

TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2024 @ 6:00pm
GREENWOOD ACADEMY
PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (ONLINE by TEAMS)

Present: K Hegarty – Head Teacher, C McKinlay – Secretary and 2 Parents/Carers

Apologies: J Matthews, H & D Gilbert, P Soave, C Kennedy, A Hunter

	Action
<p>1. Welcome – K Hegarty Welcome to our online Parent Council Meeting. Small meeting with four of us due to S4 Parents Evening.</p> <p>2. Last meeting Minutes - 4th December 2023 will be made available on: https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/greenwoodac/</p> <p>3. Treasurer’s Report – information sent by C Kennedy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ £1154.24 in Parent Council Account. ➤ Bid for funds from Parent Council received in relation to literacy. English Department looking to buy pencils for all S1-S3 pupils (£0.93 per pupil). Looking for half contribution from Parent Council, hopefully this will be looked on favourably. School funds will contribute £800. ➤ Fundraising ideas requested. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer BBQ or Quiz, at school or another venue? Christmas Fayre fell away due to Covid. • How do we engage more parents for the Parent Council? • Open to doing more fundraising. Should we put that first on the Agenda at the next meeting in March? Looking for feedback and ideas from Parent Council Members and wider parent forum. ➤ Been pushing for a Chairperson since Susan left with no success to date. <p>4. HT Update – K Hegarty Shared slides on screen to discuss the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HMI Inspection & Improvement Plan A year since HMI inspection, a quick year. Questionnaires will be re-issued to parents and pupils so that we can do a bit of comparison in terms of where we were a year ago. Looking for ideas for further improvement. A glow form will be sent out to all parents. If you are talking to other parents please encourage them to complete this questionnaire so that we can have a direct comparison. ➤ Improvement Journey – Quality Improvement Framework. Sharon McDowall, Senior Manager visited to look at Quality 3.2 Attainment and Achievement. Other staff and teachers from NAC were also involved. BGE and senior phase looked at based on the data we held and next steps. ➤ Sharon McDowall attending Thursday of this week by herself to look at 2.1 safeguarding and 3.1 Wellbeing, Quality and Inclusion. This will involve focus groups in SSR and Transition resource. Pupil support work will be highlighted and the work we are doing on attendance and at Townend. This will be a fully packed day from first thing and feedback will be given after school. 	

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<p>➤ For 2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment we are part of a trio of schools, linking with Kilwinning Academy and Irvine Royal Academy. There are lesson observations. Last year this was done prior to the HMI Inspection. Primaries have done the same thing. C Doig, D Johnstone and H Dillon from Greenwood went to Kilwinning Academy to observe lessons and gave feedback. Four of our staff went to Irvine Royal Academy. Each school provides their self-evaluation of how they think they are doing. The observations then validate this self-evaluation. This has provided great experience. Mrs Hegarty is an Associate Assessor with HMI. This sharing and learning has proved very beneficial to all trio schools taking part. On 28th February teams from Kilwinning and Irvine will come to Greenwood to engage in focus groups. We are out at Irvine Royal beginning of March.</p> <p>➤ As part of our Improvement Plan we are focussing on learning and teaching. Looking at using more concrete materials for numeracy and maths. In terms of literacy we have been doing a lot of work on adaptive teaching. Through Health and Wellbeing at Registration we have been working with young people, talking to them about the Improvement Plan and finding out what they engage in. Our class teachers deliver this and they explain the standard we are working to. Using BBC Bitesize as a support in S1-S3 being the focus this week.</p> <p>➤ Study Evenings Senior Pupils are giving out information leaflets tonight at Parent’s Evening. “Achieve” is a tile on Glow that caters for NAT5, Higher and some of the Level 4 outcomes. This can also be used by junior pupils. We advise pupils to download the tile onto Glow Launchpad. It tends to focus on Maths, English, Sciences and Social Subjects. Other subjects are also available such as Design & Manufacture, Hospitality, PE and Woodworking. This gives access to more information for NAT5 and Higher, we are talking to pupils about feedback.</p> <p>➤ Following feedback at last Meeting we have an S4-S6 Study Skills Evening planned for 19th February 6-7pm. Representatives from Departments will provide stations around the Atrium to discuss websites, demonstrate Achieve and hopefully generate positivity around studying. An S1-S3 Literacy and Numeracy evening also planned for 26th February 6-7pm looking at Accelerated Reader and MathsPad. This will give hints and tips for parents moving forward. Parent asked about supporting children with dyslexia. Do they have coloured jotters, can they use immersive reader, what supports are in place? Pupil Support staff member could be at the Evening to highlight the support available.</p> <p>➤ One parent asked for advice on making reading more fun for children and would be grateful for any websites or fun games to encourage reading. Mrs Hegarty will look into this.</p> <p>➤ Pupil Council – Junior and Senior Mr Neill, Deputy Head Teacher met with Pupil Council and will give feedback in March. Issues discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets need to improve, in particular young people who are in the toilets vaping or eating food. This week through the Head Teacher Updates, Health and Wellbeing worksheets were looked through. There were links to this about vaping issues. Further information with PC Tate will be looked through. Senior leaders monitor corridors and Atrium. This will be discussed at a School Assembly we are having in a few weeks’ time. As always, the minority are responsible for the behaviour. • Greenwood is a PPP Building. Mrs Hegarty has to fill in a form for any graffiti and vandalism noted. Really disheartening when things are repaired and two days later they are broken again. A talk will be given about looking after our school building. Lucky to be in a new build and it has to be kept to a high standard. 	<p style="text-align: right;">KH</p>

