



Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

Held via Zoom call

### **1. Welcome, Apologies, Previous Minute and Opening Remarks**

**Present:** Mrs Sandilands, Mr Bamford, Mrs O'Neill, Councillor Loudon, Councillor Fulton and Councillor Brogan (attendance near end of meeting), 9 parents and Mahnoor and Mirren (Pupil Council Reps).

**Apologies:** 2 parent members had given their apologies

- Emma welcomed everyone to the first parent council meeting of 2022.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved with no amendments suggested.

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

- See appended report –concerns were held about how a reduction in the school roll to 241 children (currently 264 children) may impact on staffing levels and management structure.
- SS noted that parent council meeting can again take place in the school premises – some parents welcomed the idea of meeting face to face whilst acknowledging that some parents may find it easier to continue to meet virtually.
- Mirren and Mahnoor gave some feedback on behalf of the pupil council. Some pupils attended a meeting with HMIe regarding the catchment review and views were put forward on this.
- Decathlon Vouchers received from Beat the street have gone towards basketballs and hoops

### **3. Councillors' Reports**

- Councillor Loudon gave an update on Covid changes agreed, with restrictions eased and hopes for a return to some sort of normality for everyone, especially school children. It is hoped that summer fayres can be held.
- Discussions have been held relating to maths and education gaps in maths – one possibility is that during lockdown parents lacked confidence in their own maths skills.
- The catchment review is ongoing.
- There is a new litter campaign 'Cambuslang Loves Local'. Issues continue with fly tipping and there is a Scottish Government consultation out on how to address this. Councillor Loudon has submitted her response to the consultation.

### **4. Hi5 Certificates**

- A parent voiced concerns that the awards were not being given to all children. The parent advised when introduced the intention was that every child would get an award and the class teacher/ head teacher would keep a note of award winners to ensure that each child got an award.

- The parent expressed that week after week her child (and other children) come home upset at not having got the award.
- The award winners are posted on the school twitter feed and the parent has noted that the same children are getting the awards.
- The parent suggested that a group award be used instead of an individual award as not all children are receiving the awards.
- SS advised the school has class rewards in the form of whole class sticker charts focussing on the four capacities of CfE, "Successful Learners, Responsible Citizens, Effective Contributors and Confident Individuals". SS suggested that the Hi5 Certificates would be discussed at a future pupil council meeting and feedback shared with Parent Council.

#### **5. Food/Drinks at snack time**

- A parent raised that her child comes home with their water bottle untouched, indicating that the child is not drinking whilst at school. The parent suggested that snacks are also subjective in terms of what constitutes a healthy snack and parents should get to decide what snack to give their child.
- SS advised that children can drink juice at break times. When in class only water is allowed. Healthy snacks are encouraged as part of the school's health promoting schools agenda and as there is a believed link between what children eat and how they behave.

#### **6. Primary school league table**

- A parent raised concerns about a recent publication of primary school league tables and was looking for further information regarding this and what was this table based on.
- Prior to the meeting SS shared the link to the Primary School Dashboard with the chair of the PC (this is the source that the data is taken from) ES forwarded the link to the Primary School Dashboard to all members.
- The parent commented that she had received this and was reassured.
- Mr Bamford stressed that there was no cause for parents to be concerned.

#### **7. Period products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 Guidance**

- Free sanitary items are provided in the school. A consultation will be held with P6/7 girls and their families.

#### **8. Supporting the P1 registrations (and recruiting new parents)**

- It was proposed by ES representatives of the parent council could attend the P1 induction day as a way of recruiting new members.
- The parent council are keen to widen group membership and ensure diversity.
- SS agreed that PC members attending the P1 Induction would support relationship building between the PC and the wider school community.

#### **9. Parent/Guardian Questionnaire**

- Emma had drafted a questionnaire aimed at seeking feedback as to any barriers preventing attendance at parent council meetings.
- Suggestions were made by a parent re: the wording of the questionnaire and instead of providing a list of reasons for not attending there could be a free text box for parents to complete.

- It was suggested that the questionnaire could be given out in paper format in place of, or alongside, the digital questionnaire. The questionnaire will be distributed electronically in the first instance with some paper copies available on request.

#### **10. Catchment Consultation**

- Councillor Brogan advised that Westburn residents will again be affected by the rezoning and feels that a local high school is needed in the area.
- Emma advised that she has contacted Lynn Sherry, education services, for an update in advance of the parent council meeting but Lynn did not provide any updates. (Update was provided by SS in HT report after correspondence from Lynn Sherry and Fiona Roach.)

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 at 6.30pm. Invites to follow**