

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
Wednesday 1st September 2021 AT 8pm
in EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENT: James Meneely, Natalie McMillan, Moira Forbes, Karen McGrady-Parker, Vicky Clark, Wendy Durie, Jennifer Nesbitt, Nick Bothwell, Cathy Wilkie-Thompson, Graham Campbell, Sarah MacLeod & Katy Berry

IN ATTENDANCE: Kate Sinclair (Acting Head Teacher, Chris Morris (Depute) & Shona McWilliam (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Shabnam Ijaz, Umair Khan, Nilam Ijaz, Fiona Edwards & Jacqui White

1. INTRODUCTION

James welcomed everyone to the meeting and a special welcome to Kate, our new Head Teacher.
Apologies were noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (9th June 2021)

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

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from the Education dept on our membership to Connect. East Renfrewshire pay for the Parent Council's annual subscription. Information on Connect website is open for all to view, including information sessions for parents.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Staffing

The Head Teacher ran through all the list of our new staff, including deposes, NQTs & PSAs. James asked are they extra PSAs due to the role increasing or are they replacement posts. Kate said that she would double check but as far as she was aware, we have had one PSA retired and one who has recently left.
Kate confirmed that the school will be creating two new opportunities for Teachers, in the role of Principal Teacher of Development one on Raising Attainment and one on Learning & Teaching. This will be advertised in September.

b) Covid 19 Update of Guidance for Schools

- So far Kate confirmed that our numbers are fairly low, but we do have some positive cases and self isolating pupils. Work will always be on Google Classrooms for any pupil who has to self isolate.
- In PE & Music classes - we are now allowed to revert back to pre-covid but with extra sanitisation and ventilation.
- Self Isolation/Test & Protect rules have changed to:

Responding to Covid Cases – Contact Tracing

Importantly, from the beginning of the new session, Test & Protect will take responsibility for the majority of contact tracing for any positive case, with schools no longer required to lead on this as had previously been the case.

Responding to Covid Cases – Self Isolation

Where any individual is contacted by Test & Protect and identified as a potential close contact, the following new procedures will be in place. This is for information only and Test & Protect will advise individuals of any need to get a test or isolate.

Pupils

When identified as a close contact, pupils will be required to undertake a PCR test.

If they have no symptoms, following receipt of a negative PCR test, the pupil will be able to return to school and will not have to self-isolate.

Where a pupil has symptoms, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days as per the current guidance.

Household Self-Isolation

Where a member of a household develops any of the main symptoms (persistent cough, loss of taste or smell and a fever) it is essential that ALL members of the household isolate as close contacts. The symptomatic individual should get a PCR test as soon as possible. Where the result of the test is negative, all members of the household can end their isolation. Where the result is positive, the other members of the household, being considered close contacts, should follow the guidance on testing and self-isolation (being that a negative PCR test means they can end isolation when under 18 or when doubly vaccinated).

A positive Lateral Flow Test should be considered as any other positive test result.

Following a positive Lateral Flow Test, whilst the positive individual awaits a confirmatory PCR test, ALL household members should isolate until they themselves have been tested and returned a negative result (where under 18 and doubly vaccinated).

- Masks are still an important regulation and must be worn at all times in class and moving in corridors.

James said that he had just come from the Parent Chair meeting where it was mentioned that they are expecting charges to be put in place after the September weekend.

6. DISCUSSIONS ITEMS

a) HT Attainment Report 2020/2021

Kate presented the council with a school's attainments results. Questions raised –

- The amount of assessments pupils have already completed. Too many all at the one time causes stress to the pupils.
- Perhaps an assessment calendar could be provided to parents/pupils for all subjects.
- Will supported study start up again and will pupils be able to access all subjects.
- Parents evenings – will they be in person or still by telephone?

Kate will take forward the comments about pupil assessments and look at providing a calendar. Science are offering lunchtime and after school supported study.

We are hoping to start Supported Study now, which will include us targeting certain pupils as well as involving our S6 pupils helping pupils. Pupils will be taught a particular subject/topic as well as learning study techniques.

Parents evening sessions – we are still waiting on guidance from the Scottish Government.

On Friday we will be having our Extra Curricular day where children can sign up for sport Clubs etc.

b) Parent Council Vacancies

Shona confirmed that we have 5 vacancies. She will organise a letter to be emailed to all parents with a closing date in October for them to be invited to our next meeting in November.

7. A.O.C.B

Nick would like to raise again the issue of the disabled parking bays in the car park. He has

been verbally abused as well as his son nearly being knocked down twice. Kate confirmed that there will be a presence in the car park either with Karen or Campus cop or when she is not available, Senior Management will be out there.

Meeting dates for new session 21/22
Wednesday 10th November 21
Wednesday 19th January 22
Wednesday 23rd March 22
Wednesday 25th May 22 (including AGM)

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