

West Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Item No. 7.1

Monday 31 August 2015

St Augustine's High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Boroughmuir High School

Present:

Alison Hancock, PC Rep, Queensferry High School
 Steven Budge, PC Rep, Kirkliston Primary School
 John Wood, HT, Queensferry High School
 Gareth Oakley, PC Chair, Craiglockhart Primary School
 Billy Samuel, PC Rep, Corstorphine Primary School
 Alison Bowyer, PC Chair, Craigmount High School
 Alex Ramage, Parent Rep, Education, Children and Families Committee
 Luke McCullough, PC Chair, Royal High School
 Lesley Nock, HT, Davidsons Main's Primary School
 Claire McDowell, PC Rep, Cramond Primary School
 Leon Wylie, PC Rep, St Margaret's Primary School
 Sue McKendrick, PC Chair, Tynecastle High School
 Helen Black, PC Rep, Dalry Primary School

Apologies:

Neil McIntosh, PC Chair, Queensferry High School
 Anne Ambler, PC Rep, Tynecastle High School
 Colin Grahamslaw, PC Chair, Blackhall Primary School
 Jenny Scott, PC Rep, St Cuthbert's Primary School
 Rebecca Mill, PC Chair, Cramond Primary School
 Sarah Hinks, PC Chair, Clermiston Primary School
 Leigh Mowat, PC Rep, St David's Primary School

		Action
1/2.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u> Moyra welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new session and apologies were noted as above.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Luke McCullough asked that Clermiston Primary School be removed as he is now only the PC Chair for The Royal High School Page 1 – Information was provided on the Cammo question Page 1 – The Better Relationships Procedure was sent out for consultation. The final policy will be coming out shortly. Page 2 – QHS dealing with IT issues Page 2 – Online payments on main agenda Page 2 – Kirkliston meeting held Page 3 – Equalities courses were cancelled Page 3 – Instrumental music tuition – no contact from Linda Lees. Alison advised that Craigmount HS had no instructor for over 6 weeks and the grade exams had to be deferred. Instructor on place now but would still like to know the rationale behind the type of instructor allocated to schools and the way places are allocated as different age groups and instruments are being offered across schools. Luke added that he was also waiting for a response from Linda about the cut in funding of the Arts Awards Scheme. Alex to take forward to CCwP. Page 3 – Property issue at St Cuthbert's. Need to get feedback from HT. Page 3 – Roseburn PS new HT, need feedback on this issue</p>	<p>LL update minutes</p> <p>MW to contact Linda Lees again and item to go on agenda for CCwP</p>

	Page 4 – Deferment Road Shows – none were held this year.	
4.	<p><u>Directors Report – Moyra Highlighted Key Points from the Report</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>CCwP 14th May</u> Presentation from Crawford McGhie was interesting and it was good to see forward planning and capacity planning. Dave McKee’s presentation was very useful re devices, how to use them to best effect and how to implement BYOD. Alex Ramage was elected to Education, Children and Families Committee. He will attend all the neighbourhood meetings in this round to introduce himself and he provided his email information parentrep.edin@gmail.com Music tuition was touched on and Andy Gray said that they would try to reach as many pupils as possible and the service would continue. Term dates – the huge response to this was noted and the strength of feeling. It was confirmed that there was no hidden agenda. Luke asked about the section of the report that stated that there may be radical change in the future but there was no mention of this and nothing in the pipeline. Dates are now set until 2018. 2. <u>Exam Update</u> Very positive results but schools are still waiting for the outcome of any post results service reviews and release of Nat 4 qualifications for pupils who failed Nat 5. 3. <u>Positive Destinations for School Leavers</u> Very positive as well and figures at highest rate ever. Unknowns have dropped from 20 to 8. 4. <u>Literacy</u> Edinburgh is doing well and numeracy will be looked at next. 5. <u>Budget</u> Balanced for this year but more cuts are needed. Moyra asked if parents would be happy to have the second CCwP meeting in November/December to be purely about the budget. This was agreed in principle but with the proviso that all parent council chairs are proactively encouraged to come and that proposals are sent out beforehand for review and discussion. 6. <u>Transformational Change</u> Proposals put forward to look at delivering more effective services and saving costs. 7. <u>Children and Families Awards</u> Over 50 entries from Children and Families. Ceremony on September 28th. 8. <u>Play Day</u> Took place on 29th July. Great event and good fun. Well attended. 9. <u>Edinburgh Early Learning and Childcare Academy</u> Launched in August 2014 and the first group of modern apprentices have completed their first year. They are based in nursery classes, nursery schools and early years centres across the authority and receive training from Edinburgh College. Programme being developed to meet future needs of the workforce. 10. <u>Mentors in Violence Protection</u> First award ceremony has taken place with young mentors from Portobello, Craigroyston and Holyrood talking about the impact the programme is having on their schools and in developing them as leaders. 11. <u>Integrated Children’s Service Board</u> Looking at improving support for children with mental health difficulties. 	

