

St Ninian's Parent Council



Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 9 September 2013

Present	M Ward	C Merrick	R Caulfield
J McAllister	K Reilly	A Beattie	J McLachlan
A McGowan	R Convery	D Manini	L Thomas
A Thomas			
In Attendance	J A Docherty		Cllr J Fletcher
J Cumming	J Fuchs	Cllr V Waters	Cllr G Wallace
Apologies	J Mackie	D Grant	D Burns

Opening Prayer

Mr Ward welcomed the Council and started the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting (June 2013) were proposed by R Convery and seconded by A McGowan

Faith Life of the School.

M Lappin has stepped down from the Parent Council, many thanks to her for her efforts in relation to this. Mr. Docherty will integrate this into his Head Teacher's Report.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

An amicable agreement has been reached between GSC and the school about access during school holidays. The school is happy with the result. Work should commence in October and hopefully be up and running after Christmas (weather dependant).

Road Safety Matters

Senior members of SNHS staff have been supervising pupils crossing at Eastwood Toll and at the lights from Eastwood Park onto Roukenglen Road. The school would like the lights to be amended to allow more time for pupils to cross, at both Roukenglen Road and Fenwick Road, as the time for crossing is very short, it is very busy and there is often cars parked on the pavement near the park gates. The school has notified Police Scotland about the behaviour and parking of parents collecting their pupils from school i.e. parking on the roundabout and obstructing surrounding roads (e.g. Berryhill Rd).

Cllr Waters will investigate if altering the timing of the crossing would be possible. There is a potential for the lights to be replaced or there could be a change of sequencing.

D Manini enquired if the Parent Council can assist on awareness of road safety amongst parents – signage, Week Ahead etc.

Mr Docherty asked if parents could educate their children about road safety and that the school will reinforce in class.

Agreed that all will continue to educate and promote this in school.

School Plan and Audit 2012/2013

This was distributed at the last Parent Council meeting and it was agreed to give parents the opportunity for questions but none were raised.

Proposed new Primary School in Newton Mearns

It was noted that national press coverage indicated a proposed new primary school in Newton Mearns. M Ward had enquired prior to the meeting with Cllr Watters in relation to this and whether it was to be denominational or non-denominational. Cllr Watters advised at the meeting that planning permission was indeed being sought for a new primary school, the proposed site being adjacent to Mearns Castle High School. It was further proposed to put a paper before the next Education Committee meeting for initial consultation for this school to be a Roman Catholic denominational school, the rationale being to relieve the pressure on capacity at St Cadoc's. It was not proposed to change the catchment of SNHS but there will be an increase of pupils by one stream and the ERC projections are that SNHS can cope with the extra stream/projected population increase.

Mr Docherty advised that there may be issues in the future in terms of capacity.

It was agreed to re-consider this matter in light of any future developments.

Head Teacher's Report

Mr Docherty expressed thanks to parents for all their continued support.

It was noted Father Duggan will be taking over from Father Hannigan as school chaplain.

Mr Docherty reported an outstanding achievement from our pupils in this years exam results and gave a comprehensive performance report on SNHS and our comparator schools and also on the overall results from across the authority. Mr Docherty is happy to answer any questions on this topic at any time

Thanks to all staff, pupils and parents for their support.

Chairpersons Report

M Ward gave his thanks to Mr Docherty and to all staff on behalf of parents on the excellent results achieved.

M Ward expressed the Parent Council's sympathy on the death of Shirley Roberts, who had been secretary to the Parent Council for a number of years, and advised that a Mass Card had been sent on behalf of the Parent Council.

Welcome to the new faces that have attended the meeting tonight and if anyone is interested in joining the Parent Council please let M Ward know

There will be a meeting for Parent Council Chairpersons on 1st October 2013 at Means Castle HS. 2 delegates can be sent, M Ward and one other. Let M Ward know if you are available.

AOCB

J McLachlan: The National Parent Forum of Scotland will be holding their Annual conference on Saturday 5 October 2013. The topic is Health and Wellbeing and will be held in Bishopbriggs Academy. All parents are welcome. Details will be distributed.

The SQA have issued details concerning Reasonable Adjustments surrounding the use of scribes for the written element of exams. The SQA intend to remove the use of scribes for pupils who have ASN, the alternative suggested is use of ICT. This will commence in June 2014. The NPFoS will become involved in this issue. J Docherty advised that it will make a dramatic difference for the pupils to no longer receive support in functional literacy.

Date of next meeting:

Monday 11th November 2013