

Parson's Green Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday 28th August 2019

Present: Sam Rutherford (chair), Justine Fernandes-Binns, Emma Bartlett, Susan Cochrane, Carys Macdonald, Jennifer McGowan, Samantha Goudie, Leah Page, Marielle B. Hofmeister, Claire Barlow, Stevie McKinley, Emma Joutt, Joni Hawley, Fiona Patterson, Caroline Key.

Apologies: Rhona Ford, Katy Longstaff, Rachel King, Lara Celini, Nicky MacDonald, Alex Staniforth, Wendy Crawford

	Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome and apologies	Sam welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted	
2	Approval of minutes from last meeting	Minutes from last meeting were approved.	
3	Treasurers report	End of year balance: £16,451.10 £12,441.20 ring fenced for playground installation, as fundraised for last year. Running club, forest schools, graffiti artist, welfare fund and a sinking fund to come out of this. Balance available to spend: £1,019.90	
4	Fundraising requests	There were no current requests for funds Previous funding: we voted on and agreed to raise the amount for the grafitti artist from £300 to £550	

5	Theme Equality and Equity 1 in 5 update/ Climate change	Sam introduced the new theme for this coming academic year. Equality and Equity Covering climate change, sustainability and inclusivity under this umbrella. Broke into small groups to discuss ideas of how we could make these changes in the school. 1 in 5 families in Edinburgh live below the poverty line, to help support families in our school community we have: • Food basket • Toiletries • Clothes rail All of these are available from the front of the school and are there for everyone to use, please help yourselves. Pupils are very passionate about climate change • Pupils have gone on strike • Encourage fair trade products • Home baking rather than sweets in packaging at fundraising events.	
6	Fundraising/ events & volunteer roles	Volunteer roles wish list: • Christmas fair co-ordinator • Grounds tidy up • Bikeability helpers • Library helpers • Reading helpers • Chess club • Coding club • Skills groups on Thursdays 2.30-3.20pm in blocks of 6 weeks. (Sewing, knitting, chess, felting or skill you might be able to share). You don't have to do it by yourself you could slot in with a member of staff. If you are interested or could give some time please get in touch with the school at admin@parsonsgreen.edin.sch.uk with PARENT HELPER in the subject line.	All parents/ carers

		Samantha mentioned corporate volunteer days to help with grounds tidy ups. She has been in touch with Edinburgh Uni about this and could become an annual thing. Sam to find out more details from Samantha to pass onto Angela and Justine and Susan Jane after many years of helping organise grounds tidying up has stepped down due to other commitments. Jane was thanked for all her hard work. Justine and Stevie volunteered to help Angela with this role. Discussion around MADD theme being Scotland this year, the parent council could maybe organise a fundraising ceilidh. Could be one whole day, different classes and their parents/carers at different times (so everyone can fit in).	Sam
7	Playground progress	An order has been placed with the contractors and a date now needs to be fixed for installation. Hopeful it will be October but down to contractors availability. Most of the equipment will go in the p1's playground.	
8	Sustrans update (Sustainable Transport)	We were successful in winning the £24K grant for the next part of the Sustrans project, which will be with all the other local cluster primary schools and the High school. It will be looking at safer routes around our schools, for walking, biking and scooting. See www.sustrans.org.uk for more details about what this charity does.	

9	Headteacher's report	Please see attached document from Susan Cochrane 'Standards and Quality Report (highlights from 2018-2019) and Improvement Plan (2019-20) for parents and carers' Susan highlighted: • Leadership groups • The new school motto 'Dream, Believe, Achieve.' • The peace path at Duddingston Kirk • Glebe community garden (Duddingston Kirk grounds). P6 will be going every 2nd week, growing their own vegetables and finally cooking them. This is a P6 activity like forest school in P3 and Benmore in P7. The garden is open to the public. • Rights respecting school aiming for a silver award. • Sport Scotland going for gold award • P7s who have just gone to high school, very positive attainment when leaving Parsons Green. • Building resilience programme has come to the end of its 3 year cycle so will be starting again. Parents/carers will be invited to the launch assembly. • Running another 'Raising children with confidence' course. Wednesday 7-9pm, tea and coffee, at the school. 12 spaces, how to apply will be confirmed • Literacy and dyslexia guidelines have changed, a parent workshop will be run on this. • The school has reviewed how they report to parents: there will now be 3 parent consultations a year (October, January and May). The end of year report will now be much shorter in length and be sent home before the May parent consultation. • The school would like input from parents about the report, a focus group will be held.	Susan
---	----------------------	--	-------

10	Subgroup update	Library have some new helpers, but still looking for a new person to help take over the running of the library. Ideally available all day in a Tuesday. Halloween Disco, Stevie has kindly volunteered to run it this year. This year it will be on Halloween 31st October. Stevie will be looking for volunteers nearer the time.	All parents/carers
11	AOB	- Rachel King had asked for more information on BAE, Royal Navy and Royal Airforce coming into school. Susan stated they were coming in to promote getting people into sciences not promoting particular jobs. They are not coming to talk about their business. This will not be a regular event, but was a chance to promote STEM to the children. The school will be very open to feedback about the event. (This event was later cancelled) There was a brief discussion about this and an idea arose that it might be good to try and get another business/organisation maybe from sustainable energy background but also involved in STEM to give another talk/workshop. Some of the parent council had some connections and they will follow these up - Lara has offered to draft a policy/guidelines on recycling/ethical choices. - Susan was thanked for sending out the letter from Edinburgh Council saying pupils were allowed to attend the climate change strike on 20th September. Please inform the school though in writing that your children will be absent. - Please try and bring a friend to the next meeting. - Sam to look into the Friday morning coffee meeting that used to run alongside parent council meetings, for those that couldn't make an evening meeting. - Parsy Picnic a date to be found for this event. Bring some food and for those that wish go for a walk round Arthurs Seat, an informal get together. - The Richmond Hope walk was highlighted: 22nd September in Aid of Richmond Hope (bereaved children). Meeting at Duddingston Kirk 1pm please email or call to register: 0131 661 6818 or k.scoular@richmonshope.org.uk there will be a BBQ afterwards.	All present Lara All present Sam