

West Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Wednesday 29 April 2015

Tynecastle High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager

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
 Ros Astor, PC Chair, Balgreen Primary School
 Steven Budge, PC Rep, Kirkliston Primary School
 Helen Donaldson, HT, Cramond Primary School
 Gareth Oakley, PC Chair, Craiglockhart Primary School
 Audrey McColl, PC Rep, Corstorphine Primary School
 Paul Millan, PC Chair, Roseburn Primary School
 Sharon Croome, PC Rep, Carrick Knowe Primary School
 Graeme Thompson, HT, Forrester High School
 Alison Bowyer, PC Chair, Craigmount High School
 Mark Stewart, PC Chair, Gylemuir Primary School
 Jill Jones, PC Rep, Fox Covert ND Primary School
 Grant Knight, PC Chair, Forrester High School

Apologies:

Luke McCullough, PC Chair, Royal High School/Clermiston Primary School
 Alan Kirkpatrick, PC Rep, Royal High School
 Morag Thomas, PC Rep, Tynecastle High School
 Stacy Fleming, PC Rep, Broomhouse Primary School
 Colin Grahamslaw, PC Chair, Blackhall Primary School
 Julie Fairhurst, PC Chair, Fox Covert ND Primary School
 Rebecca Mill, PC Chair, Cramond Primary School
 Sarah Hinks, PC Chair, Clermiston Primary School
 Catherine Ramsay,

		Action
1/2.	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Moyra welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.	
3.	<u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 2, Point 3 - Moyra contacted Gavin Brown and he in turn got in touch with St Augustine's. Page 3, Point 6 – All available Rising Rolls information was sent out. Still waiting for an answer to the Cammo question. Page 3, Point 7 – Better Relationships Procedure (not policy). Widely consulted upon. HTs happy with content. Now goes to GT/SMT for sign off before going back out to schools. An overarching policy will come out after summer encompassing this and attendance. Page 3, Point 8 – Organised by committee services. CCwP will vote on rep in May. Gareth Oakley had said he would stand for nomination. Page 4, Point 9 – Peter Watten and Murdo McLeod came to CCwP to address the issues raised by parent councils about facilities management. The service has reduced the number of subcontractors used from 50 to 3 and work is now better able to be tracked and monitored having one line of supply and using tablets. Better performance review will look at accountability and timescales. PW has	MW to feedback re Cammo MW to send out when available

	<p>been in touch with business managers to find out what the issues are and what work is outstanding. Very open, honest and positive meeting. PPP schools in different scope.</p> <p>Page 4, Point 9 – QHS still having Wi-Fi issues. MW to contact IT solutions and she has already emailed about Fox Covert.</p> <p>Page 4 AOB – Online payment system is still being looked at nationally but MW will keep it on the agenda. Recruitment dates and Sports Scotland information was sent.</p>	<p>MW to contact IT solutions</p> <p>LL put on agenda for next meeting</p>
4.	<p><u>Directors Report – Moyra Highlighted Key Points from the Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>CCwP</u> – Presentation on Educational Attainment (secondary) using Insight. Aiming to share information more widely using more relevant comparators. Very positive response. Update on FM as above. Peter Watten got involved with a security problem at Craiglockhart PS and came up with a cheaper and better solution and he has been in touch with Cramond about ongoing issues. 2. <u>Budget</u> – balanced for 14-15 but £14m to find this year. School budgets have been protected. 3. <u>Vision for Schools</u> – report went up to last committee. 4. <u>Education, Children and Families Committee</u> - Papers were available from 3 March and papers for next meeting will be on line on 13 May. 5. <u>Third Party Working Group</u> – looking at how grants and commissions are awarded. Redesigning partnership approach with the voluntary sector. Report going to C and F committee in May. 6. <u>Sports Hubs and Active Schools</u> – Kirkliston Primary School were surprised that they had not been consulted about the proposal for a joint Kirkliston/Queensferry hub. They will contact David Bruce for more information. 7. <u>Placing In Schools</u> – all parents were advised earlier than usual and seven weeks ahead of the statutory deadline. As a result, appeals are now starting earlier. There has also been a second round of placements allocating more spaces which resulted in 5 schools moving out of the appeals process. Neil McIntosh advised that although Kirkliston PS was not on the list they were already full in P1, 2 and 3 with 12 catchment pupils on the P2 waiting list being transported to other schools. Although there is an extension being built, this may not necessarily solve the problem. Guaranteed catchment places only at P1 by 28 February. 8. <u>Primary School New Builds</u> – Balgreen has ongoing issues with new build and composite classes are not the long term solution. Feel that there is a lack of long term thinking and the longer it is left, the more expensive buildings will become. Roseburn are on the rising rolls list but Balgreen and Roseburn are linked re catchment area. Crawford McGhie will be out to consult with schools that are affected. 9. <u>Catchment Review Towerbank PS</u> – is taking place. Consultations in May and June. 10. <u>Defibrillators in all Secondary Schools</u> – this is being rolled out. 11. <u>Safer Internet Day</u> - went very well 12. <u>Early Years</u> – funding in place for the changes to hours 13. <u>Teacher Numbers</u> – funding received for recruitment. Trying to retain NQT's and fill areas of shortage. 14. <u>Study guides</u> – have been sent out and are being well used by pupils and staff 15. <u>Schools Recognised Nationally</u> – Castlebrae and Craigroyston High Schools 	<p>NM to contact DB</p>

