

East Neighbourhood Group Meeting

Tuesday 15 September 2015

Item No. 7.4

Portobello High School 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Chair: Maria Plant, Inclusion Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Boroughmuir High School

Present:

Brian Jennings, Partnership Development Manager
Alex Ramage, Parent Rep, Education, Children and Families Committee
Liz Creelie, PC Chair, Parsons Green Primary School
Gordon Kaye, PC Rep, The Royal High Primary School
Lindsay Watt, HT, Castleview Primary School
Karen Morris, HT, Duddingston Primary School
Ian Johnston, PC Chair, PC Chair, Duddingston Primary School
Sarah Ross, PC Rep, St Catherine's Primary School
Kevin Brack, HT, Brunstane Primary School
Norma Prentice, HT, Castlebrae High School

Apologies:

Willie French, Head Teacher, Royal High Primary School
Kirsty McWilliam, PC Chair, St John's RC Primary School
Jeannie Clarkson, PC Chair, Castleview Primary School

1/2.	<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.	Action
3.	<u>GIRFEC Working Group</u> Brian Jennings was introduced. By way of background, GIRFEC (getting it right for every child) was implemented in Edinburgh in 2008. At that time there were leaflets and information sessions made available to parents but lately they have been concentrating on providing information to staff groups and partner agencies. With the introduction of the Education and Young Peoples Act in 2014, they now want to update and share information with parents and are asking parent councils to let them know of parents who might be interested in joining a working group to look at what resources are currently available and how these could be updated for parents. There will be three sessions, 2 before Christmas and one after, lasting a couple of hours each at a time to be agreed. They would like to start in October in order to have information ready for the introduction of the named person legislation being implemented next year. It would be good to have a mix of parents from primary and secondary school. PC chairs to circulate to parents and send names to Moyra Wilson to pass on.	PC Chairs to ask for parent volunteers. Names to MW asap
4.	<u>Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</u> Page 1 – Teen Triple P information has not been received. Maria will ask Moyra to send out flyers. Page 1 – Towerbank presentation – are they getting stricter about targeting catchment schools? Page 2 – Appeals still ongoing. St Catherine's had a high number of requests. No extra teacher will be allocated. There are 5 excepted pupils from appeal.	MW to send information to Castleview PS

5.	<p><u>Directors Report</u> Page 1 – CCwP – Parent Councils feed into the neighbourhood groups which feed into the CCwP and the City of Edinburgh Council elected to have a parent representative on the Education, Children and Families Committee which Alex has been elected to. His contact details are parentrep.edin.@gmail.com. Sarah Ross volunteered to be the primary rep at CCwP. Page 5 – Lindsay advised that Castleview were involved in the PoPP programme. They also have a project called Castleview families growing together where ten families and the school have been given an allotment at Bridgend. Working very well. They are also thinking of getting chickens along with Castlebrae. No other points raised from the report.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Online Payments</u> Nothing further to report as yet. The project is tied up with the IT contract and the national framework. 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
7.	<p><u>Localities</u> Information was given out about the change from neighbourhoods to localities. Education, health, social work and police are to be in aligned in 4 localities to share services. To change parental groups from neighbourhoods to localities will have to be taken to CCwP. High schools and their cluster primaries will still be linked and in the same locality. Representation may change for bigger localities. More information to come. Drummond need confirmation on which locality they are in.</p>	MW to discuss at CCwP and get confirmation for Drummond HS
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. Interested parents can also check information online.</p>	MW to send out more packs to PC's.
9.	<p><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castlebrae HS – won the Green Power Race – won their class and also got best newcomer. They will continue to work on the car for next year. The pupils will get a city and guilds qualification at the end of it. • Castlebrae HS/Castleview PS – development of transition programme was called exemplary by HMI. It was CfE in action and the primaries are developing the link with biomass to deliver science. • Castleview PS – Had an inspection in 2013 and the sign off review was last week. Exemplary work in science. Good work is going on throughout the cluster. Attainment will be a challenge but there needs to be a national measure. Communication between primary and secondary is always improving and they are working much more closely together. • Duddingston PS – now have a brand new nursery where the pupils can be out in all weathers. It is a really well designed space and we are very lucky and grateful to have it. The school streets project is starting on 22/9 which will hopefully be a success. The back roads will be shut for Duddingston and St Johns and the police will be in attendance. 	
10.	<p><u>Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duddingston PS – there is a report out in the Portobello Reporter that has studied the sugar and salt content in packed lunches. 	

11.	<u>AOB</u> Brunstane PS – 10 pupils went to meet the Queen at Waverley Station for the opening of the Borders railway. Had a fantastic time	
	<u>Next Meeting</u> To Be Confirmed	