



DUNBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 4 February 2009 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Morag Readman (Chair) - Haven
Karen Brougham – Haven p.m.
Deborah Piner – Lighthouse a.m.; Dee Dawson – Lighthouse p.m.
Samantha Bell & Anna Wyatt, P1A; Elspeth Richards P1B;
Jackie Gourlay P1D; Sarah Watt (Vice) P1E
Susan Mowatt P2A; Emma Hexley P2D
Sarah Everard & Lorraine Laird P3A; Jenny McGlinchey P3C;
Judy Newton P3D
Sarah Fletcher P4A; Isla Paterson P4C
Rob Barley & Susan Guy-Inglis P6A
Jacquie Bell, Councillor
Helen Gillanders HT; Pam Clark DHT
Billy Hogg Countess Youth Centre

Apologies: Cllr.P. McLennan; Andy Napier; Anne-Marie Napier;
Wendy Kellock; Kirsten Collin; Laura Bullen; Rhonda Elliot; Lynn Carter;
Jennifer Goldie and Shona Ronan

		Action
	<p>Morag welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Stephen Bunyan, Chair of Dunbar Community Council and Billy Hogg from the Countess Youth Centre.</p> <p>Morag also expressed the great sadness at the sudden loss of Chris Mullender who had been so involved with the Parent Council. He would be greatly missed and sincere condolences were sent to his wife Morag and the family.</p>	
1	<p>Civic Week: Stephen Bunyan gave a short resume on the history of Dunbar Civic Week which had been established since 1969, More recently there had been increased identification with the Primary School. He would like the Parent Council to assist with some of the arrangements. (a) It was agreed that, as in the past, the Primary School would arrange for the Queen and her Court to be appointed. (b) The wider parent forum would be approached to (1) seek a volunteer to act as the "Gracious Lady" to replace Mrs May Low who had indicated her desire to retire from this position and (2) to seek a co-ordinator/ arranger for a Parade of Floats.</p> <p>Assistance was also required with the PA System and it was suggested that Gordon McKenzie DHT at the Primary School might be willing to help.</p>	<p>HG</p> <p>MR</p> <p>HG/GMcK</p>
2	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting: Cluster meeting Tuesday 10 March: 2 representatives from the P.C. to attend – Morag and Janet. Any items for the Agenda should be directed to Morag prior to the date of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Visit to Sanderson 's Wynd School:</u> Sarah and Dee agreed to go.</p> <p>The previous minutes were taken as read.</p> <p>At this point it was announced that there will be a Public Meeting regarding the progress of the new school on Thursday 2 April 2009 at 7.30p.m. in the school.</p>	<p>MR/JMcDW</p> <p>SW/DD</p>
3	<p>Head Teacher's Report: Helen explained that the Scottish Executive had decided to have a further In-Service Day to take forward the Curriculum of Excellence. This will take place this session on Monday 8 June 2009. Helen will notify all parents of this extra holiday as soon as possible.</p> <p>The joint Burns Supper with the Grammar School had been a great success as had been the Assemblies which had taken place in the school. Helen praised the efforts of the children and it was hoped to extend this next year.</p>	<p>HG</p>

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	<p>Head Teacher's Report cont'd.</p> <p>A Quality Improvement Officer will be visiting the school on Thursday 5 February 2009 together with a Primary Adviser and a member of the Learning Support team.</p> <p>The question of sufficient learning support in the school was raised and Helen explained that there had been no reduction in this area. Elaine Albano was playing a dual role at present which included some learning support and Lindsay Barley was currently Nadia's replacement.</p> <p>Helen invited all P.C. members and supporters to come to a coffee morning on 20 February which she is hosting to thank parent volunteers.</p> <p>Helen and Pam will be holding a similar event as that of the Alphabet Magic but directed at more senior pupils on 17 February at 2.15 and 6p.m.</p> <p>The Internet Safety Talk had been very poorly attended with only 18 parents/carers turning up. This had been rather disappointing. Jacquie said that the local Community Policeman might be able to offer something similar if there was a request for it.</p> <p>Helen distributed the draft "Aims" which had been drawn up after consultation with staff, parents and pupils. This was based on the Curriculum of Excellence.</p> <p>Helen explained how the Wet/Bad Weather Arrangements worked. It was hoped to have the Group Call up and running by the end of February and this would be a great help in cases of bad weather. She pointed out that during periods of cold/wet weather children should be appropriately clad/shod. However, if any child had very wet feet staff would do their best to ensure that they were "dried out".</p> <p>Pam intimated that the work on the path to the new nursery unit was out to tender and it was hoped to have the path completed, possibly by Easter but certainly by the Summer break. The cost of the installation of bike racks may have to be met by the school.</p> <p>The question of inadequate supplies of soap was raised again and Helen promised to address this problem.</p>	<p>All PC</p> <p>HG</p>

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4	<p><u>Class Web Pages:</u> Sue explained the main objectives of the Parental Involvement Strategy. She also distributed a template to the Class Reps. which could be used to share information with and hear the views of parents/carers of children in their respective classes. All Class Reps. to consider how best to develop this idea for the class they represent.</p>	ALL CLASS REPS.
5	<p><u>Sub-Committee Reports:</u> <u>Fundraising:</u> The Burns Supper had produced a profit of £130. At a recent meeting several ideas for fund-raising had been discussed and others were being considered. The sub-committee was open to any suggestions on fund-raising from members of the P.C. A planning meeting re the Summer Fair was to be held on 20 February and anyone wishing to submit ideas for this should contact Morag prior to that date. There will be another Ladies' Night this year and also Christmas Hampers.</p>	
6	<p><u>Recruitment of new Treasurer.</u> There had been no response from the Parent Forum and Morag said that she was finding it difficult to recruit anyone. Isla Paterson agreed to consider the appointment and this was unanimously endorsed by the P.C.</p>	
7	<p><u>Read-a-thon:</u> Janet explained all the exciting things which will be happening during the week beginning 27 February 2009 and hoped that every parent/carer will encourage their child/children to be involved and collect sponsorships. There were some great prizes on offer as an incentive. Each child will receive a pack explaining how to enter. Volunteers were needed to assist with reading at break times. Names to Janet, Wendy or Morag.</p>	
8	<p><u>Any other business:</u> (1) Pam intimated that the Pupil Council will be holding a Disco for P1-7 on 20 February 2009. (2) Judy and Susan had drawn up a list of items for the "Free Cycle" which will be sent out to parents and they had also agreed to take charge of arrangements for collection/distribution etc.</p>	

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8	Any other business cont'd: (3) Billy Hogg from Countess After School Club said that they are keen to co-operate with the school on events for the children and this offer was warmly received by the members.	
9	The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 5 March 2009 at 7.30p.m.	