



Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 18th May 2023

7-8pm - Teams

Apologies; Sarah Barry (chair), Gill Graham (local councillor).

Present; Fiona MacKenzie (HT), Miss Dow, Catherine Macklon (vice chair), Alison Renfrew (secretary), Hazel Munton (uniform crew), Andrew Doherty (parent), Penny Canning (treasurer).

1. Minutes from prev meeting 7 March 23

Cash for kids amount raised will be matched to be corrected – unless in top three positions no additional money will be added to the amount raised by the school/community.

2. Head teacher update

Mrs Mackenzie updated us on;

Cash for Kids Money not yet been received in school account however work is well underway to finalise the successful bid for the new trim trail. Previous discussion around a questionnaire for all P4-6 children was decided to be unnecessary as the pupil council had been involved with previous discussions around the wishes of the children regarding specifics of the new trail,

Action: Penny and Andrew to liase with Mrs MacKenzie with regards finalizing successful company to install new trim trail.

P7 leavers; events well underway with the residential trip to Lockerbie Manor having taken place this week,

Prom 22nd June and Valedictory service to be held in Kilbarchan Parish Church on the afternoon of 23rd June.

Mrs MacKenzie asked for confirmation re funds being released from the Parent Council towards support of these final activities

Action; Penny and Sarah re funds to school.

Action; Alison to arrange purchase of book gift for P7 leavers

Lunch Menu; following on from consultation with parents and children, Renfrewshire Council have reviewed their lunch menu choices. The new menu will launch shortly and be a 3 week rotation with improved choices for all menus

Curricular review; feedback from families/staff has focused in on a desire to focus on literacy, numeracy, resilience, collaborative working, team working and a wider awareness of the world of work. Another strong theme was an ability to be able to talk to others e.g initiating a conversation with a new pupil or in a new social setting.

Staffing; Mrs McPhee will be stopping for maternity leave 25th May. Ms Jennifer Baillie will be starting the following week and will be involved with Mrs McPhee in a handover and meet the children this week.

Sports Day; will be 6th June pm with a back up pencilled in for 7th June pm.

Bus timetable change;

This has been causing issues with pick up at 3pm mainly. McGills have significantly reduced the service serving Kilbarchan with one bus hourly only.

This has led to some parents requesting children are allowed to leave school before the end of the school day at 3pm in order for them to get the bus home.

Parent council are aware of a local petition being championed by the local councillors re the reduction in service and we have been asked to append our details to this petition, write to McGills regarding the negative impact to local childrens education and also ask parents to email the parent council with specific family concerns in order to understand the ramifications fully.

Action; parent council email to be added to the parents hub facebook page.

3. Chair Update

Weedkiller

It has been noted that the council have used glyphosate based weedkiller in the school despite previous assurance that this would not happen.

When approached initially, the response from the council was that this was done outwith school hours thereby reducing the risk to children.

When cross countered the response from council was that school risked being weed bound, and previous non-glyphosate weedkiller had not been as effective. Cllr Gill Graham is aware and will continue to press the matter with council departments as appropriate.

Lilias Day – Pamela updated us on their progress– team of 7 busy working away on the float. Some classes have started working on crafts, and a letter has been sent to all children asking who wishes to be on the float.

Once numbers are known, further info will be issued re dressing up/costume requirements.

Lilias Day committee representation asked for 2-4 volunteers to walk alongside the float.

Float hopefully to be constructed down at Troubridge/Dalhousie to prevent damage on driving down from school prior to judging.

Road Safety;

Unfortunately Cllr Gill Graham was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

There are ongoing concerns surrounding the safety of children around the roads outside school. There was an significant near miss with the McGills bus whereby two children had come down the yellow brick road and appeared to continue across the road at the crossing point without a) the bus driving at an appropriate speed on approach to a school and b) children crossing without due care and attention.

It was brought to the attention of the parent council that there was a lack of supervision at this exit by school staff at 3pm.

As previously discussed, and highlighted by the school, staff cover the infant gates to ensure pupils leave safely. Unfortunately, they are unable to staff crossing points along Meadside Avenue.

Discussion then focused on possibilities for additional measures that the council may be able to provide; lollipop person, zebra/pelican crossing, or additional lighting to highlight the crossing point.

Parents and carers are however reminded to reinforce personal and road safety awareness to their children.

Action; in addition to writing to McGills re the timetable change we will write to them to highlight the need for due care and attention re speed on approach to the school at all times of the school day.

AOCB;

Existing trim trail was repaired by Sportsafe.

Dates for next session PC meetings to be arranged in order to be added to the school calendar for the new session.

Sarah has managed to purchase 2 second hand chess sets for the chess club with a third to follow

Date of next meeting; TBC as trim trail development requires.