

East Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Tuesday 12 May 2015

Item 8.6

Portobello High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Maria Plant, Inclusion Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Present:

Gordon Kaye, PC Rep, The Royal High Primary School

Lindsay Watt, HT, Castleview Primary School

Jean Clarkson, PC Chair, Castleview Primary School

David Robertson, PC Rep, Duddingston Primary School

Ian Johnston, PC Chair, PC Chair, Duddingston Primary School

Ruth Wood, PC Rep, Parsons Green Primary School

Steven Dishon, PC Rep, Towerbank Primary School (To be replaced by Eilidh Scott)

Apologies:

Lorraine Legrix, Head Teacher, Holyrood High School RC

Kirsty McWilliam, Parent Council Chair, St John's RC Primary School

Patrick Rovers, St John's RC Primary School

Norma Prentice, HT, Castlebrae High School

1/2.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Maria Plant welcomed everyone to the meeting which she was chairing on behalf of Moyra Wilson and apologies were noted as above. Stephen Dishon advised that he was leaving Towerbank and the new contact would be Eilidh Scott.</p>	<p>Action Angie Arthur to update PC details</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Query about Teen Triple P – this is a positive parenting programme and Castleview PS would like information sent out. Maria will ask Moyra to send out flyers. Page 2 – Ruth Wood asked for an update on the school meals issues. If this was raised with Peter Watten at the CCwP, the details will be in the minutes which will be sent out to pc chairs. Page 2 – Amend “Better Relationships Policy” to “Procedure”. MP to check with MW if this was distributed. Reminder that CCwP meeting is on 14th May. David Robertson volunteered to attend.</p>	<p>MW to send information to Castleview PS</p> <p>MW to update on school meals issues</p> <p>LL/MW to update minutes</p>
4.	<p><u>Directors Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Page one – No issues raised</u> 2. <u>Page Two – No issues raised</u> 3. <u>Page Three – No issues raised</u> 4. <u>Page 4 – Placing In Schools</u> Maria advised that the process had been completed much earlier this year and as a consequence, the appeals process has started and will be finished before the school holidays. 5. <u>Page 5 – Towerbank Catchment Review</u> Stephen advised that he had now moved out of the catchment area. Consultation has just started on the review and there are 3 options. First meeting is on 21st May at Towerbank PS. Parents would like a sibling guarantee and one option is to reduce the catchment area to allow this. There will be a knock on effect on other schools as well. The parent council has been talking to parents and taking their views. The main issue is a lack of space to build or expand. Changing a catchment area can also have implications for housing etc. Gordon Kaye from Royal high PS told the meeting that although there was a new building development which is nearer Towerbank PS, the pupils would be coming to Royal High. The Royal high roll will go down however, as 	

	<p>so many out of catchment places were allowed in previously that should have gone to Craigentenny PS. Maria agreed that it was a difficult situation and any appeals regarding placements are always stressful for all involved.</p> <p>6. <u>Pages 6 – 10</u> - No issues raised</p> <p>7. <u>Page 11</u> – Dates of future meetings to be noted.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Equalities, Anti Bullying</u></p> <p>There are two courses on this topic which are open to parents running on 9th June from 4.30pm – 6.30pm (Course Code CF2106) and from 7pm – 9pm (Course Code CF 2188). These are to help parent councils to engage with culturally diverse groups and migrant population. Venue to be confirmed. Courses can be booked through schools or check on CEC website.</p>	Parent councils to book through school if interested
6.	<p><u>Placements, Rising Rolls</u></p> <p>Appeals process has now started. There is no sibling guarantee for out of catchment places.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castlevie PS – had a visit from the First Minister following a very good inspection and also had a visit from David Walliams which came about after P5 wrote in to the One Show. He arrived by helicopter and stayed for over an hour. The children stayed on in school after 3.30. He entered to “500 Miles” with flag bearers and was interviewed by a P5. Each class put forward a question. He then read a chapter from his book and there was absolute silence. 150 books were donated to the school and it has raised an interest in reading. The visit was mentioned in many articles including Hello and Daily Mail. A fantastic afternoon. 	
8.	<p><u>Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RHPS - Supply teachers. Still having a terrible time trying to get supply cover. There was a recruitment drive but it is difficult to get people who want to go on the list due to the rate change and an obvious preference for a permanent rather than temporary contract. There seems to be a number of issues around pay, number of students being taken on, number of graduates staying on in the profession or choosing to move abroad. The supply issue is brought up at HT meetings every time. MW to be asked to raise it at CCwP. • Duddingston PS – School Streets Pilot – what is happening with this? MW to find out and report back. • Brunstane Development– is this now to be stopped? Have heard that the developers could pull out or a decision could be made to release the land now or four years down the line. MW to ask Crawford McGhie • Localities – is there any more information about the effect of this on neighbourhoods. More information to be made available next session. • 14m of savings. If the school budgets are protected, where will these savings be made? Need clarity on the effect on services to schools. MP will take these issues to MW 	<p>MW to take to CCwP</p> <p>MW to update</p> <p>MW to speak to CM</p> <p>MW to provide info when available</p> <p>MW to take forward as an issue</p>
	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>To Be Confirmed</p>	