

Abernethy Primary School - Parent Council Meeting

Post AGM Meeting - Wednesday 28 Aug 2013

Attendees –

Paula Morrison (Head Teacher), Morag Hodgkinson (Principal Teacher), Fiona Stewart (Chairman), Marian Fyfe (Treasurer), Sue Smith (Secretary), Kirsty Baird, Nicky Coulter, Mel Davis, Jill Donnachie, Karen Jerrard-Dinn, Katie McAleese, Anne McElnea, Gordon Miller, Senga Robertson, Rachel Shepherd, Sharon Smith, Jill Young.

Apologies – Alastair Robinson, Lynn Mitchell, Lorraine Kinnear

1 - Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

There were no changes to the previous minutes and these were agreed.

As a result of Claire Stoddart moving to Houston there is a need for a new co-ordinator for the Peel2Save card scheme. Kirsty Baird agreed to take this on.

2 – Head Teacher Report

Staffing changes

- Mrs MacDonald is welcomed back to P6 and will be team teaching with Miss Kennedy until further notice as she settles back in after a long absence.
- Mrs Styles was successful in obtaining another post and therefore had to resign on last day of term, this leaves the PT management day vacant.
- Mrs L. Robertson is currently on maternity leave and therefore her post of RCCT (reduced class contact time) teacher and mentor cover teacher is vacant. Her post of Pupil Support Teacher has been filled by Chris Roy who comes with a wealth of experience in this area.
- Interviews for the vacant post takes place on Monday and we hope to appoint from then. In the interim HT will cover the vacancies until they are filled. Supply will be used if available and it is anticipated this will be in place for the next few weeks.
- Miss Fyfe joined the team as the music specialist this year and Miss Patience in P5.

School News

- Congratulations to Kimi Anderson (P5) who is through to the final of 'Desperate Danwich competition' run by NHS Tayside. She will go through to make her sandwich with the other finalists in Dundee the week of the 2 Sep.
- Sports clubs have started: Football (P6 & P7), Football for P5 at lunchtime, Basketball, netball, JogScotland.
- There will be a Meet the Teacher event on 29th August – an informal opportunity to meet new staff.
- P1 curriculum evening on Monday 2nd Sep – sharing with parents the process of 'Jolly Phonics' how we teach sounds, start writing and reading

- A PKC Education & Children's Services Quality Improvement Officer, Karen Young, will be visiting on 11th September
- The school will be taking part in the PKC Schools Football Festival competition- 17th September
- Annual Report will be available to parents at the end of September
- 23rd September – John Fyffe (director of Education), Bob Band (convenor) and Gordon Walker (Vice Convenor) will visit school and hold a meeting here.
- P7 residential to Dalguise will take place on 27 Sep.

Key school development areas for this year:

- Science
- Maths
- Enhancing the learning culture
- Creating a literacy rich environment – focus on writing
- Developing global links
- Start consultation re homework

School Extension

- Nearing completion – lines on Multi Use Games Area to be painted on and finally fence to be removed when grass has bedded in.
- Official opening still to happen – no date from Authority as yet.

Nursery News

- New ECP – Margaret Amatt joins us and Linzi McFarlane (Nursery Support Teacher)
- Hope to continue with Nursery Natters throughout the year
- New nursery handbook has been developed
- Nursery Curriculum Evening- 2nd October

3 – Dates for Future Meetings

Agreed dates are:

- Wed 6 Nov
- Wed 5 Feb
- Wed 26 Mar
- Wed 14 May
- Wed 27 Aug – AGM

4 – Use of Parent Council Funds at Christmas

It was noted that as previously agreed the Parent Council would in 2013 make a donation to the school to help offset the costs of the children's food for the Christmas parties. Father Christmas will therefore give each pupil a small gift (e.g. chocolate Santa), rather than a book paid for by the funds, as has been the case in previous years.

5 – Fundraising Ideas

Peel2Save will continue with Kirsty Baird co-ordinating (see above).

It was agreed not to hold an event around Christmas time as the school and pupils are planning to do something themselves, involving the pupils.

A number of good ideas were discussed and timings looked at. It was agreed we would look to hold a coffee morning with some form of 'theme' (please bring ideas to the next meeting – books were sold last time so something different would be preferable) on Saturday 1 Feb and an 80s Disco night (BYOB event) on Sat 8 Mar.

A fundraising sub-group to organise events was suggested and will be discussed at the next meeting.

6 – AOB

- The Pavilion has now given the school a key to allow access to the facilities when they are using Powrie Park. A £50 donation has been made in return – F Stewart to forward cheque to Katie McAleese.
- The Parks Project enquired as to whether the Parent Council would be able to make a donation towards the current fundraising activity underway for phase 2 (£6.5k needs to be raised by the end of September to unlock the £60k SITA trust donation). After discussion it was felt that Parent Council funds are to be used to enhance the school experience of the village children, and that the current activity underway in the village will hopefully raise the amount required. If not then the Parks Project was asked to come back to the Parent Council who would re-consider the request.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm