

COMHAIRLE NAM PÀRANT / PARENT COUNCIL
SGOIL GHÀIDHLIG GLASCHU / GLASGOW GAELIC SCHOOL

MIONADEAN / MINUTES

21ST SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 6.30PM

Present: Douglas Morrison (DM), Donalda McComb (DMcC), Fiona MacIntyre (FMaCl), Rona MacDonald (RMacD), Bruce White (BW), Catriona Campbell (CC), Nellie MacIntyre (NMaCl), Johanne Bowman (JB), Iain MacKinnon (IMaCK), Siobhan Campbell (SC), Sara McDonald (SMcD), Deirdre O'Henley (DO'H), Elaine MacLeod (EMaCL)

Apologies: None Received

1. Welcome:

DM welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new school year.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting (09/06/16)

DM wished to confirm the amount allocated to the school from the Scottish Government Improvement Challenge bid was £36900 as mentioned in 3. HT Report. DMcC confirmed she had sent a bid to Maureen McKenna by the end of June.

Otherwise the minutes were approved subject to this update.

3. HT Report

Bun Sgoil

493 pupils in the Primary in 18 classes.

Meet the teacher afternoons and evening have taken place for P1 – P7.

2.1 FT Vacancies in the primary School. Advert for Fixed term Primary Teachers brought forward no applicants – adjustments have been made and both NMaCl and Mrs Monk have been in classes.

1st Enrolment for P1 to take place in November 2016.

Ard Sgoil

Mr MacKenzie start has the new Ghaidhlig Teacher on the 27/09/16.

There is a vacancy for a Maths Teacher, but no appointment was made. Hope to re-advertise in the New Year. Supply staff have been requested to cover the vacancy.

English Teacher post is currently being advertised.

Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIFT) – Currently 2 teachers from SGG on the course. The school have managed to get staff to backfill the posts allowing the two members of staff the opportunity.

Three Support for Learning Worker Posts have been filled – one in the Secondary and two in the Primary

286 pupils on Secondary roll.

Attainment and achievement

CC gave an overview of the current attainment levels and general achievement.

SGG Attendance is high and above the city average – 95.1% across the city - 91.1%

Staying on rate for pupils is also quite high.

| Attainment | SGG | City |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Highers 1 | 94.6 | 49 |
| Highers 3 | 71.4 | 24 |
| Highers 5 + | 25 | 9.6 |
| Advance Higher 3 + | 63.9 | 34.6 |
| Advance Higher 5 + | 47.2 | 21.0 |
| Advance Higher 1 + | 27.8 | 10.5 |

CC confirmed most pupils doing 8 subjects in S4 and 4 to 5 subjects in S5/S6.

DM advised that the results were very good.

CC confirmed that some pupils in S4 have a higher as they were presented early.

Some individuals have 8 A's, 7 A's with a crash higher in Music and 5 A's

There are many other options available for pupils including vocational qualifications. Higher Psychology and Higher Care are available along with Computer Design, Automotive Skills. There is an increase in pupils attending college.

School Improvement.

The school improvement plan priorities include:

Learning and teaching with a focus on literacy.

Nurture – Are we meeting the needs of all our learners, do they feel supported and are they making progress?

The school community also have to focus on closing the gap and support identified pupils with the cost of the School Day. All children and young people should be getting different opportunities and coming from poorer homes should not be a barrier to their learning.

A discussion took place on support for children and young people with emotional needs. This centred on what were the resources available to the school? How was the Strengths and Difficulties questionnaire used to determine where a child would need support? What information would parents need to keep abreast of all the issues including self-harm, body image, additional needs, stress, emotional issues etc.

ACTION: ALL - It was agreed to re-visit this discussion at a further meeting.

4 Events and Ongoing

Family Ceilidh was a success and enjoyed by all. Over 400 tickets given out and approx. 200 people attended. Ceilidh band have been paid and a thank you to the subcommittee and all volunteers.

DM suggested that the music/drama group want to run a Christmas ceilidh? Or a possible one for St Andrews Day?

DO'H felt there should be a raffle as she felt donations at the tea and coffee were confusing as it didn't specify it was for the playground.

DM advised that it seems to be a small pool of parents that get involved, how do we attract parents – currently he has received one volunteer in a recent request and how we get on more. Again it comes back to communication and the website.

DMcC advised they were looking at the possibility of Parent Mail, however, at a cost of £2000 per year it was a lot of money and although member of the PC think it's a good investment, it is equally untested. SMcD asked how do we measure how good parent mail is? SC suggested could the parents be sent a letter advising of the system and ask a small fee paid per child?

ACTION: DM to pool information on other options available.

Preparation for the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3rd December is under way. We do require a small group of people. A letter on School Headed Paper will be available and ask parents to take one and try and get some raffle prizes/donations. There will be a meeting soon and hopefully get some representatives from each year to help.

ACTION: DMcC will organise a text out and Kate Menzies will organise further information.

DM asked for volunteers to help with a subcommittee for the proposed burns supper on 27th January 2017. This will be parents only evening. We need to assess costs involved. RMcD, JB and Ursula Cox have volunteered.

ACTION: DM to co-ordinate kick off meeting for this group to identify tasks

Possibility of a Race Night on the 19/05/17 – to discuss in future.

4. Bord Na Ghaidhlig Guidance for GME – response from SGG PC

DM advised in conjunction with RMcD to collate info on the Guidance. Comann Nam Parant (Glasgow Branch) have organised a meeting on the 04/10/17, however DM think we should respond as a parent council.

ACTION: RMcD to gather and coordinate response and submit before the deadline.

5. Cost of the School Day

DM – there is a course available – Possilpark on Monday 26th September 2016. This is a working group focusing on the implication of the school day. CC advised that the school would be running a course too.

ACTION: SC volunteered to attend on behalf of SGG if diary allowed

6. Update – GME Glaschu

DM, BW, SMcD and DMcC were part of an informal discussion with Maureen McKenna around future GME provision in the city. A discussion will take place between parents involved in GME and GCC – provisionally set for Nov 2016. We require to feed into and review GME in Glaschu. Part of the discussion involved questions including:

Was last year's over-subscription a one off?

How are other authorities around Glasgow tackling GME?

Where do we draw a line in the future?

What is level of planning for future? Teachers?

DM feels this discussion should not be led by GCC, and he is pushing for an open forum.

BW feels we should invite people as observers – such as a Glasgow Steering Group including Glasgow Life, DK MacPhee – Gaelic Language Plan, Children and Young People (buses), Elspeth, DMcC and Maureen McKenna as chair.

7. AOCB

Next Meeting is Thursday 27th October 2016.