



## Mearns Primary Parent Council (MPPC)

### Minutes

5 February 2018

(6.45pm at MPS premises)

<b>Meeting of</b>	Mearns Primary Parent Council	
<b>Held on</b>	Monday 5 February 2018	
<b>Present</b>	Adrian Carragher (MPPC Chair parent P5, P7), Zhada Robertson (Clerk, parent P2, P5), Sharon Hunter (HT), Claire Noble (DHT), Cheryl Blair (MPPC Vice Chair, parent P7), Patricia Dos Santos Paton (parent / P4) and Roz Horne (parent / P4, P7).	
<b>Apologies</b>	Mahtab Farid	
<b>Item Discussed</b>		<b>Actions</b>
<b>Welcome and Introduction.</b>	The Chair (Adrian) welcomed all attendees to the meeting of Mearns Primary Parent Council.	
<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b>	The minutes of the meeting 13 November 2017 are complete and attached with these minutes. Going forward, future draft minutes will be agreed by both MPPC Chair and Headteacher before issue.	<b>Action:</b> Clerk to circulate draft minutes for approval prior to next meeting date.

<p><b>Headteacher's report</b></p>	<p>HT (Miss Hunter) provided an overview of the following areas of work that the school has been actively involved in since the start of the school term:</p> <p><u>Staffing</u> - a P1 teacher has been successful in gaining a temporary post of principal teacher at another school. HT reassured MPPC that a move will only take place once a replacement has been found.</p> <p><u>Active Schools report</u> - The number of participants (active sports activity through clubs at the school) has increased from 206 (in 2017) to 258 (in 2018). Female participation has increased from 35% to 41% and sessions offered has increased from 162 to 199. There has also been a significant increase in P5-P6 participation. P1s are not offered active sports club activity due to the recognised need for settling into school in their first year.</p> <p><u>Renewal of the school's values</u> - focus this month is on honesty. Look out for superhero designs by pupils in the grounds of the school.</p> <p><u>Mearns Master Programme</u> - incorporated across the curriculum. Key areas of learning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Life skills</li> <li>-Gaming/coding</li> <li>-Community enterprises</li> <li>-Food technology</li> <li>-Design and manufacture</li> </ul> <p>Pupil will get chance to experience all of the areas of learning during their time at the school, working across the curriculum. This will lead to a Mearns Master Programme "portfolio" of experience. Pupils will work in house groups and the pilot date for first part of the programme will be mid-April. The Avenue Management and many of the shops have agreed to work in partnership with the school, hosting and assisting pupils with this initiative as a long term commitment.</p> <p>Cooking / Home Economics room - A new fully equipped home economics room will be established in the current space occupied as a general purpose room. The school is hoping that the PTA are able to fundraise to make a contribution to this facility. This room, along with the Treehouse Cafe will be used for the Mearns Master Programme.</p> <p>The Mearns Master Programme will be delivered as part of the school's contribution towards the <u>National Improvement Framework</u>, aiming to develop a young workforce and provide exposure to the retail sector.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> HT to send out more information on this to all parents.</p> <p>HT to contact ERC</p>
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	<p>Quality assurance process - Pupil will take an active role in auditing leadership groups and wider consultation.</p> <p>HT reported the success of the <u>Treehouse Café</u>, which has enabled children to work together preparing meals for their parents/carers.</p> <p><u>Forthcoming events</u> - Arts / Fringe Festival on 1 March. Over 20 workshops booked and links with South Lanarkshire College established on this event. Details of this and other events - can be found on the new parental calendar (<a href="https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Mearns/files/2017/10/Parental-Engagement-Calendar-17-18.pdf">https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Mearns/files/2017/10/Parental-Engagement-Calendar-17-18.pdf</a>).</p>	
<p><b>Matters arising</b></p>	<p><u>Land use</u> - Chair noted that he was in contact with ERC on the ownership and use of land adjacent to the school pitch. Further information received from ERC will be posted on MPPC Facebook page and Twitter.</p> <p><u>Use of Social Media</u> - MPPC agreed to establish a new FB page and create a Twitter account to ensure improved communication of interest to parents and carers.</p> <p>MPPC and school management were in agreement that the use of social media to bring negative publicity to the school was extremely damaging not only to the school, but also to the pupils.</p> <p><u>Attendance</u> - HT noted the school's duty of care to monitor pupil absences and explained that letters issued last term were part of ERC's policy on this issue.</p> <p><u>School Uniform clarification</u> - HT noted that there had been no changes to the current uniform policy, although polo shirts were only encouraged on PE days (excluding P6-7 pupils - see current uniform policy). However, she was keen for parental / pupil views on the current policy and has asked MPPC to establish an online survey.</p> <p><u>School catering</u></p> <p>Halal meal consultation - No further progress had been made on the provision of halal meal options.</p> <p>Meal ordering - HT noted that this term a revised meal sitting timetable had been established, which would only require a 5 minute wait for pupil who were late order lunches. She noted that orders could be sent as late as 11am to the kitchen, to avoid a wait at serving time.</p> <p>Allergy awareness - MPPC again sought reassurances from the HT and her senior team of their commitment to ensure that greater awareness of allergies. HT noted that all staff had been trained in the use of an epi-pen, in case of emergency. HT added that although office staff remained vigilant to expiry dates, the renewal of epi-pens were the responsibility of parents/carers.</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Chair to publish ERC response on Twitter and FB</p> <p><b>Action:</b> MPPC establish and publish online uniform survey</p> <p><b>Action:</b> MPPC to contact ERC for update</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Parents to renew epi-pens</p>

	New behaviour policy - HT noted staff were currently being consulted on a new behaviour policy and agreed to send a draft to MPPC.	<b>Action:</b> HT to send MPPC new draft policy
<b>Any other business</b>	<u>Car parking</u> - MPPC Chair noted that this issue was continuing to cause widespread concern. HT agreed that the situation is a persistent problem for the school and highlighted the various interventions that have already taken place (e.g. fines). Both the HT and MPPC agreed to invite local authority councillors to address this issue at the next meeting.	<b>Action:</b> MPPC Chair to invite local councillors to next meeting.
<b>Future meeting dates</b>	Monday 14 May 2018 All meetings to take place at MPS at 6.45pm, unless otherwise indicated.	<b>Action:</b> School office to ensure date/s communicated to parents.