

## **AITKENHEAD PARENT COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting**

**Held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm**

**Aitkenhead Primary School, Primary 7 Classroom**

#### **1.Attendance Committee Members**

Fiona Aitken (Chair), Ruth Waterson (Treasurer), Marianne Finnon, Allison Gorman, Barry McCluskey (Councillor), Alison Sommerville (Head Teacher), Jan McGregor (Principal Teacher).

#### **2.Apologies**

Charlene MacAlister (Vice Chair), Lorna Thompson, Amanda Mason, Debbie Brogan, Danielle White, Edith Kupsky

#### **3.Minutes of Meeting**

Approved by: Fiona Aitken

Second by: Charlene MacAlister

#### **4.Head Teacher's Report**

##### **Attendance**

Current attendance is 94.8% (Aug to mid-November) which is around the same as this time last year. Attendance is still priority with review due to parents/carers in November. The school is trying to raise awareness about the effect holidays have on attendance and have changed the holiday letter to reflect the attendance categories and therefore the impact of the holiday. The school is always looking for ways to promote attendance with families so are happy to take any ideas from the parent council.

##### **School Improvement Plan Update**

**Cluster Priority** – All learners will benefit from an integrated approach to improve health and wellbeing, with identified learners accessing additional and intensive cluster supports to address the equity gap.

**Priority 1** – By June 2024, we will have reviewed and refreshed our curriculum so that it is reflective of our school community.

**Priority 2** - By June 2024, through high quality learning and teaching that is differentiated to meet learner needs and through targeted interventions, we will raise attainment in literacy to meet the NIF stretch aim of 90%.

##### **Outdoor Play and Learning**

Simon from OPAL visited on 9th November to observe play and work with the staff. He was very impressed with the progress so far such as the different types of play in the playground, risk assessments in place and assemblies to introduce new play items. The fact that it is the children leading the initiative, planning the new activities and leading assemblies was a real positive.

Parents of children in leadership group will be invited in to school to experience the changes in the playground and play with their children. On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 1.20pm. Parent council members are also welcome to come along.

Play leaders attending official opening of Lilac Crescent Play Park on Friday 17 November. Children participated in a competition to design the sign and name for the play park. The two winners were from our school – Amelie Thompson won the design the sign; and Alex Davidson won the naming of the Park. The sign is still being produced so will not be there on Friday but the children will be invited back to see it.

### **Digital/Skills**

With the changing job market, jobs the children may enter in years to come may not even exist yet so it is important we ensure that we are providing them the skills necessary for the ever changing market. Skills development Scotland came out and work with staff on skills development and we will continue to develop how we can take this forward within the school.

Digital skills are becoming increasingly more important so the school is hoping to upgraded and replenish digital resources to help provide learners with the skills and knowledge they require. This is an area that the parent council could help to fund.

### **Christmas Show Date:**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December PM & Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December AM&PM

### **5. Treasures Report**

Cash at bank - £1,052.46

Cash in hand - £1,693.22

Current assets = £2,745.68

Funding the Digital Learning will be the new funding for PC.

Digital team in North Lanarkshire are available for advice on technology. 10 new laptops is the priority.

### **6. Christmas Fayre**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 6-8pm

Kids Parent Council ideas for the fayre

Drawing competition

Letters to Santa with post box

Decorate the bauble.

There will be 6 external stalls, 5 businesses and 1 Viewpark knitting group. Flat White and Leopard Van will also be there.

## **7. AOB**

Danielle White has stood down from PC, a new member will be sought at the AGM in March.

Ruth Waterson raised that parents had expressed disappointment with P7's experience at Strathclyde Park this year. Miss Sommerville pointed out that this is due to certain things not being available during the trip which the parents will be reimbursed for. The conversation about residential trips was raised again and Miss Sommerville said that investigations were under way to review options for next year within the cluster, although this was not a guarantee and was subject to further discussion and review.

Councillor Barry McCluskey has offered a donation of £500 to sponsor anything the PC are doing next year.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024