	<p>12. <u>Career Academy Scotland</u> Rebranding as Career Ready and they have a new website. All 23 high schools will be involved and each school will have at least 5 businesses linked to them over a two-year period. – have been sent out and are being well used by pupils and staff</p> <p>13. <u>New Portobello High School</u> Topping out ceremony has taken place. On track to open in the Autumn of 2016.</p> <p>14. <u>National Review of Early Years Workforce</u> Aileen McLean has been invited to participate as a member of the National Review of the Early Years Workforce. CEC cited as one example of the best early learning focuses within Scotland.</p> <p>15. <u>Various Parenting projects going on around the city and being well received</u></p> <p>16. <u>Kirsty Rosie</u> Congratulations on her appointment as Head of Additional Support Service in May</p> <p>17. <u>Games at The Hub</u> 1100 P6 pupils took part in this event and had the chance to enjoy taster sessions in many sports. Date for next year is 24th May.</p> <p>18. <u>ICT</u> A new contract was approved and CGI was successful. They will take over from BT next year.</p> <p>19. <u>Achievements and Awards</u> Congratulations to all mentioned.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Online Payments</u> Nothing concrete to report as yet. The project is tied up with the IT contract and the national framework. Was meant to be rolled out after Easter. Parents and schools are desperate to have it. To be raised at CCwP. Parents would like more information on what the hold-up is and why other authorities are able to go ahead.</p>	AR to raise at CCwP. MW to get more information.
6.	<p><u>Parent Representatives in Appeals Committee</u> Moira asked the parent council representatives to ask their parents to consider joining the appeals panels for placement and exclusion appeals. Meetings can last for a couple of hours and are held during the day There are now very few parents volunteering but with more reps there would be less appeals for each to go to. Training is given. Any interested parties to email Moira Wilson. Names go to the CCwP. Won't be asked to sit on appeals for own school. Appeals are heard in the city chambers.</p>	MW to email request to all PC chairs.
7.	<p><u>Localities</u> Currently, there are 5 neighbourhood groups and one special schools group. Services are now to be based in 4 localities around high schools and their cluster primaries with partner agencies e.g. health and police. Head teachers asked for localities to come into place from the beginning of the school session. West neighbourhood would become North West and would lose Tynecastle but gains Trinity, Broughton and Craigroyston. Following discussion, the following points/queries were raised: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be proportionate representation to CCwP i.e. do we keep 12 reps or do larger groups get more reps – could retain 5 x 2 reps plus special schools or move to 4 x 3 plus 1. • Can information on school rolls in each locality be provided • If the groups are larger, it could make decision making more difficult • MW suggested keeping it as is until December, then meet in localities from January and review next year • It is useful to have an agenda planning meeting but the issues raised are dependent on who turns up e.g. primary or secondary. • Difficulty of getting times for meetings 	Parent councils to discuss and email feedback to MW asap to take to CCwP

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next CCwP 1/10 – MW to gather views from all neighbourhoods and raise at meeting. Parental strategy to be reviewed end of 2016 • PC reps to take back to meetings and discuss. Feedback to Moyra. 	
8.	<p><u>Foster Care Recruitment</u> Edinburgh is very short of foster carers and is very keen to recruit more. There are fees and allowances for every child which equates to a full time salary. Foster carers can request to be full-time, part-time or flexible and can request age ranges. It takes about 9 months to become a carer with preparation groups and training taking place at night and at weekends. MW will email more information and would ask parent council chairs to put out to parents.</p> <p><u>Coordinated Management Review Groups</u> MW has been asked by the team leader to advise parents that they are looking to gather a working group of parents to look at the information and resources available about wellbeing and GIRFEC (Getting It Right for Every Child). MW will email more information and parents should email their names to MW if they are interested in joining. There will be about three sessions at times to suit.</p>	MW to send out information for PC chairs to circulate on both of these items.
9.	<p><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigmount High School – visit from Angela Constance when results were published <p>It was suggested that if this is to be a standing agenda item, it would be better to nominate someone for the following meeting to prepare a presentation on good practice in their school rather than trying to think of items on the night. PC chairs to let MW know who and what the theme will be. Angie Arthur will send a reminder before the next round of meetings</p>	AA to ask for nominees before next meeting
10.	<p><u>Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigmount HS – new AstroTurf provided but asking for £12k to provide goal posts. The school has no money for these so what is the council policy on funding? • Corstorphine PS – priority nurse build, engagement ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issues re meeting legislative size of playground. 80% towards target through grounds development ○ Waitrose – company have now put in planning application, implications for school and traffic ○ Smell from boys toilets – have raised it previously, not a health and safety issue but unpleasant and throughout school. New tiles were put in over old and smell can't be removed. ○ School meal provision – decided to get a parental view and the feedback was mixed re quality and quantity. Asked for view of other schools. Not many other issues apart from portion size <p>John Wood suggested that parent councils should invite FM to their meetings. These issues need to be sorted out locally and feedback given to FM on matters arising. Cost is always going to be a factor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalry PS – previous issue with school dinners and lack of choice now resolved. Concern now over thought going into vegetarian choices and meals for diabetic children. Getting nutritional values is very difficult due to portion sizes and at least twice a week there are not enough carbs provided in the meals. There is a booklet prepared on dealing with diabetes in schools. Refer to FM. • RHS – parent council are writing a formal complaint to SQA re the higher maths exam. They feel that the pupils sitting the old higher were disadvantaged as the papers were virtually the same. No statistical analysis has been provided re pass rate. <p>Also writing to Lothian Buses as they have had reports of pupils</p>	<p>MW to contact Robin Yellowlees Steven Budge to contact Alison with information re Kirkliston</p> <p>MW to refer issues from Corstorphine and Dalry to FM</p>

	not being allowed on buses with their Young Scot cards as the driver will not accept their P7 picture as valid ID. Lothian buses accepts that young people should not be denied transport. Let Luke know if there are any other bus issues at other schools.	Schools to contact LM with any similar issues
11.	<u>AOCB</u> Gareth and Alison to attend CCwP	
	<u>Next Meeting</u> To Be Confirmed	