

DUNBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL



MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2010 AT 7.30P.M. IN DUNBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Present: Annie Beatty (Chair)
Catriona Reece-Heal – Lighthouse a.m.
Anouska Woods – Woodlands a.m.; Eden Blair – Woodlands p.m.
Kirsty Parkin – Harb/Sea a.m.
Morag Readman – P1C; Sharon McVitie/Sue Anderson – P1E;
Julia McAlpine – P1/2 Comp.
Sarah Duguid – P2A; Fiona Smith/Janine McHutchon – P2B;
Angela Graham/Heather Black – P2C
Dee Davison – P3B; Jackie Gourlay – P3C
Kirstin Welsh – P4B; John Donovan – P4C; Mark Patterson – P4D
Sonya Lugton – P5C Jenny McGlinchey – P5D
Rhonda Elliot – P6A; Jane McIntyre – P6B; Isla Paterson – P6C

Other Attendees: - Helen Gillanders – H.T.; Susan Brennan – Teacher Rep.
Craig Lumsden – Active Schools Co-ordinator
Jenny Cowsill, Wendy Nicolson, Susan Mowatt – Parents.

Apologies:- Cllr. J. Bell; S. Gilmartin; Janey Nicol; Julia McAlpine; Sarah Watt;
Anny Wyatt; Tracy Gillespie; Samantha Ball; Jennifer Goldie;
Cathy McPhillips

		Action
1.	<p>Annie opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She formally thanked Morag for her hard work during her term of office in the Chair over the past 2 years.</p> <p>Annie then introduced herself as the new Chairperson and intimated that her intention was to hold the office for one year only. She wished to become more involved. Children's education is very important as is the community. She wanted to make a difference. She had been a supply teacher since 1998 and had worked in many schools in Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian. She has also served on the School Board and P.T.A. at North Berwick. She felt that Dunbar Primary had a "go ahead" management team who worked very well in conjunction with the P.C. The P.C. had been established for 3 years and was well organised with a strong structure. Her vision was to take this forward and build on what already had been achieved. One change she wished to make was to alter the format of the monthly P.C. meetings. She was of the strong opinion that creating task groups to deal with matters under various headings was an essential part of the P. C. but this could only happen with the support of the Reps. The suggestion was that task groups meet between 7 and 7.45p.m. before the main management meetings which would take place at 8p.m. rather than 7.30p.m. The task groups would be able to report to the main meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Head Teacher's Report: Helen also welcomed everyone to the meeting especially the new reps.</p> <p>(i) She will be issuing to parents an Extract from the Quality & Standard Report fairly soon. Mr Phil Denning, Schools Inspector, will attend the next P.C. meeting when he will explain how the Inspection system operates and will be happy to answer any questions on the Report and also the Curriculum of Excellence.</p> <p>(ii) It had been necessary to purchase an Interactive Whiteboard for one of the classrooms at a cost of £2,400. This was due to the fact that the Authority does not provide such items for classes which are considered to be of a temporary nature. She had approached Annie who had agreed that the P.C. would meet the cost and she was seeking the P.C.'s approval retrospectively. This was carried unanimously.</p> <p>(iii) Teachers were working extremely hard on The Curriculum of Excellence and the School Improvement Plan. Learning Teams were being organised, including teachers from other Secondary Schools in the Cluster. Leadership roles were also being organised.</p> <p>(iv)/.</p>	

	<p>(iv) Staffing:- R. Crooks was returning on Monday next; Nadia Percy-Davis will be returning in January 2011. Marie Howie will return from maternity leave in January and Carrie Stanton is going off on maternity leave in the New Year.</p> <p>(v) Helen had started holding the tracking meetings with all teachers.</p> <p>(vi) Helen and Pam Clark had been to visit the P7 children at School Camp. They were having a great time.</p> <p>(vii) It was intended to hold a Fundraising Day in October to raise funds to support the work done by Richard Taylor, Youth Worker. Richard is heavily involved in the school curriculum, he accompanies pupils on visits to York and P7 camp, he provides a great link to the Grammar School too. He also undertakes a great deal of worthwhile work in other areas involving the youth of the town.</p> <p>(viii) The New School was coming along very well. Helen has not yet been given a date for entry to the new school but is still hopeful it will be August 2011. Helen would welcome ideas from the P.C. to assist in the management of the transition.</p> <p>(ix) The School Website has been updated.</p> <p>(x) Helen asked about the best day to hold a Volunteers' Coffee Morning as the last one had been poorly attended. Friday mornings were considered to be the best. It was also felt that better advertising of this would be helpful.</p> <p>(xi) Helen then showed the P.C. the school's Attainment Levels over the past 3 years. These showed an improvement overall, especially in "Writing".</p>	Action
3.	<p>Active Schools Co-ordinator:- Annie introduced Craig Lumsden who gave a short talk on the aims of "Active Schools". The main aim was to get children motivated to be more active both in and out of school. Several classes are held and the majority of these are free with just a few costing very little. There were many types of activities and it was hoped that the children will benefit both physically and mentally. Annie mentioned the Playground Games which will take place in the school next week.</p> <p>A small amount of exercise before school is a good thing and she hoped to introduce a programme of events next year called "Sportathon".</p>	
	<p>The members broke into groups to discuss how to structure future meetings. Based on the suggestion already made a vote was taken and it was agreed to adopt the structure of Sub Groups meeting at 7 p.m. - 7.45 p.m. followed by the main meeting at 8p.m. This will be reviewed in January 2011.</p>	

<u>4.</u>	The next meeting will take the format as already discussed and will be at 8p.m. on Thursday 4 November 2010 in the school. The meeting closed at 9.05p.m.	
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