

## Currie Parent Council

### Minutes of meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2018

Attending were:

Caroline Brown (CB)	Catorina McFarlane (CM)	Peter Reid (PR)
Faeza Nagi (FN)	Sally Hourston (SH)	Willeke Keysers (WK)
David Erskine (DE)	Lisa Syme (LS)	Jennie Edmond
Louise Illingworth	Natalya Galbraith	Basima Afara
Michelle McAndrew (MMA)	Margret Campbell	Michayla Grieg
Jane Robinson	Iain Burgess (IB)	

Apologies:

Susan Webber	Neil Gardiner	Robbie Crockatt
Vicky Parsons	Duncan Fraser	Neil MacKenzie
Graeme Bruce, Laura Nicol		

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

#### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

#### 3. Head Teacher Update

- Current school roll is 446. 87 P1 enrolments received for 2018-2019. There are waiting lists for nursery in the new school year already.
- School attendance record continues to be good and above city average
- Mrs Collings will take over Mrs Turnbull's responsibilities from 18.05.18
- School Extension:
  - Construction works will start from 26<sup>th</sup> March and are expected to be completed by 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018.
  - Pre-start meeting will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 with contractors, school, football representative and city representative. PR will attend to represent PC
  - CB asked how lunch time and resources will be dealt with rising school roll. SH informed that already Lunch hour is split with junior and senior classes taking turns, and similar would work with increased intake.
  - CB asked if construction will cause any disruptions during School activities. SH commented that it will, however it is a known difficulty and is temporary only.
  - LS shared statement from Robbie Crockett with the group.
  - Questions regarding increase staffing was asked. Although it's difficult to comment due to staffing situation might change nearer time, SH gave details on this, possibly 2 permanent positions will open up. School is planning to advertise for 1 x Principal teacher position. Members of PC can attend council provided training. FN and CM volunteered. LS to forward information to them for registration
  - It was noted that provision for synthetic pitch is not clear on current plans but this was a condition from sports Scotland. PR and SH to raise this on pre-planning meeting on 23/3/18

- CM informed that Saturday morning football will be moved to Currie high school for duration of construction
- SH clarified that School sports day will likely take place on grounds of Currie High School this year
- WK asked if handover date for new building is too close to new school year start date. SH agreed, however as most construction is pre-built, hope it meets the date
- IB mentioned items to discuss in pre-start meeting would include site access, traffic control. He added though contractors have worked in schools before and is expected to understand the relevant.
- SQIP
  - Positive feedback from QIEO (Quality Improvement Education Officer)
  - Self-evaluation visit from QIEO in Feb was positive
  - HT & DHT attended course on parental engagement. School is happy with current parental engagement but further improvements can be added in light with this role that CPC can play in next session.
- Priorities
  - P1 – Raise attainment and literacy and numeracy: Use of SNSAs, new reading scheme for P4-P7, and cluster writing moderation events. Formative assessments being led by MMA and is going well. SH explained details of SNSA assessments that are online assessments. Results from these assessment can be requested by parents. These assessments help aid teacher's assessment for pupil progress.
  - P2 – Reducing attainment gap: Learning mentor programs, training courses for staff in Nurture and cluster meeting with authority attainment advisor that received positive feedback. It was discussed that nurture might be established after phase 2 of extension
  - P3 – Wellbeing: plans from pupil council on playground development being discussed, building resilience efforts continued, and pupil wellbeing questionnaire to be issue next term
  - P4 – Improvement in employability skill: On going, pupil council has been active consulting with peers, parents and staff that can be included in curriculum development. LS mentioned it might be good idea to remind all parents to update their children's learning journal to share their wider achievements
- ETHOS
  - SH shared details of various activities that classes have been engaged with, such as P^ & P& cross country team participation , teams took part in Currie and Balerno rotatory Quiz , P7 concerts with Scottish Opera, sticker swap event arrange for P1-P3, and a group of 30 pupil provided entertainment to Gibson hall Monday club. Entire school walked to Currie Kirk Church for Easter wearing their bonnets. Approx. funds from sticker book sale is £2000-2,500.
  - CB asked for music lessons could be arrange through a parents run club. SH advised this may be doable through PTA Clubs and would need liaise with PTA.

#### 4. Chair Update

- LS attended South-West committee meeting that focused on young kid's development. At the committee a presentation was made on how young ones can be introduced to concept of positive destinations and help enable them to be aware of career that possibly don't even exist today. MMA mentioned school used to career sessions before and trend seems to be coming back

- DE gave group a summary update on High School proposal situation. A lot of work done so far is informal consultation that education committee will use to share formal plan to forward to decision committee. All parents bodies from effected school will be meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 ahead of deputation being presented at special meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018
- Group discussed that it is likely primary school catchment boundary changes still go ahead regardless of above as they are planned to take effect from Nov 2018. Although no final decision is clear yet and primary school catchment change is possibly part of high school catchment.
- LS and DE to prepare as head of these meetings for representation from CPS.
- Acknowledgment and thanks to PR for his extraordinary effort and support to get school extension application through the planning committee and ensuring a timely decision is made.

#### **5. Accounts**

- PR: Approximate account balance of £226.31 remaining
- CB to send expenses from Poo campaign to PR for reimbursement
- CM and PR to complete signatures to complete mandate setup

#### **6. Poo Poster Campaign**

- CB shared details with group. Poster winner is Fatima.
- CB asked if school's environment committee would like to take over/ take campaign further.
- Group discussed some suggestions where posters can be displayer for awareness

#### **7. Pickup Time**

- CB represented some parents' concerns with difficulty around 2 pickup time. SH said school understands the inconvenience but current system is useful for school and helps teachers that get non-contracted time from 2:45-3:15. Although School hopes with construction and new one-way system as result of it will hopefully ease the situation, as well as School is working with cluster schools such as Juniper primary to synchronize times where possible.
- Topics of consideration for 2017/18

#### **8. AOB**

- CB mentioned concerns around playgroup behaviour and if use of crates can be mentioned at school assembly. SH confirmed it is already being discussed at assembly regularly and there are no issues due to crates in the playground.

#### **9. 10. DONM**

- The next Parent Council meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018.