

Woodhead Primary School

Parent Council Meeting

4th February 2020

645pm

Attendees

Scott Jasnosz Clark

Elaine Ferguson

Stephen Lennox

Scott Lindsay

Rachel Miller

Councillor John Ross

Stuart Nicholson

Apologies

Freya Kennedy

Matt Hooper

Shelia Speirs

Previous minutes approved

EF-Welcomed SN to the meeting and explained the concerns that some of the parents were having around the catchment areas. Parents still want to put in placing requests for Grammar and are not convinced about Calderside

SN-Explained that current catchment areas will not change as Hamilton Grammar is bursting at the seams. Last year there were 3 spaces and the council almost about a placing request that could have seen the curriculum for the whole school change due to class sizes. This is unlikely to change anytime soon.

EF-What can we do to put parents minds at ease about Calderside?

SN-If we rezone the catchment areas it wouldn't ease the number of pupils that go to Grammar. It also means that if we rezoned Neilsland Primary would be ahead of Woodhead. We need to think about how we profile all of the good stuff that Calderside do. If we can pull forward the open evenings then that would help.

EF-Each year group seems to be split and when they get to P6 they start to talk about it in the playground.

SN-We need to be clear and not raise expectations about placing requests.

SL- I attended the open evening with my daughter and we (as a family) left feeling much better about the school as it was a really informative evening.

SN-Also with Grammar the class sizes are maximum and opportunities are limited due to the number of kids that go there.

JR-SLC school numbers are rising so the situation won't ease any time soon.

EF-Will there be any rezoning in the future?

JR-We do a 10 year plan so it may be spoken about then however unlikely.

SN-We will look at it however we need to stick to a 240 intake at Grammar so we may need to introduce a hard no.

JR-If we engage parents & pupils earlier we can hopefully defuse the situation.

SN summarised the situation and the PC thanked him for coming.

SC-Head Teachers Report

P1 enrolment-intake of 40 with 8 placing requests in. We will either go with 2 classes of 20 or 2 of 24. This will mean that we will have 12 classes instead of 13 that we have currently. We have 51 leaving and potentially 48 coming in so only down by 3 at the moment.

HM Inspection

Happening WC 17th February. Encourage parents to fill in survey. Would love to have an overall view and not just a few.

Would be great if the Parent Council members could make themselves available

This is the 1st inspection in the new school and 1st since 2007.

They will be doing what's known as the short model which is measuring 2 of the 5 Quality Indicators

Graham Gordon & 5 inspectors will be in the school Monday afternoon, Tuesday all day & Wednesday morning.

There will be a feedback however that will be kept confidential at first to allow quality assurance to take place. Education Scotland will then send a letter to parents.

We have self evaluated ourselves as 'Good' for Learning and Teaching and Attainment.

Nursery has been self-evaluated as satisfactory, reflecting on the early stages of developing as a new setting.

We have also been really well supported by the local authority.

JR-as of last week we have now served 500,000 free breakfasts.

EF-It has been a massive success in Woodhead and is well supported by parents especially Johan Lennox who is here every day. EF helps out once a week.

AOB-Mobile phone policy explained by SC

SLind-How do we communicate what we do with the parents about the work we do

SC-Annual report, part of the newsletter or creating a PC Twitter page.

JR-Budget announcements coming out soon.

Next meeting Tuesday 3rd March.