**Woodfarm High School**

**Parent Partnership Zoom Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday 4 November 2020**

**Present:** Jonathan Edgar (Chairperson), Karen Gurling (Vice Chairperson), Lorna Griffin (Treasurer), Eileen Cabuk, Tim Sharpe, Nicola MacGlashan (Head Teacher), Josef Fuchs (Deputy Head Teacher), Richard Phelan (Social Justice Manager), Sarah Miller (Parent Forum Member), Labiba Ghafur, Fiona Walker (Parent Forum Member), Gavin McCorquodale, Jac Grant, Allan Steele, Justin McNeil

**Apologies:** Angela Cairns, David Miller

1. **Welcome**

Jonathan E opened the meeting and welcomed all members of the Parent Partnership (PP), members of the Parent Forum (PF) and all staff.

1. **Minutes of AGM/ Matters Arising**

The minutes of the AGM held on 16 September 2020 were circulated prior to the meeting. They were approved by EC & seconded by KG. Matters arising: Jac Grant agreed to takeover looking after uniforms. Allan Steele expressed an interest in becoming the secretary & minute taker. There remains a vacancy for someone to look after communications.

**Action 1:** Vacancies remain for PP Secretary & Communications

1. **Financial Matters**

Agreement was reached on new signatories for the PP Clydesdale bank account. These will be Johnny Edgar, Karen Gurling, Angela Cairns & Sara Miller. We authorised Mrs MacGlashan to spend £1000 of the PP funds on good causes within the school. In addition the school is holding another £258 which we agreed the school should spend as they see fit. Mrs MacGlashan said she would consult with teachers about how best to spend the money. We are also expecting a cheque from Schoolwear Made Easy for £327 which Eileen kindly chased up.

**Action 2:** Arrange the new signatories to go on the PP bank account

**Action 3:** Mrs MacGlashan to confirm what good causes the PP funds will be used for.

There was a discussion about worsening levels of poverty as a result of the pandemic. It was proposed to set up a fundraising page that parents & friends of the school could donate to. The money would be used to alleviate poverty within families with pupils at the school. Josef Fuchs & Tim Sharpe are going to look into this. The GoFundMe website was thought to be a possibility. Braidbar Primary School has apparently raised money by this means.

**Action 4:** Joseph Fuchs & Tim Sharpe to feedback to the PP about the progress in setting up a GoFundMe webpage

1. **Community Café Drop in sessions**

Fiona Walker asked if it would be possible to recommence the Community Café in a virtual form. She had been involved with the pre Covid face to face café & thought it was a good way of encouraging parental engagement. Mrs MacGlashan said the school plans to send parents & carers a parental engagement questionnaire & a virtual community café might be something that parents & carers would be interested in. Mr Thomson from Social Subjects will be sending out a survey very soon.

**Action 5:** Mrs MacGlashan to feedback the results of the parental consultation on facilitating parental engagement in the Covid era.

1. **Pre-loved school uniforms**

Fiona also asked about the whether it would be worth cataloguing the pre loved school uniforms the school holds. The catalogue could be emailed to parents & carers which would allow them to see if there are any sizes that would fit their children. Fiona said she would be happy to help with this. Mrs MacGlashan thought this was an excellent idea & would ask a group of pupils to take this forward.

**Action 6**: Mrs MacGlashan to feedback on progress setting up a pre loved uniform catalogue.

There was also a question from Allan Steele about the possibility of the Home Economics department mending old uniforms to make them wearable once more. Mrs MacGlashan said at the moment the HE dept was busy dealing with the work associated with the pandemic, but in the future this might be possible.

**6. Feedback from the Equalities Forum meeting on 30 September 2020**

Unfortunately there was no one present who attended the Equalities Forum meeting.

**7. Head Teacher’s update**

Karen played a short video clip from the senior pupils outlining their activities in the last few months. Mrs MacGlashan said the senior school had just started wearing facemasks continuously whilst in the school. They were all coping very well with this. She said she hoped the region would stay in Tier 3, as moving into Tier 4 would involve more change for the school.

The school was currently undertaking a parental consultation about the nature of parents’ nights in the future. New S4 checkpoints are being launched to assess pupils’ performance rather than having exams next year.

Some pupils are currently isolating & the school has organised on line teaching for them. The teachers are receiving extensive training in the production & use of online teaching methods. Isolating pupils, who qualify for free school meals, will now receive a food bag from ERC. There has been no confirmation from the SQA about when predicted grades need to be submitted. The school is working with other schools to try to ensure consistency in predicting pupils’ grades across the authority. Checkpoint results and a range of other assessments will form part of this process.

**8. AOCB**

There was discussion about the possibility of parents providing Christmas gifts for underprivileged pupils. It was suggested that a Foodbank could have specific Christmas related requests for items nearer Christmas for such families. Mrs MacGlashan agreed that this was a great idea, but would have to be handled sensitively. Allan Steele, a solicitor, offered to speak to pupils about a career in law. Mrs MacGlashan thanked him & said she would add his name to the list of external help the school receives to run the Developing the Young Workforce day.

JE closed the meeting. He thanked everyone for attending & hoped they found it useful & informative.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13 January 2021**