South Neighbourhood Group Meeting

St Thomas of Aquins High School

Tuesday 22 September 2015

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Manager **Minutes**: Liz Leslie, Boroughmuir High School

Attendees:

Nancy Henderson, CEC

Alex Ramage, Parent Council Rep, Prestonfield PS/Parent Rep Education, Children and Families

Committee

Derek McNeill, Parent Council Chair, Liberton HS Amanda Bissett, Parent Council Rep, Gilmerton PS

Greg Dimeck, HT, Gracemount PS Stephen Kelly, HT, Liberton HS

Fiona McNeill, Parent Council Rep, Taobh na Pairce Richard Darke, Parent Council Chair, Gracemount PS

Ian Willis, Parent Council Chair, Royal Mile Primary School Brenda Ann Cochrane, PC Rep, St Thomas of Aquins HS

Julie Ann Sime, PC Rep, James Gillespie's HS

1./2	Welcome/Apologies: Moyra Wilson welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received from Austin Flynn, Parent Council Rep, St Thomas of Aquins RC HS, Bryan Heaney, Parent Council Rep, St Peters RC PS, Stephen Harrold, Parent Council Rep, Gracemount HS, Louise McSorley, Parent Council Chair, Prestonfield PS	Action
3.	Nancy Henderson was introduced. She is asking all the neighbourhood groups for parent volunteers to join a working group. 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. 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 the working group. 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 circulate and pass names to MW asap
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising Page 1 Better Relationships Policy going to committee in 2 weeks time Page 1 School build at Broomhills has now gone back to reporter. Need another meeting with GT, CMc, HTs and PCs. Page 1 HR confirmed that CEC only require the statutory notice period from teachers and they can leave during term time. Page 1 Playground development have been in touch with JGHS. Page 2 Information on charitable status not received. Page 3 MW contacted Robin Yellowlees and Mel Coutts Page 3 Equalities training didn't run	MW to take this back MW to send out

	_	Cleaning was raised at CCwP but no action. Gilmerton have raised	
		and there is to be another meeting arranged.	
	Page 5	Agreed	
_	Dinasta	and Dancert - Marine Highlighted Very Deinte from the Dancert	
4.	Directo	ors Report – Moyra Highlighted Key Points from the Report	
	1	CCwP 14 th May	
	1.	Presentation from Crawford McGhie on Rising Rolls and capacity	MW to
		planning.	arrange for
		Dave McKee's presentation was very useful re devices, how to use	access to
		them to best effect and how to implement BYOD.	presentations
		Stephen Kelly noted that there were still issues with broadband at	and resend
		Liberton HS	
		Alex Ramage was elected to Education, Children and Families	
		Committee. His email address is parentrep.edin@gmail.com	
	2.	Exam Update	
		Once these are complete there will be a presentation to CCwP.	
		Stephen Kelly advised that the raw scores are not entirely accurate	
		and there won't be a complete picture until February. Attainment	
		has improved across the secondary sector.	
	3.	Positive Destinations for School Leavers	
		Very positive as well and figures at highest rate ever. Unknowns	
		have dropped from 20 to 8.	
	4.	Literacy Ediphyrah is doing well and numerocy will be looked at next	
	_	Edinburgh is doing well and numeracy will be looked at next.	
	5.	Budget 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	AR to raise at
		are proactively encouraged to come and that proposals are sent out	CCwP
		beforehand for review and discussion.	
	6	Transformational Change	
	0.	Proposals put forward to look at delivering more effective services	
		and saving costs.	
	7.	9	
	,.	Over 50 entries from Children and Families. Ceremony on Monday.	
	8.	Play Day	
		Took place on 29 th July. Great event and good fun. Well attended.	
		Ian Willis went to a seminar at Preston Street PS. It was very	
		enlightening and they had a real mixture of speakers, parents and	
		organisations looking at the psychology of play and areas of play.	
		Making spaces for 1-1 and group work. Studies done on the use of	
		sand in play. Parentspark organisation got together and will try to	
		keep it going but funding is an issue. Sciennes PS had match	
		funding. Louise Caldwell is available to help schools and talk to	
		parents. Taobh Na Pairce got funding but can't get it moving	
		forward. They have Playbox in the meantime and it has been very	
		well received by pupils and parents. Need to move play away from	
		the restrictions of health and safety. Funded schools will be running	
		open days.	
	9.	Edinburgh Early Learning and Childcare Academy	
		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. Mentors in Violence Protection

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. Integrated Children's Service Board

Looking at improving support for children with mental health difficulties.

