

West Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Item 7.1

Monday 2 February 2015

St Augustine's High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Neil McIntosh, PC Chair, Kirkliston Primary School/ PC Rep Queensferry High School
Scott Bailey, PC Rep, St Cuthbert's RC Primary School
Colin Grahamslaw, PC Chair, Blackhall Primary School
Tony McGinley, PC Rep, Fox Covert RC Primary School
Julie Fairhurst, PC Chair, Fox Covert ND Primary School
Alison Bean, PC Rep, Fox Covert ND Primary School
Ros Astor, PC Chair, Balgreen Primary School
Gael Malone, PC Rep, St Augustine's RC High School
Martin Williams, PC Rep, Clermiston Primary School
Rebecca Mill, PC Chair, Cramond Primary School
Billy Samuel, PC Rep, Corstorphine Primary School
Alison Bowyer, PC Chair, Craigmount High School
Sharon Croome, PC Rep, Carrick Knowe Primary School
Stewart Smith, PC Rep, The Royal High School
Helen Donaldson, HT, Cramond Primary School
Pauline Walker, HT, The Royal High School
Mark Stewart, PC Chair, Gylemuir Primary School

Apologies:

Luke McCullough, PC Chair, /Clermiston Primary School
Gareth Oakley, PC Chair, Craiglockhart Primary School
Emma McCallum, PC Chair, Craiglockhart Primary School
Grant Knight, PC Chair, Forrester High School
Morag Thomas, PC Rep, Tynecastle High School
Stacy Fleming, PC Rep, Broomhouse Primary School

		Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Moyra welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.</p> <p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Previous minutes were agreed at the end of the meeting and there were no outstanding matters arising</p>	

2.	<p><u>Directors Report – Moyra Highlighted Key Points from the Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Budget</u> – Lots of feedback was received about the budget proposals and there were many visits to the website and the budget planner. All feedback will be collated and used in the council budget meeting on 12th February. The intention is still to protect schools from any significant budget cuts. 2. <u>Child Protection Report</u> – the National Report on the Effectiveness of Child Protection Arrangements across Scotland (Nov 2014) highlighted three areas of good practice currently being used in Edinburgh i.e. the Speak Up, Speak Out Campaign, the Electronic Inter-Agency Referrals and the Keeping Safe Booklets. 3. <u>Education Scotland Feedback about Education Services in Edinburgh</u> – The report was very positive about highlighted areas of commendation and areas for development. An additional sheet was handed out with the full details from the report for parent council chairs to share with parents. This will be sent electronically by Moyra. 4. <u>Education Scotland Inspections</u> – Kirkliston Primary School was highlighted for receiving an excellent grade in “Improvements through Self-Evaluation” and in the nursery for “meeting learners needs”. 5. <u>Community Access to Schools</u> – now being managed on a neighbourhood basis and five hubs have been created. 6. <u>Free School Meals</u> – funding was received from the Scottish Government to accommodate all the building changes required to ensure all P1 – P3 receive FSM. Local feedback to be collated from each neighbourhood. 7. <u>First Minister Visits</u> – very successful 8. <u>Teen Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme)</u> – the availability of these courses is now increasing across the city. Details can be found on www.joininedinburgh.org. 9. <u>Education, Children and Families Committee</u> – next meeting on 3rd March. Committee papers available online on 25th. 10. <u>Improving School Websites</u> - Graeme Smith has produced School Website Guidelines (access at http://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolsontheweb). Parents can have access to this if they are involved in producing or updating the website but there must be a school staff link person. Graeme has audited all school websites and produced red, amber and green information on their compliance with council policy and legislation. All HTs will get a report on their website. Re social media – no particular CEC guidance on this but the GTC have produced guidelines for teaching staff. WordPress should be used as the platform for school websites and the digital learning team have good links on their web page. 	<p>MW to send</p> <p>MW will ask for feedback from all groups in the meeting</p> <p>MW will send to PC's</p>
3.	<p><u>Traffic Management at St Augustine's HS</u></p> <p>Following the last meeting there was initial contact regarding this where it was confirmed by the school that the problem was at the back of the school. HT hasn't heard from Gavin Brown since. Moyra will contact Gavin</p>	<p>MW to contact GB</p>
4.	<p><u>Term Date Consultation</u></p> <p>Julie Fairhurst for Fox Covert ND PS raised concerns from her parent council over the process of consultation of school term dates for session 2015/16.</p> <p>The initial dates were acceptable but the final published dates have been changed and the results of the consultation (which are documented) have not been reflected in the final dates produced. Parents are very angry that the term has been lengthened and the holiday dates changed against public opinion. It is particularly difficult for</p>	<p>MW will feedback the strength of feeling about this to Ron Waddell</p> <p>MW will email links about survey to PCs</p> <p>MW will ask for the</p>

