

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving Through Excellent Experiences

Minute of the meeting of the Parent Council Chairs' Forum held on Tuesday 7 October 2014 in Williamwood High School

Present: Cllr Elaine Green, Convener for Education and Equalities
Mhairi Shaw, Director of Education
Ken McKinlay, Head of Education Services
John Fitzpatrick, Head of Education Services
Janice Collins, Quality Improvement Officer
Maureen Sneddon, Quality Improvement Officer
Stephen Fox, Community Warden
PC Christie-Lee McDowell
Parent Council Members (as listed)

Apologies: Joe McLachlan, National Parent Forum of Scotland Representative
Parent Council Members (as listed)

In attendance: Pauleen Smith (Clerk to Parent Council)

1. Welcome

Cllr Green opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. Minute of the Previous Meeting

The minute of the Parent Council Chairs' Forum held on Wednesday, 4 June 2014 was agreed.

3. Services for children and young people in ERC: report on joint inspection

Mr John Fitzpatrick delivered a presentation highlighting the outcomes of a recent inspection of services for children and young people in East Renfrewshire. The inspection team assessed the service using a new national equality framework and awarded the following evaluations:

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| • leadership of improvement and change | Excellent |
| • planning and improving services | Excellent |
| • impact on families | Excellent |
| • impact on children and young people | Very good |
| • providing help and support at an early stage | Very good |
| • participation of children, young people, families and other stakeholders | Very good |
| • improving the wellbeing of children and young people | Very good |
| • planning for individual children | Good |
| • assessing and responding to risks and needs | Good |

The above clearly demonstrates that highly effective leadership, joint working and commitment to improving outcomes are making a real difference to children, young people and families in East Renfrewshire.

A short discussion followed and it was confirmed that parents and families were involved in the inspection process.

John Fitzpatrick distributed a copy of the Care Inspectorate joint inspection report dated 1 September 2014.

4. Road Safety

4.1 East Renfrewshire Council Preventative Approach

Ms Janice Collins tabled a Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) information sheet on how to create a school travel plan and a copy of St. Cadoc's Primary School travel plan. Ms Collins advised that Greg Brown, ERC Roads, is working with school JRSOs to produce travel plans for each school. It was agreed traffic management/parking around schools is an issue and parent councils may wish to become more actively involved in this initiative.

4.2 Campus Police Officers' Role

PC Christie-Lee McDowell informed the group that the role of the campus police officer is to work with and advise the school community. At schools, one of the main issues is inconsiderate parking. Since parking offences were decriminalised, the responsibility for the enforcement of parking regulations transferred to the Council's community wardens. The police will deal with road obstructions and can issue a fixed penalty for such offences.

Stephen Fox, community warden, advised the group that the wardens are aware of the traffic issues. In applying regulations and restrictions around schools, consideration must be given to residents as most schools are in residential areas. To apply restrictions to an area is a lengthy process. It was confirmed that traffic/transport appraisals are carried out for new builds.

Discussion followed and it was agreed that schools and parent councils would continue to work with pupils and parents to highlight the importance of road safety; it will remain on the parent councils' agendas and be included in schools' newsletters.

Action: Ms Collins to feedback the concerns raised to Greg Brown, ERC Roads Department.

5. National Parent Forum Update

Mr Joe McLachlan was unable to attend this meeting.

6. Equalities Forum

Ms Maureen Sneddon, Quality Improvement Officer, informed the group of the background to the Equalities Forum. It was formerly known as the Minority Ethnic Parents' Forum and following consultation with the group it was agreed to change the format of the meetings and to make the focus equalities in its widest sense and not just about ethnicity.

The Equalities Forum is open to parent council representatives and schools' equality co-ordinators. The aim is to have a parent representative from each school attend the forum. The forum provides the opportunity for parents and staff to raise and discuss equality related topics, and to share information on good practice that is being delivered within East Renfrewshire schools.

The group meets three times each year, in September, January and May.

Discussion followed and Ms Sneddon agreed that the first meeting date for this session, 18 September 2014, had not been ideal as it was the date of the Scottish independence referendum and attendance was low. The group will revisit some of the agenda items at the next meeting, which will be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 15 January 2015 in Woodfarm High School.

It was noted that Woodfarm High School has its own equalities group.

Cllr Green acknowledged the excellent work which was on display at the Equalities Showcase event, held in May 2014. It was noted that this session all primary schools in

East Renfrewshire are working in partnership with Show Racism the Red Card. Ms Sneddon advised that Show Racism the Red Card will be contacting primary schools after the October break, to promote a bespoke programme for P6 & P7 pupils and training opportunities for teachers.

7. AOCB

Mr Ken McKinlay informed the group of the budget information event, Shaping our Future 2015-2018, being held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 19 November 2014 in St. Ninian's High School.

The Council's aim is to engage all staff, residents and service users in a consultation process to consider the proposed savings that have been identified to meet East Renfrewshire Council's estimated funding shortfall of around £20million between 2015 and 2018.

Mr McKinlay asked if the group would nominate two parent council representatives per school cluster. The numbers are limited to enable Council officers to meet with local people who use the services and representatives from local community groups.

Everyone has the opportunity to participate in the consultation online from 10 November 2014 until 5 December 2014.

East Renfrewshire Community Engagement Team will issue invites and information packs to the nominated representatives.

8. Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the group will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 February 2015 in Woodfarm High School's Contemplation Room.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Meeting of Parent Council Chairs held on Tuesday 7 October 2014 in Williamwood High School

SEDERUNT

Signature of Parent Council Chairs	School
Ingrid Patrick (V Chair)	Barrhead High School
Jean Hepburn (V Chair)	Cross Arthurlie Primary School
Wendy Durie (Chair)	Crookfur Primary School
Alistair Gibb (V Chair)	Crookfur Primary School
Ian McIntosh (Chair)	Eastwood High School
Deborah McVey (Chair)	Eaglesham Primary School
Kate Skellington Orr (V Chair)	Eaglesham Primary School
David Barnett (Chair)	Mearns Castle High School
Anne Forsyth (Chair)	Our Lady of the Missions Primary School
Simon Whyte (PC Member)	St. Cadoc's Primary School
Stephen Nugent (V Chair)	St. Joseph's Primary School
Michael Ward (Chair)	St. Ninian's High School
Kay Reilly (PC Member)	St. Ninian's High School
Stuart Nicklin (Chair)	Busby Primary School
Karen Cohen (Chair)	Carolside Primary School
Simon Cunningham (Chair)	Netherlee Primary School
Lesley Cook (Secretary)	Netherlee Primary School
Bobby Caldwell (Chair)	Williamwood High School
Corinne Durand (V Chair)	Williamwood High School
Helen Ward (Co-Chair)	Braidbar Primary School
Claire Ramsay (Co-Chair)	Braidbar Primary School
Vera Koehn (V Chair)	Thornliebank Primary School
A Hogarth (V Chair)	Woodfarm High School
J Edgar (PC Member)	Woodfarm High School
Apologies	
Paul Gibson (Chair)	St. Mark's Primary School
Linzie Steele (Chair)	Giffnock Primary School
Marie Canning (Chair)	St. John's Primary School
Brenda Moore (Chair)	St. Thomas' Primary School