- **Easter School** is earlier than normal and information is still to be shared. Seniors raised concerns about coursework. After Covid they are now having to do assignments as well as their exams. This has already been raised with Andrew McClelland, Head of Service. He has made representation to SQA about it.
- Pupils asked if they can bring their own laptop to school to hook onto our Server. This is not allowed due to the capacity of ICT and links with the server are not at a stage where it could take that amount of traffic. Continuing to work with NAC about this.
- Merits and de-merits discussed, Mr Neill oversees this area. He is picking their brains about what is going well and what can be improved upon.
- Litter in the Atrium. Facilities management have been asked about providing more bins. Clarity about who cleans and at what times. Three groups go outside to do outdoor litter picking.

➤ **Montgomery Park bus**

There is continued frustration about lateness and routes. Mrs Hegarty will send a letter out tomorrow. School buses are not covered by NAC Transport. Communications have been happening between Stagecoach, Councillors and ourselves. Buses are put out at certain times to get pupils to school. Stagecoach informed that the previous bus driver had been taking the wrong route to Greenwood and the new bus driver is following the correct route. Any further information required should be direct with Stagecoach. Councillor is pushing for more answers but she is not sure if this will help or not.

➤ **Mental Health & Wellbeing Week**

Ambassadors in school have been giving information this week and will do into next week. We have a team of people who support health and wellbeing. All school staff are responsible to make sure all pupils are supported.

After Christmas we welcomed our school nurse, Kimi Kerr:

- She contributed to the Health and Wellbeing slides shown to all pupils.
- Thanked us for her welcome and there is good footfall of pupils going into her or through Guidance.
- Discussed her background and where pupils can find her room next to the Main Office.
- Previously at Ardrossan Academy, Kimi worked alongside Elaine Richardson prior to her moving to St Matthews cluster. There is currently recruitment for a second school nurse for Greenwood cluster. Hopefully after Easter we will have two.
- Shared with pupils the kind of support she can give.
- Employed by NHS and the meetings she has with pupils are confidential unless there is a safeguarding issue.
- Pupils can self-refer themselves to her and her door is always open for pupils to drop in.
- S3 and S4 specialist input last week for sexual health due to rising number of STIs in our local area in young people. Mrs Hegarty sat in with the S3 girls, they were very quiet. Mr Barlow and Mr Neill sat in with S3 boys, they were more animated. The specialists updated young people with change to local pharmacies and types of support from them. We signed up straight away for this valuable initiative.
- Mr Neill overseeing an Oral health talk to first years about not being afraid of the dentist.

5. Any Other Business & Any Questions

Thanked parents for joining the meeting, nothing further raised.

6. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 4th March 2024 6-7pm. Face to face in the Heritage Room.