

TUESDAY 3rd MAY 2022 @ 6:30pm by Zoom
GREENWOOD ACADEMY
PARENT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Present: K Hegarty – Head Teacher, S Johnson – Chairperson, C McKinlay – Secretary, C Kennedy – Faculty Lead for Science & 3 Parents/Carers

Apologies: Paul Soave, Gemma Stewart, Lesley McDade, Laura Hutchison, Sharon Ledger

	Action
<p>1. Welcome, apologies, introductions – S Johnson S Johnson welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>2. Last meeting Minutes 1/3/2022 approved and available on https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/greenwoodac/</p> <p>3. Parent Council Chair Report – S Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Actions of Past Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various meetings attended on Glow records, very useful information by speakers. • Formalised representatives, 2 for most year groups. • Promoted census and surveys. • A McClelland highlighted Covid changes to school in line with guidance. • Family Learning Team Leader also spoke regarding 38 families in Three Towns who are recorded as benefitting. • 18 people benefitted from pop-up Prom. Any donations welcomed. Hoping to continue this in future. • Certificates to families for STEM. 56 families got RSPB recognition. Motivating children as they go. • Digital learning – lots of information available through libraries. • Volunteering opportunities for young people in senior phase. • Meetings with other Parent Council Chairs once a term and update given. <p>4. Treasurer Report – C Kennedy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Summary of past year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenwood Appeal for Local Community £150 given and more recently £150 for Electricity. Books for Library and Christmas appeal also benefitted. Due to pay Secretary therefore £987.24 will be the balance. • Money comes from Council around August/September time. • Accounts – TSB Statement 3/4/2022 - £1,037.24 • Signatories – with TSB – had to wait due to change of address so will be sorted by next week. • S Johnson changed bank details to school address. S Johnson happy to stay on as signatory until C Kennedy is on. <p>5. Appointments for 2022-2023 – S Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secretary – C McKinlay ➤ Treasurer – C Kennedy 	

- Chair – no one at moment, please contact K Hegarty, C Kennedy or C McKinlay if you are interested in the position.
- S1 reps –
- S2 reps – Liz Howie
- S3 reps – Joanne Matthews
- S4 reps –
- S5 reps – L McDade
- S6 reps – Tracy Blackley

6. HT Update – K Hegarty

➤ Easing of restrictions

- Covid reporting - encourage use of face coverings in communal areas. Some pupils, like adults opt not to wear them. Some are wearing them in classes still. Encouraging staff to wear in communal areas. Letter sent to parents/carers about it today.
- No restrictions on assemblies.
- Foreign trips now allowed.
- End to Lateral Flow Tests. If you want your child to have some of these tests to take home they should collect them by this Friday 6th May. Issuing to pupils and staff to use them up.
- End to self-isolation and nothing being passed by Test and Protect. Public Health will still pay an interest. If 50% of a school had a disease school would close but our school did not have that amount, even at the peak of the pandemic.
- Hand sanitizing and wiping of desks still carried out.
- If child has runny nose, slight cough, cold but otherwise well can attend school.
- If child is testing Covid + as a parent you might make decision to keep them off depending on how they feel. Stay at home with fever, unfit to engage in school work or high temperature. Contact school office in the morning to give reason why they are unwell.
- Scottish Government not asking for Covid numbers now. As of today we no longer record sickness as Covid. When a parent says child needs to isolate because of an operation this would be an unauthorised absence.

➤ Uniform

- We have brand new uniforms (straight out of the packet) in school. Rails are in Guidance and SLT offices. Trousers, skirts, jumpers, cardigans, black footwear, blazers, polo shirts with badge, school ties, shirts/blouses. Spoke to pupils about uniform, some said they had grown out of uniform - told to talk to Guidance. Great opportunity to focus on uniform and raise standards. On Friday she saw an awful lot of leggings, coloured track suit bottoms, brand name clothing. Asking for parental support. Pupils should be proud to present themselves as school community. The focus has been on S1-S3 at the moment through PSE/Guidance. Will contact home if they continue to not wear uniform. When senior pupils come back after exams they will also be spoken to as a reminder.
- S Johnson said sometimes there is a barrier about recycling uniforms. K Hegarty replied that these are brand new, modern uniforms with tags still on. Range of regular and skinny leg trousers. We also have 2nd hand, good quality uniforms but aim to use the brand new first. Please tell other parents this is there. This is handled in a discreet manner through Guidance Teacher. Non-wearing of school uniform is an Issue a lot of schools face.

