

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL (Virtual)
Wednesday 9th June 2021 AT 7pm IN EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENT: James Meneely, Natalie McMillan, Moira Forbes, Karen McGrady-Parker, Vicky Clark, Adele Thomson, Wendy Durie, Fiona Edwards, Jennifer Nesbitt, Shabnam Ijaz, Nick Bothwell, Cathy Wilkie-Thompson, Uzma Khan, Beverly Stoner & Graham Campbell

IN ATTENDANCE: Stuart Maxwell (Head Teacher), Shona McWilliam (Clerk) & Kate Sinclair (Acting Head Teacher)

APOLOGIES: Katy Berry, Sarah MacLeod, Nilam Ijaz & Jacqui White

1. INTRODUCTION

James welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Apologies were noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (12th May 2021)

Minutes approved and seconded. Shona will enter them onto the school's website

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

School's Improvement Plan – This will be discussed at Item 6 (b)

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Introduction of Kate Sinclair (New Acting Head Teacher)

James would like to welcome Kate to the meeting and to the school and is looking forward to working with her.

b) Vacant DHT Posts update

Stuart confirmed that these would take place on Tuesday 15th June. Natalie will be part of the panel involved in the interview process. Kate will be leading the interviews.

The Acting Depute Posts have been at the Assessment centre today and the successful applicants will be interviewed on Thursday 17th June.

As requested at our last meeting James wrote to our Director of Education re our concerns of the number of temporary teachers in the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) at Eastwood School. Mark Ratter had replied that this was not East Renfrewshire's policy generally. He couldn't provide us with a timeline for the permanent posts and noted our concerns.

6. DISCUSSIONS ITEMS

a) Senior Phase Assessment & Estimate (SQA Calendar)

Information was sent out to all parents of S5/6 pupils last week outlining the next steps in the senior assessments. Stuart confirmed that our timeline had been achieved excepted for a couple of pupils who are still to complete an assessment due to the fact they had been isolating. We have been fortunate that we have been able to achieve lots of evidence for our pupils and this week Gillian and Stuart have been going through each child's individual results. If they have any doubts they will challenge the teachers to justify the marking. All checking will be finished tomorrow. Gillian and Stuart the following night will meet with the Education dept to go through all the provisional results again.

Stuart announced that no one will ever know the challenges of getting our S4/5/6 pupils evidence for their results.

Six subject samples of our pupil's work was given to the SQA for evidence to be checked and all 6 passed.

Next Wednesday (16th June) provisional results will be shared with the pupils (not the parents).

Our members discussed with Stuart how the system worked and if/how a pupil can appeal and what was the criteria. Stuart highlighted to parents that if a pupil wished to appeal they would have to understand that their mark could go down as well as up.

b) Draft School Improvement Plan

The School's Improvement Plan was issued to the parents. The Plan details how we can return the school back better than it was before Covid 19 happened. Once you have taken time to read it, if anyone has any questions can they please direct them to James (before the end of the week) who will pass them to Stuart.

7. A.O.B

Stuart addressed the council to confirm that it has been a pleasure working with each parent council in his 19 years at Eastwood. We are all a team and it's been a pleasure.

James confirmed that yes in fact it was a team effort but you have provided the leadership and advice for us all as well as for the pupils. They have been very lucky to have you. We regard you as a friend and will miss you and wishes you a happy retirement. He also said not to be humble as you have achieved much in your time at Eastwood. You have built a stronger school community, expanded the music dept as well as increasing all the schools extra curriculum eg school shows. James provided Stuart with his retirement gifts. Stuart said it isn't me who has been these achievements, schools are just not bricks and mortar, it is what is inside it that matters. He hasn't really thought about his retirement yet but he knows that he will not miss the job but will certainly miss the people.

James wishes everyone (who have children in the senior school) good luck for their results on Wednesday.

First meeting of new term Wednesday 1st September 2021

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