



NETHERLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Netherlee Parent Council Meeting – 15th May, 2019

Present	Debby Biddles	DB	Angie Brand	AB
	Beverly Eades	BE	Tennant Stevenson	TS
	Lesley Cook	LC	Carole Chalmers	CC
	Brian Cook	BC	Jane Thomson	JT
	Adam Capek	AC	Marie Owens	MO
	Yvonne Donaldson	YD	Fizza Kaneez	KF
	Lynn Sweeney	LS		

Apologies: Cllr Annette Ireland, Lisa Gold, Alison McCosh

Observers: Fiona Khan, Hannah Bayes, Alan Martin, Julie Carenduff, Chris Fawbert

Minutes from Wednesday 13th March 2019

Actions from Previous Minutes:

AC proposed

JT seconded

AGM

Review

DB said that the main key role of the Parent Council is to consult with the school and have open and honest discussions.

DB gave a review of items discussed over the course of the school year which were:

- Road Safety
- Looked at equalities and inclusion i.e. bike ability and had 100% inclusion for P6 in this school year
- Introducing celebration cards
- Sexual health teaching
- Diary of events
- Uniform
- Literacy
- Cyber Crime and safety online to both children and parents
- For the P7 residential the school have looked at costs and LS and Linda Bell have undertaken site visits and decision is now that residential visits will be at Lochgoilhead

- Active schools and pupil led strategy
- Currently working on PTA and Parent Council notice board to be installed in school reception

Finance

Current Balance in the Parent Council bank account is £145.39, and we no longer generate revenue. DB suggested transferring balance to the school as they school do all the printing and photocopying for the Parent Council. Proposed to close account and use money to go toward the new Notice-board and if there is a requirement in the future then there could be a joint money account with the PTA.

Show of hands confirmed unanimous agreement to close the account and transfer this to the school. BC suggested closing account and then demonstrating how the money has been used to support the Parent Council.

Resignations

Beverly Eades, Ellie Murphy

New Members

Chris Fawbert, Fiona Kahn, Julie Carenduff, Hannah Bayes and Alan Martin were welcomed as new members of the Parent Council.

Committee Roles

DB requested a Parent Councillor to take on the Secretary role and will be open to suggestions.

Sensory Space

JC had asked DB if they could have a discussion around whether we could create a Sensory Space for the school. For children with needs it would be good to have an area for children to go so that they can have an area to chill out and have some space and time to relax and detox their senses.

YD said this would be a huge asset to the school and would be very supportive of having a Sensory Room and can be used across the school for all children. There is a potential small space which could potentially be adapted into a Sensory Room. The school leadership team have also discussed developing some outside areas to include an outside sensory garden.

DB proposed that she meet with JC, FK, MO, FK to meet before the end of term and develop a proposal for installing a sensory wall. DB's husband's company is building a sensory wall as part of a community charity project. YD stressed that any suggested proposals would firstly need to be approved by East Renfrewshire Council particularly with lifetime management costs and then submitted to DB's husband's company

FR asked how the primary school supported children diagnosed with ASD and dyslexia. YD said that support is given on the needs of the child and there is open communication with parents.

Another suggestion was to have an outdoor chalet/summer house as a Sensory Space.

LC said that McTaggart and Mickle are building more flats and their proposal stated that they would provide monies for projects in the area.

Uniform Review Update

YD is looking to consult on the current uniform as we need to mindful on the cost of the school day and uniform costs. Currently there is a number of different items with the school logo and there is room for improvement in the standard of uniform. East Renfrewshire Council has a dressing for excellence policy.

YD is looking at shirts and ties and less items which have the logo which would reduce the cost. YD will also look at having gym items which have the school logo i.e. tracksuit, hoodie.

YD will continue to keep the Parent Council informed on any developments in relation to the school uniform. YD also stressed that there would be a phase out of uniform items and not to stop wearing current items to replace with newly phased in uniform items.

YD asked all present to spread the word that wearing a uniform recognises that children are representing the school and making the uniform affordable.

FR wished to flag that if the polo shirts were removed there would be extra cost in buying more shirts and would it be possible to try and tie in with Williamwood school colours. It was noted that Williamwood are looking to change their uniform in 2020.

FR said that having a phased transition would take a long time to complete with children who wear siblings uniform. YD said there would be no definite cut off date for removing the current school uniform and the school leadership team would help with the uniform being phased in.

P7 Leavers Hoodies

DB asked for clarification on the P7 leaver's hoodies. YD said that the school has no involvement at all with the current P7 leaver hoodie which is being organised independently by parents. YD said that this suggestion had been discussed at the last PTA meeting and YD agreed that the school would look into this option for future P7 year groups. YD clarified that, if leaver hoodies were to be introduced, the hoodies will be for coming to and from school and special school events eg Sports Week.

DB suggested discussing this at the next Parent Council meeting but this was not a school matter and any discussion on the hoodie should be taken offline of the Parent Council meeting.

Structural Safety – P2 Entrance

DB said a parent had raised concerns about the wall opposite the P2 entrance which backs onto the shops on Clarkston Road. YD has followed this up with head office and inspections on the wall have been undertaken and there is no requirement for immediate work and wall has been deemed safe. There will be continuing observations on the wall in particular with where ownership of the wall lies going forward with maintenance of the wall.

AC asked if the gap in the metal railings could be filled in as children climb through the gap and some could get stuck. YD will have a look at the gap.

MUGA Update

DB said that East Renfrewshire have agreed in principle to having an all weather pitch. Sport Scotland have recommended not to have the whole pitch made into all weather and only install half the pitch with all weather.

Sport Scotland have said that the cost will be in the region of £250,000. DB will continue to progress with proposals and looking at securing funding. DB will be working with Chris Cox and David McLeish in preparing proposals.

School Matters

YD outlined the school priorities for the school and nursery improvement plan. Broad banners are:

- Health and Well-being with particular focus on physical fitness
- Pupil Voice within the school to ensure all children have a voice in the school
- Pupil Leadership
- Pupil Groups – how they run and are used within the school
- Development of outdoors – making use of two outside gardens and improving outdoor learning

Underpinning all items will be equality and equity and these will be threaded through all that is done in the school.

AOB

Polling Stations had been raised for the school being used in the Polling Station.

DB had sent an email out in November 2018 inviting feedback to be given to East Renfrewshire Council about the school being used as a polling station. The use of the school as a polling station is reviewed every 5 years and is controlled by East Renfrewshire Council and not the school.

LC asked about the current P6 classes moving from 4 classes to 3. YD confirmed that pupils have not been asked to request a person they would want to move with. The school will have discussions to ensure the creation of working classes which will be positive for the children and the school cannot guarantee children will move with friends. The classes will be communicated before the end of this school year.

CF asked about the safety of staff car park and use of staff car park where people using this are not staff. YD has sent an email stating this is unacceptable and requesting parents do not park in this car park.

DB said the Parent Council have done the following over the last 3 school session years to tackle road safety:

- £10k grant from East Renfrewshire Council to install a footpath in the Netherlee Pavilion car park
- Road Safety events led by the Children
- Junior Road Safety Officers

Parents can contact the council and community wardens to inform them of any parking issues.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 25th 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Staff Room

Future meeting dates for 2019-20 session are:

27th November 2019

22nd January 2020

11th March 2020

27th May 2020