	16. <u>Meeting Dates</u> – Education Committee 19 th May, papers available 13 th May.	
5.	<u>Equalities, Anti Bullying</u> For the first time on 9 th June from 7pm – 9pm there will be a course for parent councils on equalities and how to involve other parents. Angie Arthur will send out details when the venue is confirmed.	AA to send details to parent councils
6.	<u>Placements, Rising Rolls</u> Gradually coming to secondaries. Billy McIntyre is in charge of planning ahead for this and John Campbell has been seconded as HT adviser in planning stage.	
7.	<u>Term Date Consultation</u> A lot of concern from parent councils about the present term dates and how they were agreed. Feedback from parent councils was taken back to CCwP and Ron Waddell constructed a survey. 10,000 replies received and feedback has informed a report to go to committee on 19 th May. Gillian Tee has taken on board the views of parent councils and was taken aback that the view was that the dates had already been set. Stated that there is no hidden agenda and have looked at the feedback re phrasing of questions and exam dates for secondary schools.	
8.	<u>Issues</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigmount HS – instrumental music tuition. Parents would like to know what the policy is and how it is applied. Confusion about selection and funding as primary pupils get to carry on into secondary. Also concern about the number of instrumental instructors retiring and not being replaced. Lack of teachers will impact on pupils sitting grade exams. MW will contact Linda Lees and ask her to send out details of the Policy and how pupils who didn't get music tuition in primary or go to private tuition can access music in schools. It was also highlighted that there is a programme of free tuition called "Sounds Like Friday, Sounds Like Saturday" that has tutors in drumming, guitar etc. Details on website. • St Cuthbert's PS – Learning and Communications and Hutchison Huts are coming apart, gaps in the walls and not watertight. Health and safety issue. • RHS – any update on localities and how it will affect neighbourhood groups. Still ongoing discussions about this and more information will be available next session. • Roseburn PS – next summer the flood prevention scheme will build on Roseburn Park. The school uses this for fairs and sports and was wondering what alternatives there will be. Murrayfield and St Georges were suggested. Any other ideas to Roseburn. 	<p>MW to contact Linda Lees</p> <p>MW to contact property</p> <p>MW to update at next meeting</p> <p>Any ideas back to Roseburn PC MW to contact relevant officers</p>

9.	<p><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Council Self Evaluation Toolkit is ready and will come out before the summer • Craiglockhart PS – have invited guest speakers along to parent council AGM so that the business section is very short and the talks are of interest to parents. Talk on Well Being lately attracted more parents. • St Cuthbert's – Loose Materials Play Area – this has been a great success and received very positive feedback. Kids are encouraged to have imaginative play with pallets, tyres, piping etc. There are also session for parents. The sessions are run by Learning and Community Development. Louise Caldwell from the play team is happy to run session for parents. • Cramond PS – changes to eating practices. No food allowed outside during break time so there is more time to play. More time then after to look at food and healthy eating. • Castleview PS have been applauded for leading the way with loose play and would be happy to help other parent councils. • SPTC – Forrester HS, Brunstane PS, Castleview PS and Greengables Nursery schools working together on a project on parent partnership working. Details on SPTC website. 3 local authorities involved – Angus, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Based on Epstein research from America on parental engagement. Pleased to be part of the project. • Deferment Road Shows – are they going ahead? MW to find out and email. • EDUtalk website was recommended and has Epstein keynote speech on blog • Forrester Cluster Group – decided to take one action point to take forward to the High School. Focussing on transition and how parents can work with pupils at home re feelings etc. Linked to strategy document and trying to tease out issues. • Corstorphine PS – Held Mr Wuffles week – no uniform, no timetable, feedback was excellent, pupils very engaged and driving creativity. Made new friendship groups and strengthened bonds. It was a really useful event and has led to a change in golden time. Article will be in GTC news. • Craigmount HS – involved in a study through the National Parent Forum on the attainment gap. Very interesting evening chaired by Rocket Science. A report will be going to Scottish Government. Wide range of schools involved. It was noted that it was felt that the National Parent Forum is going from strength to strength. 	MW to email information
8.	<p><u>AOCB</u> Gareth Oakley and Alison Bowyer to attend CCwP on 14th May.</p>	
	<p><u>Next Meeting</u> To Be Confirmed</p>	