

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON
Wednesday 8th October 2014 AT 8pm IN EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

PRESENT: PARENTS – Ian McIntosh (Chair) Sanat Mehta, Diane Dakers, Connie Hume, Susan Clark, Graham Smith, Karen Armstrong, Gordon Wallace, Lesley Smith, James Meneely, Gordon Ford, Cathy Wilkie-Thompson, Dana Fowler, Lindsay Strickland, Valerie Chisholm, Rob Catterson

IN ATTENDANCE: Stuart Maxwell (Head Teacher), Shona McWilliam (Clerk) Cllr Charlie Gilbert,

APOLOGIES: Andrew Keir, Michelle Keir, Ailsa Connelly, Jacqueline Keenan

1. INTRODUCTION

Ian welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (3rd September)

Connie mentioned that she didn't receive the minutes from the above meeting. Shona will email them to her tomorrow.

Minutes approved and seconded. They will be entered onto the school's website.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES (3rd September)

Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Ian has received the renewal form for the SPTC. It was been discussed at a recent Parent Council Forum that it would be a group membership. Susan said the PTA has just joined at a cost of £112. Ian confirmed that the PTA would be reimbursed.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Staffing Update

Principal Teacher of Business Ed and Science has been appointed. Ruth Gow previously taught at Deans Community High School in Livingston. Starts at Eastwood on Monday 20th of October.

Stuart confirmed that our school role had increased to 1010. Our maximum role is 1220. The council's 3 yr budget plan will be discussed at the next Head Teachers meeting. At the moment we have some promoted posts which still have to be replaced.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) Welcome to new Parent Council Members

Ian welcomed our new members, Lindsay Strickland, Rob Catterson & Valerie Chisholm (Alisa Connelly was unable to attend due to work commitments).

b) Election of Vice Chair

Ian asked if any of our members would be interested in taking on the role of Vice Chair. Shona suggested to the members to give it some thought and to email her if you wish to take on the role. (It will be discussed at our next meeting in November).

c) S5 Target Settings

Stuart gave a presentation on how the S5 target settings were compiled. They were issued to the pupils last week.

Karen hoped that there was support for all the pupils at the school and not just the ones sitting higher. The biggest cause of pressure for the pupils is the pressure they put on themselves. Her child is feeling the pressure but needs a life as well as studying. She asked could targets be set for Intermediate pupils as well. Stuart said that there is not enough data available to create targets. There is always support for the pupils. The pastoral care teachers are always available for a chat. Karen declared what the maths department was doing, was second to none. Supported study on a Saturday morning. Stuart is delighted how it's turned out, we are having approx 60 pupils each Saturday. If you loss focus or desire you will not achieve.

Susan asked would there be supported study in all subjects. Stuart confirmed that the pupils will be issued with a Supported Study timetable after the October holidays, it will be put on the school website.

d) Feedback from Parent Council Chairs' meeting (7th October)

Ian attended the Chair's meeting where they gave an overview of the Integrated Children Services.

Ian is looking for a volunteer from the council to attend the Parent Equality Forum which meet three times a year, January, September and May. Please email Shona if you are interested.

Road safety was also discussed. Same issues every time. Susan said that at Carolside primary it continues to be a nightmare, bad parking endangers pupils. Could children not be dropped off a little further away from the school and walk. Ideas are always welcomed to try and ease the congestion.

The council will be having a Consultation meeting on the 19th November at St Ninians (7pm) to discuss budget cuts. All subjects within the council will be discussed. This is an opportunity for you to express your thoughts. Anyone interested in attending, please email Shona. (We will discuss this item again at our next meeting, which will take place after the consultation).

7. AOB

Gordon Ford just wanted everyone to know that the under 14 boys football team have won their first game (1st round) in the Scottish Cup.

Next meeting will be Wednesday 12th November at 8pm 2014

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