

COMHAIRLE NAM PARANT / PARENT COUNCIL

SGOIL GHAIHDLIG GHLASCHU / GLASGOW GAELIC SCHOOL

MIONADEAN / MINUTES

9TH JUNE 2016 @ 6.30PM

Present: Douglas Morrison (DM), Donalda McComb (DMcC), Fiona MacIntyre (FMacI), Catriona Campbell (CC), Bruce Whyte (BW), Elaine MacLeod (EMacL), Sara McDonald (SMcD), Deidre O’Henley (DO’H), Siobhan Campbell (SC).

Apologies: Johanne Bowman, Iain MacKinnon, Nellie MacIntyre and Rona MacDonald

1. Welcome and Apologies

DM welcomed everyone to the last meeting of this school year. He apologised for sending out the Agenda and Minutes late.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

DM advised there was no further developments in regards to pupil intakes – he doesn’t see movement whilst there are still ongoing appeals at present. DM advised that there may be discussions but certainly no decisions being made over the summer holiday period.

GIRFEC and Named Person needs to be looked at early into the new school term as this is to be rolled out across Scotland in August 2016.

DM asked FM if there was any further information regarding Anti Bullying – FM advised that the session I was due to attend had been cancelled and not been rescheduled at present. DM will follow up with JB at a future meeting. CC mentioned that I had taken a paragraph out of context in the last minutes – should read – that anti-bullying isn’t of much interest to parents unless it affects them or their children.

Childhood anxiety – DMcC handed out a leaflet in relation to this and agreed this would be discussed in the future.

Financial Reporting of PC Funds – DM confirmed with the music sub group that they currently don’t have a separate bank account and all funds are put in the school funds account. Also BW confirmed that Mo Staggs will supply a financial statement for the AGM meeting in September 2016.

Sports – BW contacted Baillie Bolander recently and was advised that she had asked Executive Director of Education if she could collate information about the sports facilities across the city.

Baillie Bolander was advised that this information was not held centrally and there were no resources to pull this information together.

Newsletter – DM and FC where to look into, but due to increased work demands, DM has been unable to collate this and deal with it.

Website and the Parent Council – DM advised that more information, resources and the constitution should be on the Website for parents to access.

AOCB – DMcC received a call today in relation to Code Club and FC and the person who runs it in Glasgow will come in next week to discuss further.

The volunteers for the PA System came and took a long look and advised that the system should really be on the stage for ease of access. They plan to return and DMcC will arrange for the Technicians to be present for a better discussion. DMcC advised that they seemed extremely helpful and she would like to look at more investment for the stage area in relation to lighting, etc.

Minutes Approved.

3. Headteacher's Report

Vacancy updates

Technical – 0 applications,

Computing – a few applications, but no Gaelic, so no interviews.

Science – a previous member of staff as now been appointed.

Biology – Interviews took place – and a former p1 pupil of DMcC has been appointed.

There are 2 confirmed probationers for next year.

P1 Induction x 2 sessions

The focus has been on the purpose of the school, Ghaidhlig, partnership and expectations. Information about the school day and teachers, pupils and parents talking about their experiences.

The 2nd session involved the methodology about 2nd languages and an opportunity for parents to learn Ghaidhlig and a homework task was set for parents on the day. P6's put on a display and where available for questions and answers from the parents. This was a very successful event.

S1 Inductions

The induction evening for parents, timetabling - had positive feedback.

Twitter Updates

DMcC advised that we should all be set up for twitter as there have been many events and celebrations to name a few including coding club, STEM – aimed at S1/S2 girls visit to Glasgow

Caledonian University, S2 pupils – to build a microbit rocket through BBC – each child has a microbit.

DMcC receives requests from universities in relation to Ghaidhlig. However, DMcC received a call from holiday makers from New South Wales who come from a community who have a dying language with only 9 known speakers remaining and they will visit the school soon.

The focus for 2016/2017 is closing the gap, attainment and the data surrounding SIMD pupils and support that maybe needed.

Mindset and Growth Mindset with teacher and pupil sessions – some children are confident, but other children may not be as confident and require to build resilience and how to promote this and the type of language used.

Named Person under GIRFEC

DMcC confirmed that currently she has members of staff who have certain primary/ secondary years under there remit. However, this means that a mail box will now be available for the named person and a flow chart should show the correct procedure to handle this new way. DMcC doesn't envisage any issues as there have a system currently in place, however, they may have knowledge in relation to issues outside school which CC confirmed this could be beneficial for the school to pre-empt an situation before it occurs. DM confirmed that the GPFC confirmed that parental involvement would be paramount as well as acknowledging if there is issues with the named person, that there is an ombudsman to deal with further issues.

