



Draft Woodhead Parent Council Tuesday 30th April 2019

Present: Elaine Ferguson (EF), Scott Clark (SC), Colette Watson (CW), Rachel Miller (RM) Shelia Moore (SM) Faye Kennedy (FK) Pamela Shearer (PS), Stephen Lennox (SL), Councillor John Ross (JR), and Councillor Lynne Naillon (LN)

Parent Forum Members: Michelle Keddle (MK) Linda Airlie (LA) Kelly Castles (KC)

Apologies: Caroline Sneddon (CS) Rita Cowan (RC) Josh Wilson (JW) Joe Lowe (JL) Rita Cowan (RC)

Parent Forum: Parents wanted to raise issue re catchment area. SC reminded this discussion cannot be child specific, Individual cases must follow set procedure. JR can supply general information on statistics requested by KC. SC has expressed invitation to meet with parents individually.

Catchment area changes – JR clarified statistics for HGS (Hamilton Grammar School) 23 children have been refused placing request, 12 from Woodhead, HGS has no more capacity. ASN has moved out, areas in carpark being used for teaching space. It is very unlikely that children will get in at appeal. Discussion to request a change of catchment area would need to be referred to Tony McDaid, Chair of Education. LN advised that appeals panel for SLC (South Lanarkshire Council) have been pre-advised that HGS will generate appeals to be presented to the panel. All siblings placing requests have been accommodated. SL asked if this is likely to change in future, JR answered no. SC clarified affiliated school is Calderside Academy, it is a parent's choice to submit a placing request. JR confirmed that children will be given a place at Calderside. Parents are upset that they are the first parents to be in this position- historically children from Woodhead have got a place. 78 placing requests accepted by HGS for enrolment 2019, August 2018 -99 requests accepted, August 2017 - 123 requests accepted. Woodhead Primary School cannot communicate any more than they already are- making it clear when children are applying to primary one that the affiliated high School is Calderside Academy with the parental choice of submitting placing requests. LN feels that building developers are misleading new homeowners into the belief that catchment school is Hamilton Grammar, Parents should always check catchment school via SLC website. MK expressed she wanted to be able to send her child to a school within her town, original catchment school was Earnock High, which has since been demolished and forcing her child into a different town. JR explained that extra schools will need to be built. There are plans within the next 10 years to borrow \$460 million to build schools across SLC. LN feels a bottle neck, new homes lost Earnock etc. Focus has been nurseries and primary schools, without providing enough high schools to be available. SC feels we have discussed at fullest without discussing individual cases. SC advised escalating appeal of catchment area needs to be decided by parent council. Vote in favour by majority to add to next meeting's agenda. SC recommended to get advice from legal team before communicating anything with parents, due to potential legal complications. SM clarified that there were 78 spaces available at HGS and 54 children from Woodhead leaving primary 7, therefore adequate spaces for all children if catchment area was to change. EF has previously spoke with Tony McDade on behalf of parent council, who thought it had to be escalated further, Elaine will reach out communication. Parent Council to communicate Geraldine McCann (legal team) and Tony McDade for advice on procedures. Councillors and SC have offered their advice and parents can approach them anytime. EF

Previous Minutes

Previous minutes approved.

Constitution reviewed

Amendments discussed, draft to be discussed at next parent council meeting. Once approved by parent council, these will be communicated with the school for consultation. Recommended for any objections to be submitted by parent body 1 week before following meeting. **PS**

Extra teaching staff- JR to have a few more weeks to investigate SC feels that this is appropriate.

Head Teachers update

Extension

Paint work ongoing, matching with the existing school well. Handover end of June start of July Gordon Turnbull has offered to do planter area beside playground and update area, due to extra funds left. Keen for budget to be spent on the school.

Nursery Team leader interviews last Wednesday (promoted early years work with line manager for nursery workers, track progress etc) Candidate appointed and accepted, legal being completed and will be communicated in due course.

Nursery teacher position advertised, however pause put on as the school may have a surplus teacher situation. Education decided that the Nursery teacher place will count towards staffing as Nursery teacher as part of teaching team. Cannot have someone transfer out and new job offered. Uniform consultation, multicolour is not an option due to costings. Proposal of Green Jumper with white polo shirt. Shades of green shown to Parent council, Primary green colour selected as favourite. Reminder that uniform is not mandatory. JR confirmed any families on benefits will get a £250 payment for starting nursery and primary one. Timescales for this tbc.

August Enrolment

Final numbers tbc due to movement in numbers over last few days. Configured to 12 classes, however due to influx needs to be reviewed. As this will impact and could impact surplus teacher role.

PEF

£75600 allocated for 19/20. All last year's allowance spent. PEF teacher, additional support staff and part time teachers helping additional interventions equivalent of 1 full time teacher. SC wants to keep this, this keeps in line with parental consultations.

Questionnaire Results

Available on public forum. SC happy with results and no unexpected responses.

Improvement Plan

Formal standards and quality report will still be sent, proposal for sketch note visual report to go with formal report.

Drivers of school improvement plan. Literacy (particularly writing), numeracy (focus on learning and teaching and progression pathways) and health and wellbeing (nurture, outdoor learning , anti-

bullying and positive behaviour rewards. Also work using PEF and attainment to work with school improvement plan.

Communication with Parent Council

Ability for parent comment can be added to website which SC can filter messages and pass to Parent Council. Tab can include AGM, constitutions.

Walking to school

To be added to next agenda to discuss at next month's meeting. Parent Council to approach Helen Tiffney services co-ordinator, who helps with travel plan ask her for advice for safer walking to school. Safety work assessment approach David Hinchelwood to discuss safe route to school and complete survey. EF

Treasurers Report

£30.29 to be donated to PTA, account now closed, item to be removed from future agendas.

GDPR

Email addresses will be visible communicating parent council matters. Anyone who wishes for email address to not be visible to others should approach Either Elaine Ferguson, Pamela Shearer or Caroline Sneddon.

Next Meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for 4th June, 6:30 pm for 6: start.
