



2nd February 2023 PC Meeting MINUTES

Members Present: Elaine Miller, Joanne Simpson, Louise Bradshaw, Fiona Lyall, Clare Garcia, Susanne Donachie, Kelly Anderson, Chris McVey, David Bhella, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Jen Petronzio, Aoife Williamson, Elizabeth Ramage-Bannatyne

Staff: Jen Innes, Jill Ring, Julie Kirkland, Maureen Waddell, Gary Mowat, Nicola Allison, Zoe Kellock, Jodie McCulloch.

Apologies: Emma McIntyre, Monica Paul-Sharma, Dawn Tooke, Pamela Armstrong, Karen Douglas, Carolyn Sampson, Niki Taylor, Jayne Swanson, Ashley Miles.

▪ **Welcome**

Elaine welcomed everyone to the parent council meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

▪ **Minutes from last meeting:** Approved, following action points still outstanding:

- **Jayne Swanson-** Processes document to be produced covering all PC procedures – **complete**
- **Joanne Simpson** - Compile a list of all PC members who are also PVG members – **complete**
- **Joanne Simpson** – Cost kiddie cut out road safety parking signs - **complete**
- **PC** – Organise volunteers to remove old furniture at the front of the school to the dump - **complete**

▪ **Reflection**

Elaine advised that she had added this to the agenda tonight as she felt it was a good time to look back at what we had achieved. Elaine started off by asking what everyone thought of the Christmas fair. It was agreed that everyone was so happy to have this back and the new members who had never been before loved it. Everyone loved the teamwork, and it was great to have so many new volunteers involved. We received some very positive feedback on lowering the entry price on the day and Joanne advised that as she was on the front door, people were really happy with this decision, and it made a huge difference. It was discussed about the possibility of making the raffle digital as the process is really time consuming for those involved and it creates queues very quickly. We also agreed to look at the food quantity for next time as we ran out of food much earlier than we usually do.

The Christmas concerts were then discussed, and it was agreed that we need to be really strict and clear on

numbers as extra people had turned up on the night and this then creates a health and safety issue for the school and a fire regulation issue. It was discussed whether we could allow people to watch the concerts remotely to try and reduce numbers on the night. It was agreed that we can look at this but not sure if it would work.

▪ **Correspondence**

Elaine advised that the Chair of Burnside Parent Council had reached out to her to congratulate us on our Christmas Fair success. Elaine has also passed over to Jen information from Asda regarding signing up for their green tokens to potentially secure funding for the school.

Elaine confirmed that she was still trying to arrange the application form for Costco for donations for the community café. Elaine advised that the person in Costco who deals with it is currently off sick so we will wait for a response from them.

▪ **Head Teacher Report – Jen Innes**

Thank you!

- Thank you very much to our Parent Council for running the fantastic and hugely successful Christmas Fair. It was a welcome return for an event that is such an important part of our calendar, not just for the school, but for our whole community. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it such a success.
- Thank you also to the Parent Council members (or family members!) who arranged to remove all the 'rubbish' from the side of the school. I know that this was a big job, and we really appreciate you giving up your precious time at the weekend to support the school.

Staffing News

- As you know, we said farewell to Jan, our office Team Leader, at the end of January. She had a lovely send-off. We are very grateful for everything she did for Calderwood families over the 28 years she worked in the school, and we wish her a very happy retirement.
- We have not yet recruited a replacement for Jan, but we are in the process and hope to have news on that front soon. In the meantime, Mrs Watson will be in the office on Fridays and Mrs Campbell is flying solo on Wednesdays and Thursdays, so please bear with us.

Christmas Concerts

- We thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas concerts, and I know that our pupils had a great time performing for such big audiences again.
- We had a few issues of people bringing children along to be in the audience without tickets, or grown-ups coming without tickets for the event. We also had an issue with people standing at the back and the side of the hall and not taking seats. We have to work to the same health and safety guidance and fire regulations as any other venue where there are large groups of people gathering at the same time and, as head teacher, the responsibility for this falls to me. We will be clearer in our communications next year, but I just wanted to clarify that there are health and safety reasons that we have to limit the number of tickets given out for events and for us asking people to take seats. As always in these situations, staff were put in the uncomfortable position of managing these issues.

Parents' Evenings

- Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the form that I sent out last week.
- The resounding feedback is that parents are keen to maintain face-to-face appointments over virtual ones.

- We have also listened to the feedback about the length of appointment times and we will increase the length of appointments to 8 minutes for our next Parents' Evening. (This is bearing in mind that we have to fit Parents' Evenings into agreed timeframes for staff and that we have 6 classes of 33 pupils!)

