

## North Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Item 7.5

Tuesday 10 February 2015

Leith Academy 6.30pm to 8.30pm

**Chair:** Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

**Minutes:** Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

### Present:

Paula McVay, PC Chair, St David's RC Primary School

Sandra Rathjen, PC Rep, Broughton Primary School

Sharon Mortimer, PC Rep, Craigmoynton High School

Gillian O'Rourke, HT, Broughton Primary School

Anna Bowman, Parent Council Rep, Leith Academy

Helen Bourquin, CLD

Colette Woods, PC Rep, Trinity/ Wardie/Victoria Primary School

Chris Byrne, PC Rep, Abbeyhill Primary School

Jack Simpson, HT, Leith Academy

Alex Black, PC Rep, Broughton High School

Stephan Eisenhardt, PC Rep, Craigentinny Primary School

1.	<b>Apologies:</b> Alison Franks, Parent Council Co-Chair, Stockbridge Primary School Andrew McMillan, PC Chair, Trinity Academy Lindsay Law, PC Chair, Flora Stevenson Primary	Action
2.	<b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u></b> Page 1 – Agreed Page 2 – Agreed. Rising Rolls presentation sent out. Improving School Websites - Graeme Smith has produced School Website Guidelines (access at <a href="http://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolsontheweb">http://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/schoolsontheweb</a> . 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 sent a report about their website. Aiming for consistency across the council. Free fruit query – this will be raised with Peter Watten at CCwP Page 3 – Agreed Leith Academy met last week with Moira Ross and Vivien Buller FM re school meals. Positive meeting but awaiting further information on next steps. Savings from music tuition – this has been achieved by not replacing music specialists leaving the service	PC Rep to report back at next meeting

3.	<p><b><u>Directors Report – Moyra Highlighted Key Points from the Report</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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 this Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February. The intention is still to protect schools from any significant budget cuts.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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 can be sent electronically by contacting Moyra.</li> <li>4. <u>Community Access to Schools</u> – Helen Bourquin reported that things are very much in the transition phase just now and need to be in. This will be managed on an area basis with a move towards four localities. An administrative Hub will be created in one office in each area. New charging scheme will be in place from autumn – standard/concession and commercial rates. Moyra to ask for FAQ sheet to be resent.</li> <li>5. <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 from North as follows:-       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Overall schools pleasantly surprised with roll out</li> <li>o Timescales for lunch can be a bit disruptive</li> <li>o Broughton PS has seen uptake increasing and managing the process well. Much less waste.</li> <li>o Abbeyhill PS – 75% take-up and is manageable with some space issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. <u>First Minister Visits</u> – very successful</li> <li>7. <u>Special Schools Partnership Working</u> trip to panto was an incredible undertaking but very well enjoyed and appreciated and funded. May become a regular event.</li> <li>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 <a href="http://www.joininedinburgh.org">www.joininedinburgh.org</a>.</li> <li>9. <u>Education, Children and Families Committee</u> – next meeting on 3rd March. Committee papers available online on 25<sup>th</sup>. Next CCwP 26<sup>th</sup> February.</li> <li>10. <u>Improving School Websites</u> – see above.</li> </ol>	
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4.	<p><b><u>Vision For Schools</u></b>  This is a regular item of reporting to the council and will be reported on again in March.  Moyra distributed a sheet outlining what is currently being done under each vision heading and asked for feedback from parent councils on what they feel is working well and what areas need development.  Initial comments from around the table were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years 600 hours now in place</li> <li>• Early years collaborative has additional funding available</li> <li>• Schools achieving 2 hours of PE a week is a success</li> <li>• CB asked how CfE is bedding down in schools. JS advised that all secondary schools were undertaking a Broad General Education (S1-S3) review with their Quality Improvement Officer Schools and an overview of this should be available by the end of the session.</li> <li>• Concerns over the Scottish model of a broad general education in junior phase diluting choices in senior phase. JS stated that time is being spent on fewer subjects for better depth as CfE aims to look at quality of learning and not quantity of awards.</li> <li>• AB felt that education had much better connections now and learning between curricular areas is much more positive and prepares pupils more successfully for working life.</li> <li>• GO – In primary schools, CfE is based on skills for learning and developing skillsets and is context based. Takes more time but leads to better learning and understanding.</li> <li>• It was generally felt that initially parents had a lot of concerns over the new qualifications and the numbers of awards but these fears are being allayed.</li> <li>• School leavers – AB felt that this should have a greater focus as there doesn't seem to be anyone with a complete overview or the breadth and depth of knowledge to help pupils reach positive destinations. Is there a resource issue with careers advisers and should career conversations start earlier. There are resources available and pupils should be encouraged to take more responsibility for accessing these.</li> <li>• S3 Subject Choice – seems to be a very short timescale from information being provided and choices having to be made. This is down to the individual school as different methods of communication are being used.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b><u>Property/Facilities Management</u></b>  Peter Watten will be attending the next CCwP and each neighbourhood has been asked to provide a list of any comments issues to be raised.</p>	MW to forward to PW
6.	<p><b><u>Better Relationships Policy</u></b>  The policy was sent out to schools and parent councils for feedback. Moyra thanked all the parent councils for their responses. All the information is being collated and any changes required being made to provide an updated version to be issued in April.</p>	MW to distribute in April
7.	<p><b><u>Appointment of Parent Rep to Education, Children and Families Committee</u></b>  New appointee required for session 2015/16  CCwP members will be asked to nominate candidates and there will be a ballot at CCwP should there be more than one nomination.  Names to Moyra if interested.</p>	PC names to MW

	Alex Black volunteered to continue as Secondary Rep to CCwP. Moyra will check with Lyndsey Law re primary.	
8.	<p><b><u>Neighbourhood Issues/Updates</u></b></p> <p>Broughton PS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• positive feedback on consultation on term dates</li> <li>• lack of availability of supply staff. There is a proposal to recruit supply staff centrally and for work in schools. The problem is partly due to the changes in rates of pay for supply staff</li> </ul> <p>Abbeyhill PS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Streets Pilot – community consultation took place in December. Neighbours seemed to be very supportive and it is planned to go ahead in August.</li> </ul> <p>St David's RC PS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have had a parent query re the educational stance on dealing with dyslexia. Moyra confirmed that all additional support needs are looked into. There is a lot of information on the website. Parent to be advised to discuss further with HT</li> </ul> <p>Trinity PS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPD session for staff and parents on dyslexia. Very good and very positive feedback.</li> </ul> <p>Broughton HS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can there be more effort from the centre to encourage parents to get involved. Leith Academy are going to use parent council to send the email out to all parents.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b><u>Property and Meal Issues</u></b></p> <p>Property and Meal issues have been sent to Peter Whatton</p>	
	<p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Monday 11 May at Leith Academy</p>	