

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 Cochran, PC Rep, St Thomas of Aquins HS

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

| 1./2 | <b>Welcome/Apologies:</b><br>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   | <b>Action</b>                                    |
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| 3.   | <b><u>GIRFEC Working Group</u></b><br>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.   | <b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising</u></b><br>Page 1 Better Relationships Policy going to committee in 2 weeks time<br>Page 1 School build at Broomhills has now gone back to reporter. Need another meeting with GT, CMc, HTs and PCs.<br>Page 1 HR confirmed that CEC only require the statutory notice period from teachers and they can leave during term time.<br>Page 1 Playground development have been in touch with JGHS.<br>Page 2 Information on charitable status not received.<br>Page 3 MW contacted Robin Yellowlees and Mel Coutts<br>Page 3 Equalities training didn't run   | MW to take this back<br><br>MW to send out       |



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|           | <p>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.</p> <p>10. <u>Mentors in Violence Protection</u><br/>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.</p> <p>11. <u>Integrated Children's Service Board</u><br/>Looking at improving support for children with mental health difficulties.</p> <p>12. <u>Career Academy Scotland</u><br/>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><br/>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><br/>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><br/>Congratulations on her appointment as Head of Additional Support Service in May</p> <p>17. <u>Games at The Hub</u><br/>1100 P6 pupils took part in this event and had the chance to enjoy taster sessions in many sports. Date for next year is 24<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>18. <u>ICT</u><br/>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><br/>Congratulations to Gracemount PS, Tollcross PS and St Catherine's</p> |   |
| <p>5.</p> | <p><b><u>Online Payments</u></b></p> <p>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.</p>  | <p>AR to raise at CCwP</p>  |
| <p>6.</p> | <p><b><u>Parent Representatives in Appeals Committee</u></b></p> <p>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</p>   | <p>PC chairs to circulate to parents and get names back to MW</p> |

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|            | 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.   |   |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b><u>Localities</u></b><br>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.<br><br>MW/AR to raise at CCwP |
| <b>8.</b>  | <b><u>Foster Care Recruitment</u></b><br>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                                     |
| <b>9.</b>  | <b><u>Update on Schools in South Area</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there any confirmation on St Crispin's school being rebuilt on the Burdiehouse space?</li> <li>• The Wisp development – 1190 houses with plans to include a two tier primary school but this is not in section 75</li> <li>• Is Castlebrae rebuild to go ahead?</li> <li>• Query raised earlier re Broomhill development</li> <li>• Gracemount Primary School is to get funding from the Grange development. The developer contributions will fund two new classrooms.</li> </ul>   | MW to speak to CMc re queries   |
| <b>10.</b> | <b><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Items to be brought to next meeting</li> </ul>   |   |
| <b>11.</b> | <b><u>Issues</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gracemount PS – used to have parking wardens but they have disappeared. Can call and ask them to attend and also raise with community police</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul> | MW to feedback any information on catchment                                       |

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|     | <p>LDP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> | <p>Schools to contact FM</p> <p>AR to feedback from committee</p> |
| 12. | <p><b><u>AOCB</u></b><br/> CCwP on 1/10 – Alex Ramage and Ian Willis going as reps<br/> Alex will take forward issues from the South to the agenda planning meeting</p>  |   |
|     | <p><b><u>Next Meeting – To be confirmed</u></b></p>  |   |