



Comhairle nam Pàrant - Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce Meeting Minutes

21 An t-Samhain / November 2022, 19:15 – 20:15

Apologies: None

Attendees: 20

1. Gnothaichean ag èirigh agus aontachadh gearr-chunntas na coinneimh mu dheireadh / Matters arising from and approval of minutes of previous meeting

- Move forward on playground and school updates
- Otherwise no specific actions

2. Aithris a' cheannard / Headteacher's update

Welcome from HT: Iona Brown

- A reminder to use the admin@taobhnapairce.edin.sch.uk email address for parent/carer communication with the school, and to please read the newsletter as it contains important information and is designed to minimise email traffic from school to parents/carers
- The dynamic risk assessment is still in place re. Covid-19 but it's really nice to be back to in-person events and welcoming people back into the school again
- There is planned industrial action for 24.11.22, any class that has work issued will be apparent after 9am on 24.11.22 on ParentMail. Any other info will be communicated quickly re. changes.
- Please label children's clothes as this aids the lost property system
- Please have children come clothed appropriately for cold weather, we are more than happy to help with access to coats if anyone would benefit from support with this.
- Attendance and lateness- school starts at **8.55am**. It is important for children to arrive on time to join their classes and settle into the day. It is important that school staff are able to leave the gates at this time to carry out other duties supporting children, meetings etc. We are having instances of gates not being closed till 9:10/9:15am which cannot be accommodated.
- Uniform wearing is starting to slip, we would like to see a concerted effort over the coming weeks on this, we are more than happy to confidentially help any family who need assistance with procuring uniform
- We have been unsuccessful in filling our Early Years Clas 1 and Sgoil-Àraich positions, we need Gaelic speakers in these roles; PSA posts are going to interview and the PSO post is currently live; we will be joined by Mrs Gillian McLuskey as our Music Instructor in January.

School improvement plan:

1. Learning, Teaching and Assessment



- School team have recently had in-service training on Gaelic grammar and idiom and have been considering literacy approaches, and digital learning is being led by Ms MacIntyre - next steps include evaluating where we are using an online evaluation tool
- learning journals have been reintroduced across the school for reporting and assessment; staff are sharing updates with parents and appreciate engagement on the posts
- parent consultations went well and staff fed back that it was great to see parents in person again

2. Health and Wellbeing

- Visions, Values and Aims statement and Relationships Policy: consultation complete for both; working group for relationships policy meeting with Mrs Reid, Ms MacIntyre and learner focus group.
buddy system has been successfully re-introduced

3. Equality, Equity and Achievement

- Ms Stewart engaged with a Attendance and Lateness conference; this will feed into approaches to improving attendance and lateness and supporting attainment
- Wider achievement: please add your child's wider achievement in the MS Form shared in each newsletter
- Pupil Equity Fund: looking to recruit a PSO who will deliver on attendance and provide support where required

Other matters:

- School Estate: janitors house layout agreed, out to tender
- Christmas: songs are being rehearsed and Greyfairs trip being organised- please fill in the form on Parentmail for this visit asap, it's a huge endeavour and an important part of our enduring Edinburgh Gaelic community links
- We have a winning design by Eilidh and Amelie for the Edinburgh Winter Windows competition. Congratulations!

4. Gaelic and Scots Consultation

The deadline has been extended to **8th December** for submission to this consultation on the Scottish Languages Bill, will inform policy on GME and Gailteach establishment as well as Scots, CnP has prompts on how you might want to answer linked here:

<https://cnpduneideannblog.wordpress.com/>

Link to the consultation here:

<https://consult.gov.scot/education-reform/gaelic-and-scots-scottish-languages-bill>



Issues covered include a child's right to GME, equal status of GME, funding and specific issue of recruitment and retention of GME staff, GME secondaries promotion of Gaelic in EME secondaries, support for fluency in learners, and locally the issue of certainty of pathways in Edinburgh.

5. Education Reform Consultation

Major significance, 20 years since last reform where CfE was debated/introduced
The Muir review in 2022 recommended a national consultation for the future of education open to children young people parents carers etc. Parents and carers are encouraged to respond.

Key principles underpinning discussion: inclusive, in line with rights of child and children/young people/carers are empowered and involved in discussion, concludes 5th December
<https://consult.gov.scot/learning-directorate/national-discussion-on-education>

6. GME Secondary School update – Comann nam Pàrant

Convenor Sharon May: positive meeting with Cabinet Secretary in October, shared agreement that planning for High School needs to move forward quickly, blog page explains in detail
<https://cnpduneideannblog.wordpress.com/>

In terms of the Gaelic and Scots Consultation, the number of submissions is important so even answering one question will have a big impact.

AGM 8th December, in person at Darroch ANnex JGHS, start at 6pm as drop in then 6:45 meeting start. Registration info will be circulated, looking for people to become involved, especially Gaelic speakers from the parent body.

7. Aithris an Ionmhasair / Treasurer's report

- £16,027.04 cash at bank as at 18 November 2022.
- With ring fenced funds of £6,173.11 this leaves £9,853.93 available.
- £2,000 for Winter Small Sums Scheme.
- £3,900.23 Acoustics fundraising.
- £5430.99 raised in 2022 so far
- Sum up/2 card readers set up and ready to go
- Pay by link/QR codes/Google pay- especially good as no fees
- Closing date for Smalls Sum Scheme Nov 28th, will announce successful bids in the New Year
- £272.88 Gift donations for Flora McPhail so far; reminder that parents can donate until end of November for Floras Fund
- Spending approvals: 8 tables needed for fundraising events, bringing to this meeting for parent/carers approval, no exceptions so spending approved



Delegated authority proposed:

- Occasional need for reaction to limited Delegated Authority to quickly respond to costs like these
 - Allows the Parent Council to spend up to an agreed limit e.g. £300
 - Requests submitted by form and recorded by the treasurer.
 - Reviewed and authorised or rejected by an appropriate subgroup, eg School Funds Group
 - Records of authorised spend to be brought to the next PC meeting and minuted
 - Puts controls in place and enables prompt decisions on spend where necessary
 - In the event quick decisions are required in advance of PC meetings - the Class Reps will be consulted
 - Canvassed this across other PCs in the city and found that similar processes exist in other schools
 - IB adds: School Fund led by school leadership but good practice to have a committee as another check and balance to look at how we use the money we have
- [motion passes]

8. Parent Council update

- National Parent Forum for Scotland, with Edinburgh Council have convened a city wide discussion session on 24 November to inform a response to the National Discussion consultation - PC will attend and forward details if parents want to attend.
<https://consult.gov.scot/learning-directorate/national-discussion-on-education>
- Class representatives- a Role Descriptor has been circulated to outline key responsibilities, Class Reps are a point of contact between school and PC, C1 Purpi and Uaine, C4 reps needed (other than C4O), to volunteer please email chairs@parantantaobhnapairce.org.uk
- Seamus and Tash are nearing the end of their Charing period and invited notes of interest for joining the Parent Council including Charing. Co-Charing is an effective model, if you want more info please get in touch chairs@parantantaobhnapairce.org.uk
- Events & Fundraising Update – Feill Nollaig confirmed for **Saturday 3rd December**
- Friday follow up PC meeting, 10:30-11:15, Teams link to follow
- Annual report will be compiled in advance of Jan 25th 2023 AGM, we will contact individuals for input eg. Ball Coise, Small Sums recipients and also conduct the annual short parent/carers survey in advance of this

9. Dèitichean nan Coinneamhan ri Thighinn / Date of Next Meeting

AGM Tuesday 24th January 2023 7:15-8:30pm