

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS COUNCIL – 7 NOV 2015

PRESENT – John Lewis (Chair, JL), Lorne Bourhill, Daria Jarrett (DJ), Alison Mussett (AM), Louise Love (LL), Stevie Gallagher, Helen Brown (Head teacher, Hyndland Primary, HB), Garry Bryne (Depute, Hyndland Primary, GB), Kirsty Chambers (PT, Hyndland Primary, KC), Arshad Hussain, Kate O' Brien, Janie Pickrell

APOLOGIES – Linda McCormick (LM), Stephanie Foggarty, Helen Rolph, Alan Bonnyman (AB)

1. Minutes of the last meetings were approved with changes. They will be posted on the Parent Council website imminently.

2. Actions from the last meeting

i) School building work

ACTION – HB to ask Andy Duff from Glasgow City Council again about them removing the rubbish in the attic referred to in the previous minutes due to it being a health and safety concern.

ii) School website

GB reported that the site is being updated and he'll meet Stephanie soon to talk about next steps

iii) Fundraising

AB has sorted out a deal with the Cricket Club of £50 and it has been provisionally booked for the Quiz night on Fri 4 March.

iv) School renovations – pitch and astoturf

LL asked if the 4Rs covered the pitch at the top. HB reported that they would only do like for like repairs. So they would rake and fill in the red ash covering.

HB reported that the council had been unable to move the rolls of Astroturf that are on the upper pitch. The City Council however had said they would dispose of the Astroturf if it was put in the skip by the Parent Council/school.

ACTION - DJ to look at possible forklifts. JL to email Pat Lawlor and ask if he has any contacts who might be able to help

iv) Calendar

AB had collected most of the pictures from the classes. It was agreed that an A3 calendar would be better, one for each year group, with a picture from each year group class being represented. HB said that the school would send out a leaflet

about the calendars with an order form. They also would not be available at the ceilidh.

For next year the aim would be to have the whole class/year contribute to a picture montage.

ACTION – AB to send details to HB (cost of calendars and with a picture of what one of the calendars might look like). HB/GB to send out leaflet with order form.

v) Other fundraising ideas

School to look at doing tea towels or canvas bags with children's self portraits on for Spring Fayre

vi) Fortrose St complaints

An email had been sent out to Parent Council list about the incidents and there hadn't been any further complaints.

3. Head Teachers Report

i) Refurbishment

Two pilot windows are in, however the builders cut off the phones in the process.

HB showed the meeting mock up boards of the proposed paint colours. HB said that she'd be showing the boards to the classes to get their opinion. HB is unhappy with the choices and wants to try and use a different palette. Also, the Parent Council believed that none of the colours was conducive either to the heritage/conservation status of the school nor to effective learning and teaching. The colours on offer are either too bright and gaudy or have an "institutionalised" look, somewhat reminiscent of a prison colour scheme.

ACTION – HB to decide what course of action she wishes to take and send text and forward images to JL to publicise to parents (website and email)

GB to talk to Ali Walker about putting the pictures up on the Parent Council website

ACTION – JL to contact Jim Wilson and David McLean at GCC to arrange the previously offered visit to recently refurbished schools in Mount Florida and Alexandra Parade. JL will also request a visit to Notre Dame to look at their colour scheme.

HB reported that she thought it unlikely that the work would be finished by June.

ACTION – Andy Duff to be invited to the Feb meeting (24 Feb)

ii) National Improvement Framework

HB reported that in accordance with the Scottish Government's recent decision, there would be standardized testing for P1, P4, P7 and S3 pupils Jan – March 2016. Every child is being tested, even those who have additional support needs. Any child missing tests through absence will have the test rescheduled.

Glasgow is one of the pilot areas. Money has been given by the Government to close the attainment gap (for example by funding additional staffing), however as Hyndland Primary catchment doesn't have a high level of free school meals entitlement the school will not be receiving any of this money. This is highly problematic as the school does have a high number of pupils on free school meals (excluding P1-3 where they're universally free), but approximately 50% of the school roll are from placing requests, which do not qualify for the additional funding, regardless of the socio-economic background of these pupils.

There was a general view among the Parent Council members that a return to National Testing was the wrong approach and is entirely inconsistent with the aims and values of Curriculum for Excellence.

LL asked whether a parent could refuse to allow their child to be tested.

HB reported that there were very few supply teachers available in Glasgow at present, with the school having to cover absences with existing staff. Also, the reduced levels of admin staff at the school had been very challenging.

ACTION – HB to write and ask Maureen McKenna what would happen in the case of parents refusing to have their children participating in the National Tests.

4. MOTR – Record run

LL reported that on Fri 11 Dec at 9am Mums on the Run will be doing a Record Run, running for 33 1/3 minutes round the Cricket Pitch. Afterwards there will be a bake sale in the school basement. Everyone is welcome.

Limited funds will be raised by participating Mums.

ACTION – JL/LB to put in next newsletter

AB/GB said they'd do a Single version for the kids in the playground (3 ½ minutes)

5. Treasurers Report

There was a balance of about £2000 which includes c.£600 for the Emirates Trip

6. Fundraising

Wendy Jordan is going to run the Family Ceilidh. About half a dozen people volunteered to help on the night. AM to meet Wendy Jordan to talk through running the event.

7. Traffic

Douglas Bain is doing a survey for local residents. A new zigzag sign had been put on the railings. GB reported that Glasgow Road Safety had been into classes in the school that week.

ACTION – JL to find parking email from last school year to resend to Parent Council mailing list.

8. Lost Property

DJ was asking about Lost Property and suggesting that it could be given to Cash for Clothes or Rag Bag. HB reported that pupils had been going through the mountain of lost property items and returning anything that was labelled.

ACTION – HB/GB to publicise a deadline for Lost Property items to be collected from the school. After this time then any remaining items can be disposed of (Cash for Clothes, Charity, Rag Bag, etc.)

9. AOB

HR had forwarded a link encouraging the school to take an interest in some of the science around the school's programme for British astronaut Tim Peake's mission to the international space centre:

<http://www.nationalstemcentre.org.uk/timpeake>

Resources are free and the school can also apply for grants for activities. HB said she was aware of this already.

10. Date of next meetings

20 Jan, 24 Feb, 23 March, 20 April, 11 May