	Action
<p>➤ Waste awareness, North Ayrshire Council Team – since 27th March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenwood engaging with shops/clean-up crew. Asking about packaging, looking at bins, trying to identify pupils who are dropping litter. Weekly report passed to K Hegarty. If pupil refuses to give name or gives a false name it hasn't taken long to identify the pupils concerned as the Team wear a camera. <p>Other side is number of pupils going out their way to dispose litter. Vouchers and letters of praise for responsible behaviours. Eco Group continue to work with group. Irvine clean-up crew reporting things improving at moment. Senior pupils are on study leave so we only have S1-S3 in at moment. Proof of improvement will be assessed when all pupils back. The Team do a “before” and “after” assessment to see if improvements are maintained. Greenwood continues to work with the team. Educate, Enable, Enforce, Monitor is Ob-Litter-Ate Campaign motto.</p> <p>➤ SQA exams – 4 exams completed to date</p> <p>Maths and English – pupils in every part of the school. Whole team working very hard to ensure supports in place to do their best in exams. Invigilators are in, Ms Greenlees is our SQA co-ordinator and everything going smoothly so far. Met S1-S3 about expectations of behaviour, especially when exams are in progress.</p> <p>➤ Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss McLaren started in English. Posts been filled in HE, Maths, Social Subjects and RE • Interviews next week – Biology, Physics, Biology (Mat Leave) • Supporting pupil needs/transition (Secondary Support Resource) additional 2 teachers, youth worker and classroom assistant - adverts imminent. • Quality Improvement – last Friday North Ayrshire team looking at 2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment. Sharon McDowall, Senior Education Manager for Greenwood cluster primaries met pupils and staff. Coming back Thursday afternoon. <p>7. Change to the timings of the school day consultation – K Hegarty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration consultation sent out 23rd Feb 2022 to all staff, pupils and parents via Glow forms. This is about supporting Health and Wellbeing, checking in/identifying problems at the beginning of the school day. Adding 10 minutes at beginning of each day will give pupils a key adult providing consistency and identifying any community issues. • 956 took part, 80% gave support to this. • Decision made we will move forward. Have to follow standard circular 7, consultation on the changing of the times of the school day. • Covid 19 has impacted on some pupils' health and wellbeing and their ability to interact with each other. • Proposed change is to take Thursday Period 7 off timetable (50 minutes of Enrichment) and introduce 10 minutes every day. Had to demonstrate to A McClelland, Head of Service that skills that normally developed from Enrichment can be gained elsewhere. S5 & S6 Pupils can opt into Core PE rather than having to if they don't want to. They could do leadership, Health & Wellbeing (SQA qualifications), Year Book, Barista. This won't then reduce number of qualifications. Any changes will not impact on educational attainment. <p>Monday and Tuesday start time would be 8:50am, pupils would leave to go to Period 1 at 9:00am. Any pupil requiring further support would have this put in place. Interval will always be at 10:40am, this will help young people to have their food at the same time every day and means there will always be 3 periods before lunchtime. School day would finish at 15:45.</p> <p>Wednesday, Thursday and Friday start time would be 8:50am and finish time 14:55. Meeting held with A McClelland on Friday to provide rationale.</p>	

Consultation closes 13th May and evidence from key partners and all who were consulted will be presented to him.

Proposed changes from 30th May, if approval given. Local Councillors, Transport, Mitie, Facilities Management (school meals) all consulted. Alternatively may start in new term in August, depending on any impacts raised.

Information evening for parents who want to find out more about this. Everyone will be informed when the decision is made and date for change known.

- 20% who didn't vote for this change wanted no impact on learning and their comments have been taken on board. Programme for staff to follow for consistency and support for pupils.

8. Any Other Business & Any Questions

Question:

Paul Soave – asking about merit notifications – feels they are welcome but carry no information about why awarded and by whom. Pupils not aware and dilutes the award.

Answer:

K Hegarty emailed Paul back this afternoon and thinks he has a valid point. She agrees and encourages teachers to share with pupils why they get merits/de-merits and to congratulate pupil. Text message that goes home doesn't have enough information. Mr C Neill, Depute Head Teacher has "celebration of pupil success" on his remit and will be carrying out a review of merits/de-merits. More information for parents puts more emphasis on what the pupil has been given it for.

Question:

S Johnson asked about the S6 Group banner photo in the Atrium. Quite often parents are in school and it would be nice if anyone wanted to pop in to see it.

Answer:

As long as this is done in a planned way. Mrs Hegarty thought a soft drinks/nibbles event for a final chat could be organised and parents invited. Restrictions have been lifted for Covid but has to be done in a planned way. End of the school day perhaps 4-4:30pm might be an opportunity to see the picture and say a final farewell to Guidance teachers.

Question:

T Blackley asked about lockers – will young people be able to get lockers.

Answer:

Review for this complete and may be ready to go from new session in August.

9. **PC Twitter Feeds** – S Johnson retweets information for Parent Council. Anyone interested in taking this on let K Hegarty know.

10. Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 7th June 2022 @ 6:30pm by Zoom

K Hegarty gave a huge thank you to Susan Johnson for taking on this role and extended an invitation to the last meeting for this year on 7th June. On behalf of Parent Council and our school she thanked her for attending all the meetings and the way she has worked alongside the school. She has done a great job, not at an easy time, doing meetings in this way. In a formal manner, thank you for support. Susan replied she has really enjoyed this challenge and it had been very worthwhile. She learned a lot about herself and her ability to do this. Everyone's help has been important especially the support in the community throughout Covid. Greenwood contributing so much to the needs of society. Money Parent Council donated has been a huge help. Best wishes to Greenwood Parent Council from Susan.