	<p>working parents to get childcare organised especially over the summer months. Moyra will take this back to Ron Waddell as an issue and raise the view of parents that they feel that their views are not listened to and that the surveys are repeated to get to a predetermined answer.</p> <p>There will be a further survey on term dates being sent out this week as part of an open consultation with HTs, unions, staff and parents.</p> <p>In answer to a query about the council's ability to contact parents directly, Moyra stated that this would not be possible as schools have different contact methods and the council must reply on HTs getting information out to parents in the manner easiest for them Helen and Pauline confirmed that they currently use parentmail, text and email to contact the majority of parents with very few now not able to be contacted by any of these methods.</p> <p>Moyra can email survey links out to parent councils. It was noted that all the West parent councils felt strongly about this and not just Fox Covert PS.</p>	reasoning behind the lengthening of school terms
5.	<p><u>Localities</u> There are big changes going ahead in CEC looking at leaner working practices. There are proposal that will divide the city into four localities. Within these localities the boundaries for health, police, schools, and wards will be co-terminus with each other with a view to delivering better local outcomes. The proposal is out for consultation. There will be no change to school catchments areas as a result of this. It should provide better access for schools to services and partner agencies. There could be changes to neighbourhood groups. The council will be working on the proposal throughout the year.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Rising Rolls</u> Clermiston PS has had a new four class extension approved but there are still concerns over the impact of the Maybury and East Craigs developments. Some parents said that Crawford McGhie explicitly stated that the new school would be built before the new houses if they got the go ahead from the developers. Moyra will speak with Crawford. The Cammo development now has the green light to go ahead. There should be another rising rolls report due in March. PC reps felt frustration that there weren't answers coming back from their LDP queries. There was a view expressed that there was no joined up thinking between the planners and children and families as regards developments and local facilities. It was pointed out however that a lot is dependent on developer contributions. Moyra will ask for answers to queries. All reports including rising rolls are available online. RHS was looking for a specific report breaking down the rising rolls figures by schools and Moyra will look into the availability of this. LDP presentation to be sent to Kirkliston PS, Carrick Knowe PS and both Fox Covert Primaries. More information on the Cammo development will be sought.</p>	<p>MW to ask Billy McIntyre to respond to all outstanding queries and will ascertain if there is another report that is not available online.</p> <p>Copies of LDP presentation to schools MW</p> <p>MW will ask about the Cammo development and feedback</p>
7.	<p><u>Better Relationships Policy</u> Moyra thanked all the parent councils for their feedback. All the information is being collated and any changes required being made to provide an updated version in the Spring.</p>	MW will send out updated copies
8.	<p><u>Appointment of Parent Rep to the Education</u> The term of office for the current rep will expire at the end of June and Moyra circulated a paper outlining the process of appointing a new one. Currently Alison Bowyer and Gareth Oakley attend the CCwP meetings and Gareth has put himself forward to be the rep at the E, C and F</p>	Item to be carried forward to next agenda

	committee meetings. Alison will nominate him via CCwP.	
9/11.	<u>Issues/Property and Facilities Management</u> Property and Meals issues have been sent to Peter Watten	
9.	<u>Other School Issues</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QHS – ongoing printing and internet/Wi-Fi problems • Fox Covert RC PS – Letter went out from HT re social media but still a concern for parents. “Think You Know” is a very useful website to look at for information and also the digital learning team video “7 Steps to Safer Cybernet” is worth a look. Most schools have an internet code of conduct. In answer to a query on what the educational approach to teaching about social media is, the HTs present confirmed that it was integral across the curriculum. Parents were interested to know what learning takes place about social media at each year stage. Moyra will email HTs in West to advise of parental interest in internet safety 	MW to put on issues sheet MW will email HTs re parental interest
10.	<u>Vision For Schools</u> This is a regular item of reporting to the council Moyra distributed a sheet outlining what is currently being done under each vision heading and asked for feedback from parent councils on what they fell is working well and what areas need development. All to feedback before next CCwP meeting. Initial comments from around the table were as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can more emphasis be placed on HTs attending training in parental engagement • How are parents encouraged to be involved in the vision for their school? • Whilst agreeing that schools should be at the heart of the community, this will be difficult to achieve when they are already full • Corstorphine PS – lot of work being done on grounds development and its use in learning and parental engagement with the school is good with parent council reps involved in lifeskills, policy development etc. • Should it include digital information under resources/school leavers? • Moyra confirmed that the school handbook requires to have the specific information given in the guidance to schools. 	Parent councils to feedback to MW by 20 February
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next CCwP Meeting Thursday 14th May 6.30pm to 8.30pm – Term dates to be taken forward • Is there a timescale for the procurement of the online payment system? • Corstorphine looking for recruitment training dates • Blackhall still waiting for answer on Sports Scotland query 	AB to take forward MW will check MW to email
	<u>Next Meeting</u> Wednesday 29 April 2015	