

North Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Tuesday 18 November 2014

Leith Academy 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Helen Bourquin, CLD

Chris Byrne, Parent Council Rep, Abbeyhill Primary School

Anna Bowman, Parent Council Rep, Leith Academy

Tanya Boulton, Parent Council Rep, Victoria Primary School

Susan Cook, Acting HT, Drummond Community High School

Sharon Mortimer, PC Rep, Craigroyston High School

Gareth Overton, Parent Council Rep, Broughton Primary School

1.	<p>Apologies: Alex Black, Parent Council, Broughton High School Lindsay Law, Parent Rep, Education Committee/Parent Council Flora Stevenson Primary School Alison Franks, Parent Council Co-Chair, Stockbridge Primary School Wardie Primary School – No PC Chair at present</p>	Action
2.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Agreed. Actions completed Page 2 – Agreed Page 3 – Parking update sent out</p>	

3.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <p>Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at the last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals.</p> <p>Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December. Reports include Rising Rolls, Admissions and Placements, Play Strategy, Free School Meals and an update on Liberton/Fox Covert and Duncan Place</p> <p>Online School Payments – following the pilot, it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015. Very positive feedback. More information to go out in January.</p> <p>Parking at Schools – Moyra conducted 2 meetings on this issue and the end result is that Convener Paul Godzik put forward a motion to council to allow CCTV evidence to be investigated to deal with parking infringements at schools and this has been agreed. The schools to be involved in the School Streets project have been agreed and Abbeyhill PS is in the first phase. Community consultation is ongoing until December and then rollout. Chris Byrne will keep group updated</p> <p>I plus 2 Languages – this is to be put on the agenda for the next CCwP</p> <p>Budget Process – Moyra emailed all PC chairs with an update on this today. PC chairs were all invited to a budget consultation on 11th November. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff, pupils and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner.</p> <p>Chris Byrne asked where the savings from music tuition came from and Moyra will find this out.</p> <p>Gareth Overton expressed an uneasiness with asking parents to engage in making budgetary decisions with the online planner.</p> <p>October In Service Day – well received by staff and worthwhile use of time</p> <p>Improving School Websites – MW to go back with more details of training etc.</p> <p>Achievement Awards – very successful evening. There will be more categories for parental awards next year.</p>	<p>PC Chairs to advise parents and ask them to participate</p> <p>MW to provide details to parent chairs who ask for this.</p>
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4.	<p><u>Free School Meals P1-P3</u></p> <p>This is to be in place as of 6th January All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for this space. Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. Abbeyhill has received theirs.</p> <p>There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 Headteachers will decide whether meals should be pre-ordered to cope with demand There will be no hot meals on a Friday unless in those schools where provided already Special dietary requirements will be catered for Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative.</p> <p>Queries on this item: Free fruit that is delivered to school will now be served as part of the lunch option but what if the pupil doesn't take school lunches? What will happen in PPI schools? Is there a strategy in place to deal with the increased food waste? Moyra will ask Peter Watten to attend CCwP to provides an update on FSM</p>	MW to refer to Peter Watten
5.	<p><u>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</u></p> <p>This document on restorative practices and positive behaviour management was sent out to HT's in draft seeking feedback. This has now happened and it has now been sent out to all PC Chairs looking for parental feedback by mid-December.</p>	PC Chairs to feedback to MW
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <p>All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. The decision to close a school will lie with HT in discussion with Senior Management and the council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <p>Admissions week for new P1's is completed .All catchment P7's will be automatically transferred to their catchment secondary school. Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online. All registered catchment pupils who are physically living in the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place No guarantees for siblings After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December</p>	

7.	<p><u>AOCB – Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <p>Leith Academy have an issue with the canteen food as the menu is not followed, there is a problem with the vegetarian food choice and generally unhappiness about quantity, quality and choice. They have asked for a representative from the food company to meet but this has been declined.</p> <p>There was a general feeling that there is a variation in quality across the city and that there is not always the choice that parents have requested.</p> <p>Broughton PS are looking for website information. Moyra will provide details.</p> <p>Abbeyhill PS – will the budget cuts have an impact on building works or is there a rolling programme of repairs. Facilities Management look at all building requests and prioritise them on health and safety implications.</p> <p>Next CCwP is on 4th December – Sharon Mortimer from Craigoyston volunteered to go as secondary rep and Lyndsay Law will attend for the primaries</p>	<p>MW to take forward</p> <p>MW</p>
	Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 10 February 2015	

