

## **Minutes**

### **Trinity Primary School Parent Council**

**Held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022: 7:30pm**

**Location: Trinity Primary School**

#### **Attendees:**

Helen Duncan (Chair), Jacqueline Scott (HT), Aimi Armstrong, Cheryl Berthinussen, Julie Wardhaugh, Will Inglis, Krystelle Bamford, Jen Bird, Toby Kelly, Cllr Jim Campbell, Angela Hassard

Apologies: Kristin Deeken, Kev Head, Tim Gregg, Matt, Cllr Ellie Bird, Cllr Hall Osler

## **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes approved.

Crossing guide absence at corner of Craighall Rd/Stanley Rd –Council aware and, we believe, are advertising the position.

Parental Engagement consultation now finished and HD has offered to join any ongoing committee/consultation on this.

Discussed that there is still a frustration that parents are not allowed in school unless to attend essential meetings. School are using their judgment to ensure that essential meetings do take place. Aiming to improve communication to parents who have never been in school.

## **3. Correspondence**

Email from Marianne from Active Schools – she has put together an appeal asking for parent helpers to get clubs up and running and PC has agreed to help support this where we can.

Kristen Deeken attended recent Locality meeting and had real concerns about the level of jargon used in the meeting so this has been fed back to the Locality meeting.

## **4. HT Report:**

See attached HT report

#### **Staffing:**

Both staff and learner absence remains relatively high. Several members of staff are waiting to hear if they have more permanent posts. Starting to look at staffing from August.

An additional post has been created (following additional Scottish Government funding) to support transition years between Primary and Secondary. In the Trinity cluster the post is being called a Learning Community Teacher and the post has now been filled for the cluster. This will be based out of Victoria Primary. It will provide support to schools and staff to ensure consistency across primary learning to feed into Trinity Academy.

**School Numbers:**

Parents can now defer entry to P1 for a much wider age range. Previously Jan & Feb birthdays could be deferred but now families are able to defer from birthdays from the previous July/August. This is causing more uncertainty for P1 numbers.

Numbers for P6 and P7 still not settled so decisions for any composite class are still outstanding. School has decided to reconfigure all the classes for the new school year. Friendship groups will be taken into consideration, but all classes will be changed.

**Facilities & Funding:**

Refurbishment of whole kitchen still planned, and this will cause disruption to hot meals while this takes place – dates to be confirmed.

Confirmed that funding for PEF (Pupil Equity Funding) will continue. This funding comes from Scottish Govt and it is to be used to help close attainment gap. In TPS the funding is used for a Pupil Support Officer and a part time role for Nurture. Contingency money held to ensure no child will miss out for financial reasons.

**Learning:**

P7 trip to Benmore going ahead in April and P6 and P5s will be offered skiing at Midlothian Ski Centre. Scottish Opera have confirmed that they are not able to perform outside and so unfortunately the full P5 performance will not be open to parents. However, the children will be able to perform the songs to parents outside at another time. Communication on this will go to parents as soon as possible. P4 are preparing an outdoor show in the secret garden and the P1 and P2 easter party will go ahead. P7 show likely to be outdoor event.

World Book Day was a great success and Red Nose Day will go ahead on Friday with the kids running various stalls and events.

Attainment predictions – expected to be slightly below norm although, positively, nearly all children have made progress. Attainment gap does seem to have widened over the last 2 years and this does require additional support. Attainment numbers will be reviewed to see if there are any trends that need specific attention.

**Parent Questions:**

Library: Temporary library in use for a short time in North Fort St with Leith library due to reopen closer to summer.

Refugees: No support/advice yet been issued to schools if they are asked to take in pupils from Ukraine. Expected to be discussed in City of Edinburgh Council but UK scheme may override any local arrangements. All still unclear while events still unfold.

Bangholm: Phase 1 facilities due to be handed over to Trinity Academy in June (although may be a slight delay). Phase 2 proposals are starting up again with expectation that small groups of parents from cluster primaries will be asked to represent the wider views. The main decisions are expected to be made between now and summer. Trinity Community Council will host an event in June which will be open to everyone in the community to give their views on how the facility could be used for the benefit of the wider community. However, it should be made clear that there is no approved budget as yet.

## **5. Update on Local Elections**

Elections will not take place in Trinity Primary School which is fantastic news.

## **6. Parental Engagement Post Covid (including Parental Consultation preferences)**

School looking to continue what worked well. Specifically thinking about a hybrid approach for parent/carer meetings twice per year. This would allow parents to opt for face to face or online.

Parents/carers have missed the open evenings with open access to class and an opportunity to talk to teachers and see the learning spaces. The school are hoping to give parents the opportunity to do this at some point before end of year.

## **7. Wide Engagement: Locality/Trinity Community Council**

Trinity Community Council. 20mph speed limit on Craighall Rd was discussed. Head Teacher from Trinity Academy shared initiatives that the pupils have introduced to reduce litter in Victoria Park which seem to be working. Also, Trinity Academy pupils are now not allowed to use playpark during lunch hours which has reduced litter.

Friends of Victoria Park planning a community event in June.

Thanks to Jen Bird for attending on our behalf.

## **8. Accounts:**

Confirmed that we now have access to bank accounts for online banking and that signatories are Helen Duncan, Julie Wardhaugh and Jacqueline Scott. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the account (a Treasurer's Account) payments can only be made by cheque. To allow for full digital banking we will have to open a new charity account. To do this we need to contact Edinburgh Council to have them redirect our annual payment.

## **9. AOCB**

Thanks to Cllr Jim Campbell and Cllr Ellie Bird for all their support in the past year and their active involvement in Parent Council.

PC discussed an option for a social get together as part of next PC meeting.

## **11. Meeting Dates**

Tuesday June 7<sup>th</sup> (at school)