ACTION: To be discussed at a future meeting.

DMcC confirmed that she had contacted Councillor Nina Baker in relation to the increased build-up of rubbish in the surrounding area and more so in the footpath from Berkeley street to Kent Road and surrounding the play area and the local litter bins.

ACTION: FM to send an email to LES Cleansing Dept.

There are CD's available for sale at a reasonable cost for both the Primary and Secondary school to celebrate the school's 10th birthday. CC confirmed that some of the music has had air play on the celtic radio on a Monday Evenings.

BW asked DMc about the funding for the attainment gap? DMcC responded and advised that each school across Glasgow had been allocated money and this was to be used to identify additional staffing or more supported working – DMcC will require to respond to Maureen McKenna to advise. The amount allocated to SGG was £39000.00 and DMcC must find more creative ways to using the fund.

DMcC advised that they have been allocated 0.4 of a teacher for the Glasgow improvement Challenge but due to teacher issues last year this was not taken up. DMcC is hoping to achieve this this year and her focus would primarily be on Literacy.

BW mention the cost of the school day – we normally get funds from the fundraising , but ensuring that this is fair across all the school as not all parents can afford to pay all the time.

Recently a dress down day was organised and a donation to Moldova was offered but not set, which resulted in over £800 being raised.

4. AGM Meeting Date

Wednesday 21st September 2016 @ 7pm - with a pre meeting at 6.30pm.

5. Program for 2016/2017.

Upcoming Events so far -

Welcome family ceilidh for Friday 02/09/16 to welcome new P1 parents – numbers may need to be limited and hope to get the canteen area included with tea and homebaking available – need to get organising and add to school events to be advertised to new parents.

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 03/12/16

Burns Supper/Ceilidh – Friday 27/01/17

Race Night – Friday 19/05/17

Summer Fayre – Saturday 03/06/17

Suggestions for fund raising – including a raffle to be held for the day, Disco's per year for parents to organise, Celebration of 10 years of the school running through out the year.

Official Opening of Glendale too.

Dates for our PC meetings

AGM and pre meeting Wednesday 21/09/16 @ 6.30 pm

Thursday 27/10/16 @ 6.30pm

Thursday 01/12/16 @ 6.30 pm

Thursday 02/02/17 @ 6.30 pm

Thursday 23/03/17 @ 6.30 pm

Thursday 04/05/17 @ 6.30 pm

Thursday 08/06/17 @ 6.30 pm

DM asked how we engage people to get more involved in fundraising, social events and volunteering and to take part in their children's school. SC suggested that the majority of the meetings should be put down with current issues and for us to think and bring our comments to the table.

DMcC confirmed it always the same people who end up dealing with everything even though they would be keen to give it up.

6. Issues raised by parents

Availability of a sensory resources – DMcC to make clear that to have a sensory room would mean that the child is not being taught in a classroom. DMcC advised that these rooms are available in ASN schools and not mainstream and equally they have trained staff to handle these situations. Is there a demand? DMcC says that this is a language school and occasionally this won't suit all children with additional needs and this would be taken account off. DMcC are not the only school across the city that has these issues. All staff have had professional development so as to offer a range of support and things will be in place for each child. SMacD advised that St Charles school had raised funds to purchase a Pod which the will lend to other schools, however, DMcC advised that a black out tent has been purchased along with coloured beads to calm children down. They have also sought out advise from Drummore School.

SC asked if there is enough support in class. DMcC confirmed that GCC allocated resources depending on the individual needs of the child involved and that there are 4 stages.

SC asked about parents paying for additional needs – and DMcC confirmed that some teachers at the school offer tutoring out-with school hours and this is a private arrangement.

SC asked should Ghaidhlig have additional support? DMcC advised that this should be supported through school. DM suggested that the newly appointed Bord Nam Ghàidhlig should maybe address additional needs.

Communications - text messages are working but it would be better if more time was given to parents in relation to what goes on in class – whether the children have to bring a specific items in or asking a parent to attend an event but only being given notice the night before is not ideal for most parents and would be good to have notice to make arrangements. DMcC took on board the comments.

7. AOCB

Sports Ghlascu – 18/06/16

Also do we want to look at personalised hoodies/tops with SGG logo and child's name – maybe an opportunity to purchase for fundraising or representing the school on days away, sports day or for each individual house. Both BW and DMcC mentioned the cost of the school day – **DM will get more information about it.**

DM wished everybody a lovely summer break and see us next school term.