

Comhairle Nam Pàrant / Parent Council

Sgoil Ghàidhlig Glaschu / Glasgow Gaelic School

Minutes

18th September 2019 @ 6.30pm

Present: Donalda McComb (DMcC), Douglas Morrison (DM), Fiona MacIntyre (FMaCl), Johanne Bowman (JB), Catriona Chaimbeul (CC), Graham Lynch (GL), Pamela Graham (PG), Lynne McDonald (LMcD), Judith Fisher (JF), Nellie MacIntyre (NMaCl), Arlene Ward (AW).

Apologies: Iain MacKinnon, Sara MacDonald and Kate Menzies.

In attendance: Alasdair Henderson (AH) and Raymond Murdoch (RM; Glasgow City Council, Education Services), Donna Bowman (DB, DHT Ath-thaigh), Lily Barton (LB), Nicola Barton (NB), Leticia Rosa-Alepuz (LRA), Kirsty MacLean (KMacLe), Patricia Ailsa Taylor (PAT), David Sutherland (DS), Petera Ham-Eddie (PHE), Raymond Eddie (RE), Jade Friel (JFr), Sharon Anderson (SA), Kimberley MacLeod, (KMaCl), Catriona MacIsaac (CMAcl),

1. Welcome and Minutes from Previous Meeting

DM welcomed everyone to a new school year and thanked everyone for attending the first parent council meeting for School Session 2019/2020. Owing to time constraints, DM asked that amendments to previous meeting minutes to be emailed to him. DM intimated that Elaine MacLeod wishes to step down from Parent Council. On behalf of the Parent Forum, DM thanked Elaine for her contributions to Parent Council and to the wider school.

2. School Transport

DM welcomed and introduced Mr Alasdair Henderson and Mr Raymond Murdoch to our meeting to address ongoing issues of communication between GCC, SPT and parents in relation to transport to and from school.

Issues that have arisen that were discussed:

- a. Lack of communication between GCC, SPT and parents prior to school commencing in August 2019. Some new P1 parents didn't receive a letter advising of times/locations for children to be at a certain bus stop for drop off/collection. Some parents received a text from the school advising of bus company, but had to contact SPT for times and location only for SPT to advise that parent contact the school.
- b. AH advised that a text was sent by the school approx. 2 weeks prior to school starting (although DMcC advised this was only actioned because of office cover for the secondary and took up significant time away from other duties)
- c. AH advised that prospective p1 parents and new applicants for transport should be done as early as possible, so the SPT/GCC can work out requirements earlier in the year. NMaCl advised this used to be done at open days/ placing request, however, as this is now done online, it may not have been communicated to parents early

enough. Action: DMcC/RM to follow up for a) optimum time to communicate to parents, b) optimum channel to communicate (e.g. open days).

- d. Reliability of pickup / drop-off times – AH advised that the driver is instructed to keep the child and contact social services if no one present at pickup. However, usually bus driver contacts the school or arrangements are made with other parents at the bus stop.
- e. Complaints about a particular bus driver were made around appropriate language, usability of seat belts lateness of bus at pickups and arrival at school.
- f. Move to an alternative bus stop at Crookston Road

AH/RM agreed to look at issues collated in the PC transport survey and issues arising at the meeting. Parents to contact DMcM or DM who will liaise with Education Services.

3. **Head Teachers Report**

School Priorities 2019/20.

- Numeracy – Parents classes alongside Maths Week.
- Literacy – Reading into Writing.
- Health & Wellbeing - including achievement and attendance.

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- Broad General Education – challenge pace and application across all curricular areas.
- Health and Wellbeing – Key adult and tutor groups Mental Health Strategy.
- Combined leadership at all levels – looking at mentors and other schools – building resilience during 10 minute tutor times.
- Gym hall - fantastic asset to school – Glasgow Gaels Shinty team will be using it over the winter period.

- Mod Nàiseanta Ghlaschu - High profile for Ghàidhlig and the school – local committee looking for volunteers.
- Staffing – Mr D I MacAuley for Maths in the Secondary and Mrs Claire MacAuley are leaving to take a position in the Western Isles. DMcM noted the invaluable contribution both had made to SGG – in particular Mr MacAuley in the Maths department - the whole school community wish them both our thanks and best wishes.
- Vacancies – Two BS posts – currently no applicants
 - Maths AS –Faculty Head – Vacancy is out to advert.
- New CDO appointed in the nursery
- We currently have probationer teachers in the school – 2x English, 2 x Maths, 1 x History and 1 x Modern Studies.
- It was with great sadness that Evalina – a Clarsach Tutor with SGG - passed away over the summer. The whole school including teachers offered their condolences to her family.

- CC discussed school attainment after the recent exam period. Another year of very high achievement for SGG pupils. CC also thanked businesses that came in to the school to conduct mock interview with about 150 young people. DM expressed his thanks and gratitude to all the pupils and teachers for all their hard work in achieving these successes.

4. Ath-thaigh sub group and update on Glasgow GME plan.

- The Annexe at Govan is now up and running DM thanked all the effort from staff and pupils.
- GCC are looking to a formal consultation for the annexe to become a stand-alone primary school. This will lead to a formalisation of catchment areas and staffing.
- A group of parents from the Annexe met to form a sub group of the parent council to help shape the consultation and drive this forward.
- DMcC advised at the recent Meet the Teacher evenings, boards were placed up showing the next plans for GME in Glasgow and they were used to collate thoughts from Parents.

5. School Uniform Update

Getting ties and kilt this year was a difficulty – one parent commented that she ordered a kilt, for it then to be refunded as they couldn't supply/complete the order. **DM with GL will follow this up.**

6. AOCB

No further points

Dates for next meeting – Thursday 24th October 2019 – 6.30pm

Wednesday 4th December 2019 – 6.30pm

AGM will occur at one of these meetings – confirmation of date to follow.