School News

- Primary 4 classes visited the Glasgow Science Centre for the launch of their Clyde in the Classroom topic. They have now had the delivery of their baby fish, who they will nurture and care for until they are ready to be released into the wild.
- Primary 6 busily planned their Burns Supper for parents, carers and invited guests, which was a huge success and a great afternoon. Thank you to everyone who came along to help us celebrate Burns in true Calderwood style!
- Speaking of Burns, we were delighted that one of our Primary 5 pupils, Jena, was invited along to perform at the Bridgeton Burns annual dinner last week after her first-place performance in the Burns competition in December. She received VIP treatment all night and proudly represented the school at the event. Well done, Jena!
- Again on the theme of Burns, our Primary 4-7 pupils had an extra-special assembly treat yesterday morning in the shape of a Hopscotch performance all about the life and work of Robert Burns. It was an entertaining and informative show!
- Primary 7 have re-started their Community Café every Friday at 2pm after a break for the holidays. This has been a fantastic initiative -please remember to tell your friends and neighbours to pop in for a cuppa and some entertainment!
- Room 15 will be visiting Motherwell Civic Theatre next week to watch an orchestral performance on the theme of climate change – this links in with work they will be doing with the sustainability group.
- We have a number of clubs up-and-running or about to start, including football, dance, virtual book club, art club, netball, digital leaders and baking.
- We will be participating in football tournaments and a special all-girls football event.
- As some of you may already know, one of our current members of teaching staff, Mrs Yuliya Conroy, is Ukrainian. Mrs Conroy has been living in Scotland for many years, however, she still has family and friends back in Ukraine. The escalating conflict in Ukraine has been ongoing for almost a year now, and ordinary families are still bearing the brunt of this. Mrs Conroy works with friends in Scotland and volunteers in Ukraine to help get much needed supplies to the right places. I know that, as a school community we are always keen to offer charitable support both within our own community and beyond, and we want to do what we can to help, therefore we will be collecting items from the list below to be sent to Ukraine. All items collected will go directly to families in Ukraine. We are starting the collection straight away and run it all through the month.

Young Leaders of Learning

- Before Christmas we offered our Primary 5s an opportunity to become a Young Leader of Learning, and complete an application form to show their interest. We now have a group of 10 pupils who all undertook training from one of our Quality Link Officers.
- We have been matched with South Park, a school in East Kilbride, and we will be visiting them, and then they will come to us. The pupils will discuss aspects of their learning and look for areas of good practice in each school.
- We will take forward the feedback to inform our improvement planning. We then plan to carry this into next session and train a new group from Primary 4.
- This is a very exciting opportunity for pupils to share their views and contribute to our improvement priorities.

The School Year/School Events

- Our new Primary 1 registrations are still coming through, and we are now at the process of looking at

classes for next session.

- We have put a provisional programme of transitions events together, which begin as soon as we return from Spring Break. We have made a few changes to the programme this year, and added in a new event at the beginning of the sessions.
- Our Primary 7 pupils are on the countdown to their residential visit to Lockerbie in just a few short weeks. It will be a fantastic experience for them.

▪ Subgroups

Reading subgroup – Huge thanks to Louise and Susanne who have been coming into the school to organise the Library which is now up and running and is amazing. There are lots of new things in place and is now being used every day. Really looking forward to World Book Day on 2nd March.

Community Engagement subgroup – Joanne advised that she had carried out a costing for the Kiddie Cut Out Road Safety figures and they were approximately £216 each with slight discount applied if we order in bulk. A general discussion took place regarding the possible benefit of having these and how many would be needed. Jen and Jill advised that they would have a look at this and come back to see how many would be needed. It was also confirmed that the Zig-Zag lines at the front of the school have now been repainted today and hopefully this will also help with the congestion at the front of the school. David asked if there had been any other feedback from the travel plan and it was agreed that this group could look into this further. With regards to funding Elaine advised that she had been successful in securing double funding for the Christmas fair which is amazing so a huge thank you to Elaine and the Robertson Trust. Once amount is confirmed Elaine will let the PC know. With regard to the P1 induction Jill advised that she would liaise with Lisa and Pamela with regards to the induction packs for the new P1s and advised that we will also need PC members to attend an induction event but the date for this will be confirmed.

Sustainability subgroup – Niki will be working with the P7s on 10th February to teach them how to sew which we are looking forward to and if all goes well, we will look to roll this out to different ages in the school. We will be looking to organise things for Fashion Revolution week in April. The Eco uniform will be available again at the upcoming parents' night and the new QR code for the Eco Uniform will also be launched. We will also be asking the children to develop artwork in relation to Eco and have this on display then too. Louise is currently carrying out a stock take of the Eco Uniform so we have all the sizes noted and there will be a direct email address for the Eco Uniform. Niki has also been in touch with Revolve who are really keen to work with us. There will be a trial of the Eco hub on 28th April which will tie in with World Earth Day and Fashion Revolution Week and we are hopefully looking at getting Grow 73 involved and also asking the children to make bunting for the garden. It is also hoped that with every order of Eco Uniform made you will receive an Eco book as an incentive.

Events subgroup – Next event will take place on 3rd March which has still to be confirmed. The events team are meeting next week to start organising this and see what we can come up with. The other events planned are as follows:

- Easter Disco on Thursday 30th March 2023
- Summer Fair set up is Friday 19th May 2023
- Summer Fair on Saturday 20th May 2023
- P7 Leavers Dance on Thursday 22nd June 2023

- **Treasurers Report**

Gail advised that we have spent £22k since June last year with £18k coming bank into our funds. We currently have around £22k in our bank account going forward. We need to look at what we want to achieve now moving on and could possibly look at not charging for things like the Easter Disco given the cost of living just now. We are also still on a waiting list that Julie has organised to cost the installation of a MUGA pitch so that could be a new project for us.

- **Any other business**

Elaine brought up the fact that two of the office bearers (Gail and Joanne) and also Jayne and Emma, who organise our social media, will all be stepping down in June as they are leaving the Parent Council. Elaine advised that she is looking for potential volunteers to shadow them with a view to taking on these roles in August. If anyone is interested, please contact Elaine direct.

- **Next meeting Thursday 2nd March 2023**

Meeting closed.