



Minutes of Callander Primary Parent Council (CPPC) Meeting

24th August 2023

Present:

Carolyn Dunion (Chair), Megan King (Treasurer), Caitlen Flood (Social Media & Vice Secretary), Naomi Scott (Secretary), Tanya Starkey (Head Teacher), Clair Harvey (Deputy Head Teacher), Jennifer Grieve and Lauren Ward. Elke Prasad, Natalie Forde and Gordon Kerr (Vice Chair) sent their apologies.

Head Teacher Review

Tanya gave a huge THANK-YOU for the amazing work that has been carried out in updating the playground. All the children love it! The counting blocks are really helpful for the younger children.

There was also a video played that the P7's made that will be played out at an assembly, they have also been going around the classes and making a promise that it will be looked after so it can last.

Everyone loves the bright colours. It's "Tunnel- tastic!"

It was noted that there have been some conversations regarding items being covered over in the playground. Tanya gave an insightful explanation of the Autistic provision that is based in the school and how everyone works together to adapt so all children are able to utilise the space. It was encouraging to hear about how all children benefit from understanding the needs of other. Some of these adaptations are hoped to be temporary. The children are very understanding of these changes which they regularly see and are part of the schools "nurture mindset", It was acknowledged that it could be confusing for parents and we ask that parents can help spread the word about how important these adaptations are to some of our families.

The possibility of a community café was discussed to help support families of children with extra needs. This has happened previously but covid made it stop. It was great for everyone to support and learn from people going through similar things and it would be good to set up again.

Ben Ledi View – It was agreed to submit an article to the Ben Ledi View about the new playground project. It will be a good opportunity to share something positive with the Community whilst taking the opportunity to thank local business and everyone who contributed.

Tanya and Carolyn will collaborate on this.

It was suggested that we ask Emma King to contribute ideas for the playground in the new school building which everyone agreed would be positive. Tanya will find out in due course what scope we have for involvement.

Ongoing maintenance- It was raised that whilst we are looking towards moving to the new school there are some maintenance issues which some parents have noted. Tanya explained that Strathyre Parent Council arrange a 'grounds day' for parents to come along and help with small odd jobs. The Janitor will help with some small jobs, but this isn't part of his role. Tanya explained that the school has access to an Estates team via Stirling Council who can help gather quotes and arrange external contractors but there is not a dedicated member of staff for building maintenance. Although she explained that RoSPA will do an annual inspection to make sure equipment is safe and fit for purpose.

The plants from the Autistic provision have been moved to the front of the school as they were not appropriate for the children using that playground.

The parent council will consider if there was enough support to arrange a 'grounds day'.

Overall, many parents would like to see the building and grounds appear more 'cared for'.

Update on bank account – funds currently £2379.39

We discussed setting up a 'Go Fund Me' page to raise money towards the transport for school trips.

Leavers Hoodies – the parent council will provide the P7 hoodies again this year. Fortunately, we have the funds now so we should be able to order them early and avoid the delays we had last year. It was agreed that we would start the process in January. We will have the hoodies ready before the P7s go to Dalguise, however, Tanya wanted to check what other schools were doing to ensure all schools are the same. We have 39 in this year's P7.

PE Kit – the children, by law, have to do 2hrs PE each week. As there is 11 classes, this timing has to be split over the three days. Children have been asked to come into school in their kits as it's taking lots of time out of lessons before and after PE to get the kids changed then changed back again.

Tanya will confirm when each class has their set PE days. We will add info to the notice board. Parents will also be made aware that if the weather is nice, children may participate in PE that's not necessarily on their designated PE days.

Dress Down Days – the issue of dress down days and general theme days was raised with some parents asking if this could be limited to reduce the pressure and expense for parents. The meeting was advised that children come up with the ideas for dress down days and they are very enthusiastic about them. The matter was discussed, and it was agreed to continue as before whilst being mindful of the impact of these days on parents.

It was suggested that off the back of the conversation, the PTA would make a short survey to see what parents think but also include lots of general questions to get a good feeling for lots of different topics.

We can make it on google forms, keep anonymous and also add in a box for extra comments.

Yellow day – the choice of children to be part of the photos for the ‘yellow day’ was raised by some parents as some children felt left out. However, we were reassured that children were chosen randomly and it was not intended to cause any hurt.

General Property Maintenance- Covered under ongoing maintenance.

Advance Notice – It was agreed that the school will try and give more notice of dates that will be coming up through the calendar year.

Specific class events allowing parents the opportunity to go into school are arranged by individual teachers and will be ad-hoc.

Defibrillator – school have managed to secure funding for a defibrillator thanks to Hydro Fund. Staff have already had training from mountain rescue. It was agreed that this a very positive addition to the school.

Halloween Disco – Many parents had said that their children would rather go out with their families on Halloween night, so it was agreed that the disco be moved to the week before, Friday 27th Oct. Primary 1-3 5pm until 6pm. Primary 4-7 6.30-7.30.

Tuck shop should be pre made bags of sweets, no pick and mix to ensure a quicker turnaround and avoid queues. We will add a water station.

Feedback from shorts and shades was that the price including juice and crisps was good.

Tanya will speak to Mr craven regarding the music and ask if he can provide the disco, as before.

A planning meeting will be arranged in the coming weeks.

Brass Band Concert – was a great success last year and we aim to do the same as last year. They night was enjoyed by all.

Christmas Parade- more discussions required. School can advertise more, if required.

Date of next meeting: 8th of November 2023, 7-9pm Callander Primary School