



## 2010 Annual Report from the Partnership

### **Meetings**

In 2010, the Partnership has met seven times, with the AGM being held as a separate meeting in January. The December meeting had to be cancelled because of the weather conditions.

The minutes of meetings are available on the website at <http://edubuzz.org/blogs/knoxparents/psp-meetings-minutes/>.

### **Membership**

There are currently seven parent members of the Partnership. Vicky Cole joined as a new member at the AGM, and Derek Simpson joined as an associate member during the year. We were very pleased to welcome these two new parent members. Regrettably Fiona Mackenzie resigned as she no longer had a child at the school. There are three staff members, Linda McInnes, Sarah Ingham and Kath Anderson.

The Head Teacher attends all meetings.

### **Issues Discussed by the Partnership during the School Year**

The proposed closure of the Combined Cadet Force occupied a great deal of time in the early part of the year. Discussions took place with the Head Teacher and the Provost, and Fiona Mackenzie attended a meeting organised by the Community Council. Unfortunately there was no long term support from the Ministry of Defence and it proved impossible to re-locate the CCF to Loretto School. It was with great regret that the Partnership saw the CCF close at the end of the summer term.

On a positive note, Vicky Cole has taken part in the School's new Eco-Committee, set up by the Biology Department, and three teachers from the Department attended the September meeting to put forward their ideas, which were warmly welcomed by parents. An Eco-event and Fashion Show which the Committee organised was well supported by parents in November.

Presentations by Peter Swinney and Stephen Illingworth were made in respect of their responsibilities as Faculty Heads, and Colin Dempster gave a demonstration of the new School website which was well received. The Head Teacher also gave a presentation on the previous year's exam results. Beverley Skirrow, the new Business Manager, gave parents an update on the school budget.

Following the recent spell of bad weather, parents have asked for more information on homework and coursework to be on the website so that pupils can access this from home if unable to attend School. Teachers had made great efforts to come into school during the period of bad weather, and this was much appreciated.

Problems experienced by senior pupils in accessing Tesco's store during lunchtime were also discussed.

**Parent School Partnership Website**

The [Partnership's Edubuzz website](#) has been in operation for just over a year now with great success. It provides a platform for school and pupil issues and debate. There is also a mailing list which parents and carers can sign up to and links to other East Lothian education sites. Please do visit and sign up if you haven't already done so.

**Vacancies for Parent Members**

There are currently vacancies for parent members in the Partnership. This is a good way of becoming more aware of the work of the School, and can be beneficial for your child.

Tim Holden, Chair