and Aims over coming months. Pupil Council leading on this piece of work and looking to create a banner for reception as part of the launch.

**Assessment and Moderation**

* All teaching and Early Years staff participated in the moderation exercise with other schools during the February inset day. A helpful opportunity to share standards across establishments. Also on the theme of moderation, a number of teachers involved in regional moderation.

**Planning**

* A number of classes throughout the school piloting child-centred planning over the course of the summer term. Pupils involved in setting the context, with a focus on skills and interdisciplinary learning. We’ll report back regarding this during the summer term.

**School Improvement Planning – Session 18/19**

* Staff team have audited progress through this session’s School Improvement Plan and are looking towards next session’s. Stakeholder questionnaires will be released in the summer term, so we’d appreciate the feedback that this will generate.

**Cluster Improvement Planning**

* Cluster Management Group already looking to next session, with potential focus on moderation.

**Other News**

* Thank you to all for your patience and understanding during the closure.
* Thank you to all who participated in a very successful International Day last week. Particular thanks to Mrs Imran, the PTA and a range of other parents, carers and friends who helped out. Wonderful day!
* Thank you to all parents and carers who supported the parent consultations last week. These were very well attended and I trust these conversations were helpful to you.
* Thank you to Alison, Julia and Louise for helping with the stage. It has now arrived and has been used already. Looking forward to the summer term and the school show, during which the stage will be very helpful.
* Points to note regarding the maintenance of the school building:
  + P1 area to be painted during the holidays,
  + Upper corridor has received new flooring,
  + False ceiling outside the dining room has been replaced,
  + Fire doors in the upper corridor have been replaced – there is a programme for the downstairs doors to be done in due course,
  + There will be a new external door for P1 pupils, and
  + I understand that capital funding has been found to refresh the toilet provision in the school. I’m not sure of the full details but I am reassured that there will be significant improvement to the toilet provision.
* Thank you for your on-going support – we wish you a very restful Spring Break. We’ll see some of our P4 parents and carers at the service on Thursday.