Mosshead Primary Parent Council Tuesday, 28 March 2023 - 7pm

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Apologies - SM

PC Members present: Sacha Moonsammy (SM), Susan Yeoman (SY), Anita Eley (AE), Emma

Finlayson (EF), Laura Finnie (LF), Kirsten Flynn (KF), Zsuzsa Haag (ZH), Katie Oman (KO), Michelle Primrose (MP), Shashi Ramachandra (SR),

Felicity Watson (FW), Andrea Wieler Goodbrand (AWG).

Additional attendees: Carolynne Watson (CW), Clerk.

<u>Apologies</u>: Marion Hynd (MH), Laura Quinlivan (LQ).

2. Previous meeting minutes - SM

Approved.

Actions: SY to update website.

Matters Arising - SM

There were no Matters Arising which are not already covered on today's agenda.

3. Head Teacher's report - SY

- Report cards will be issued later this week, and Parents Evenings will take place on 3rd and 4th May.
- The P7s will be completing transition activities with Bearsden Academy, with these carried out via a combination of in-person and online events.
- An event for P7 leavers will be decided in consultation with the children, and an assembly is planned. The P7s will lead the school show in June.
- Transition for the new P1 group will begin in May, and will consist of 2 class visits and a Teddy Bears picnic. The numbers of new P1s will be confirmed at the end of April, but the school anticipate having 2 full classes starting in August.
- A survey of parents has been carried out in relation to the P7 residential for current P5 pupils. Although this seems very early to consult for an event around 2 years away, from experience the school are aware booking needs to be completed by the end of P5. Less than two thirds of parents who responded indicated they are keen for a residential trip. While there could be a range of reasons for this preference, the school are mindful of the current cost of living crisis, impact on finances and increased cost of a residential trip. The Parent Council discussed the possibilities of a shorter trip, options closer to home and the possibility of spreading payments. **SY** agreed that the school will look at options for both residential and stay-at-home trips closer to Mosshead with the intention of putting out a more defined range of options for parents later in April.
- **SY** updated on the recent school improvement planning feedback, noting there were broad areas of corelation in the feedback received from children, parents and staff, particularly around outdoor learning.

 Based on the feedback, the school are planning priorities over the coming 3 years as follows:

2023/24 - Maths (already on the Plan), outdoor learning, PE.

2024/25 - Continue outdoor learning and PE, music.

2025/26 (provisional) – Science, languages, ICT.

4. Position of Chairperson

- **SM** informed the Parent Council that she has taken the decision to step down from her role as Chair and rep at the end of the school year. **SM** asked PC members to consider whether they may be interested in the role of Chair prior to the next meeting in May, with a view to having a new Chair in post following this meeting for continuity post-summer holidays. Any rep who is interested in the role or has questions should email the Parent Council mailbox and **SY**. **SM** will Chair the May meeting, which will be her last with the PC. A new rep will also be required for the class currently represented by SM.

5. Pavement/grass area condition

AWG updated on her recent contact with local Councillors in relation to the condition of the pavement and grass area at the front of the school. Councillor Calum Smith has agreed to meet **AWG** on Thursday 30 March at the school to look at the condition of the ground, and **AE** and **ZH** also agreed to attend. The PC agreed that consideration will need to be given to what could replace the current grass area, and agreed they would like to see some green space here rather than simply tarmacking the ground or using this space for car parking.

6. PC Members items

Regular AIMS discussion: focus on AIM 1 'To work in full partnership with the school to create a welcoming school which is inclusive for all parents'

AE introduced this agenda item, noting that to frame discussion here, she approached class parents for feedback, with responses from 8 parents indicating broadly positive views, including a generally welcoming atmosphere (from school staff and other parents), responsive and friendly approaches from teaching staff, clear school values and events which bring parents into contact with the school, e.g. Sharing the Learning. Some parents noted they would like to see more on Seesaw and a better balance between communication via email and Seesaw, and SY noted that in the past there have been issues with direct messaging on Seesaw and that consequently this function is not used at Mosshead. Parents have the option to comment on posts and write posts on Seesaw, and can also contact the school office if necessary.

AE also noted there was a general perception that the sense of school community is not as strong as it once was, with parents missing the sense of community fostered by PTA events in particular. The PC agreed that the December disco was extremely well-received and it would be good to see events led by the PTA flourishing again. The PC agreed to reach out to the PTA to update them on the feedback and to suggest a joint meeting to see if there is any way the PC can support the PTA around fundraising events and events for the children like discos, fairs etc.

SY noted that Mosshead will be 50 in August-the school opened on 23 August 1973 — and suggested there might be opportunities to mark the occasion in a way that brings the school and wider community together. The PC discussed the possibility of memory boards to be displayed in the school, a book to raise funds for the school and a video of former pupils sharing their memories and stories of the school for YouTube. A sub-group of PC members will get together to plan activities around this, with any interested members to approach **AWG**. The PC also agreed to update the PTA on the upcoming anniversary, with the potential for wider events and fundraising to mark the occasion led by the PTA.

Actions: Those keen to be involved with the anniversary sub-group to approach AWG.

Update on EDC Parent Forum meeting

SR gave an report on the recent EDC Parent Forum meeting, noting Education Committee updates on interventions for parents including numeracy and maths support, a consultation on placing requests, recent education inspections within the local authority and an insight analysis focusing on attainment in EDC secondary schools. The meeting also covered a presentation on the meals served in EDC schools and the nutritional standards to be met, and an update on the School Improvement Plan which focuses on the physical fabric and condition of schools. A Transport working group is also in place and is currently considering ongoing issues concerning traffic management around schools in EDC.

SR also updated on the Education Service Plan 2023/26, a 3 year rolling plan which aligns with the National Improvement Framework and Education Service Policy, detailing action and performance monitoring. The Plan emphasises the human needs and rights of children and the importance of health and wellbeing as well as the importance of improving attainment in literacy and numeracy in order to close the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children.

The next Parent Forum meeting will be held on 16 May.

7. Next Meeting:

- Next meeting set for 30 May 2023.
- Call for agenda items to go out 9 May 2023.
- Agenda items to be submitted by 16 May 2023, to be e-mailed to mossheadparentcouncil@gmail.com