12. Career Academy Scotland

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

13. New Portobello High School

Topping out ceremony has taken place. On track to open in the Autumn of 2016.

14. National Review of Early Years Workforce

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.

15. <u>Various Parenting projects going on around the city and being well received</u>

16. Kirsty Rosie

Congratulations on her appointment as Head of Additional Support Service in May

17. Games at The Hub

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.

18. ICT

A new contract was approved and CGI was successful. They will take over from BT next year.

19. Achievements and Awards

Congratulations to Gracemount PS, Tollcross PS and St Catherine's

5. Online Payments

Nothing further to report. The project is tied up with the IT contract and the national framework. To be raised at CCwP as schools currently using it would not want it to be removed and other schools have parents asking for it to be rolled out.

AR to raise at CCwP

6. Parent Representatives in Appeals Committee

Moyra 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

PC chairs to circulate to parents and get names back to MW

	less appeals for each to go to. Training is given. Any interested parties to email Moyra Wilson. Names go to Committee Services who are in charge of this part of the process. Won't be asked to sit on appeals for own school. Appeals are heard in the city chambers. Julie anne Sime was able to speak about her experiences as a parent rep on the appeals committee.	
7.	Localities	
	Currently, there are 5 neighbourhood groups and special schools. 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. This group would become South East and add Drummond though this needs to be checked as with the placing of Taobh Na Pairce. Proportional representation to CCwP has been suggested with North and South East having extra reps. Needs to be discussed at CCwP.	MW to check final list of schools in each locality. MW/AR to raise at CCwP
8.	Foster Care Recruitment	
	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.	PC Chairs to circulate information to parents
9.	 Update on Schools in South Area Is there any confirmation on St Crispin's school being rebuilt on the 	
	 Burdiehouse space? The Wisp development – 1190 houses with plans to include a two tier primary school but this is not in section 75 Is Castlebrae rebuild to go ahead? Query raised earlier re Broomhill development Gracemount Primary School is to get funding from the Grange development. The developer contributions will fund two new classrooms. 	MW to speak to CMc re queries
10.	 Sharing Good Practice Items to be brought to next meeting 	
11.	<u>Issues</u>	
	 Gracemount PS – used to have parking wardens but they have disappeared. Can call and ask them to attend and also raise with community police Toabh Na Pairce – housing development next to school is impacting on safe entry to school for pupils. Planning was originally for two thirds housing and a care home but now all housing. Would like to know about contribution to the school for developing playground. I discussion with developers and councillors. Catchment issue as school is open to families in Lothians and Fife but only Edinburgh families have places. Longer term need to look at roll of Gillespie's with both Taobh Na Pairce and the new Morningside PS. Gillespie's set to be full by 2020. Billy McIntyre reports to committee on roll forecast and Crawford McGhie has all the latest projections. These are reviewed every December/January. South area is complex re development and 	MW to feedback any information on catchment

	 Staffing issues – down 2.03 staff, recruited 2 then another left. DHT is having to teach. Difficulty of recruiting Gaelic speakers and in getting supply staff in general. Where is the maintenance money from schools that have closed? Schools would need to check with their FM manager. Lindsay Glasgow has been in touch with Gracemount about this. Free School Meals – how is positive action money agreed now that all P1 – P3 are getting free meals. Based on attainment and FSM, report going to committee with recommended changes. Papers out 30/9. 	Schools to contact FM AR to feedback from committee		
12.	AOCB CCwP on 1/10 – Alex Ramage and Ian Willis going as reps Alex will take forward issues from the South to the agenda planning meeting			
	Next Meeting – To be confirmed			