



**PINKIE PARENTS
MONDAY, 29 APRIL 2019 7.30PM
PINKIE ST PETERS SCHOOL**

Present:

Suzanne Gunn (Chair)
Pamela Grant (Depute Chair)
Louise Scott (Clerk)
Wendy Barber
Joanne Friend
Suzanne Gilhooley
Suzanne Gunn
Marie Hartley
Katie Mackie
Michael McGavigan
Becca Pollard
Gaynor Ross
John Williamson
Heather Young

Staff in Attendance:

Colette Bonnar (Head Teacher)
Helen Gordon (Depute Head Teacher)

Apologies:

Cllr Stuart Currie
Cllr Andy Forrest

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Suzanne welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies, above were noted.

2. Nursery Building

2.1 Mark Nelson, Planning and Mary Preston, Early Years officials from East Lothian Council provided the meeting with the current plans for the extension to the school building which would contain a new nursery building and a new games hall. Once the new nursery building was ready, the existing accommodation used by the nursery would again form part of the school.

2.2 The plans showed the planned location of the new nursery build, which would cover the existing entrance road to the school, part of one of the playing fields and the old NHS clinic building which would be demolished as part of the work. This would mean that a new entrance for vehicles for the school would be created, roughly adjacent to Edenhall Road.

2.3 The new games hall would be extended from the current pavilion at the back of the school building alongside the dining hall. This would create an additional games hall, which could be used as one hall as well as split into two separate halls. The hall would contain bleacher style tiered seating which would be movable allowing flexible use of the space for the school.

2.4 The new nursery building (as currently planned) would contain two playrooms with mezzanine levels, small spaces, quiet areas and good access to outside play, and indeed more space than was currently available. Nursery staff had been involved in the planning process.

2.5 The plans would require to be signed off by the Head of Education before the next stage of procuring for a contractor would take place. The current plan would be for site work to commence in the summer of 2020 for one year, but this would need to be agreed with contractors. The Council were also looking into a range of building techniques covering both traditional on site building and modular building, with officials from the Scottish Government being interested in this work.

2.6 The new nursery building would have capacity for 20 two year olds and 96 three-four year olds.

2.7 The issue of childcare hours was raised, with this due to rise to 30 hours a week in 2020. ??? Confirmed that this was a duty of the Council, not the school and parent's views on their requirements would be sought so that their needs could be met. This could be done through a variety of sources, including a blended model of both school and private nursery providers being involved.

2.8 Given the work to be undertaken, it would be an ideal opportunity for the school playground space to be looked at and redesigned, where possible, to make best use of the contractor's time and ensure good spaces for our children. There

could also be discussion on the planned location of the new entrance road, with concerns being expressed on the current plans, especially around weekend use of the school grounds. East Lothian Council's traffic officials being responsible for this,

2.9 Colette thanked Mark and Mary for their time. It was agreed that we would discuss this at our next meeting in June, with a view to our comments being passed to the council. **(Action: Louise).**

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Becca agreed to look into possible other funding streams for more ipads for the school. **(Action: Becca).**

3.2 Pamela agreed to look into the use of MailChimp for communicating with event volunteers. **(Action: Pamela).**

4. Head Teacher's Report

4.1 Mrs Bonnar provided her update. In regard to Raising Attainment and Achievement the School Improvement Plan subgroup with Pinkie Parents had been set up and had met for the first time. Scottish Standardised Assessments for P1, P4 and P7 would be taking place week commencing 6 May 2019 – a letter would be issued to parents providing ongoing assessment information.

4.2 Members of the school management team had been assigned as stage leads – with each member of staff leading on different levels of the school. The recent changes in assemblies had shown success.

4.3 Training on managing distressing and challenging behaviour would be provided to staff in the upcoming in-service day.

4.4 Upcoming assemblies would cover friendships and bullying with PC Smith working with children on internet safety.

4.5 A parent workshop on The Teenage Years was being provided by CAMHS for P6 and P7 parents on Wednesday, 15 May. Staff would provide childcare to allow as many parents to attend as possible.

4.6 Mr Drysdale was now leading on the Digital Learning Strategy, working with pupils and forming part of the SIP.

4.7 A newsletter was being prepared to be issued to all families.

4.8 Ms Christie and Ms Samson were having a robust handover with Mr Hogben on science, with Mr Hogben leaving in the summer.

4.9 Thanks were provided to Pinkie Parents on the recent spring craft morning.

4.10 The school was about to receive a delivery from Strawberry Corner of materials for the secret garden. Volunteers would be sought to cut the grass.

4.11 In regard to PEF, parents and carers would be contacted on the next steps.

4.12 The school was in a healthy financial position, so much so that extra play resources and furniture had been purchased. The school had also received confirmation that it would have 17 classes next year, so an extra classroom would have to be furnished.

4.13 With 17 classes within the school next year the pod room would be changed into a classroom.

4.14 A new classroom assistant Ms Fraser had joined the school. There were also PGDE students working in P2 and P7. Edinburgh College students were also working within the school. Mrs Bonnar would also soon be advertising for two new class teachers – a replacement for Ms Watson and for the new additional class next year.

4.15 Mrs Bonnar thanked those who participated in the recruitment exercise for the head teacher post and she was very happy to take on the role as Head Teacher on a permanent basis.

5. Treasurer's Report

5.1 Further to the AGM, the only update was that a cheque from easyfundraising for £106 had been received.

6. Fundraising Update

6.1 The spring craft event had taken place on 27 April. A profit of £30.02 had been made with unused stock being able to be used at the forthcoming EMF stall. The event had been well received and it was a great way to give back to the community.

6.2 Consideration would be given to extending the events to other times in the year, along with events for the upper school.

6.3 Suzanne would issue a rota for the EMF stall for Sunday 26 May. **(Action: Suzanne D).**

6.4 A fundraising meeting would be held on Friday, 10 May to discuss arrangements for the upcoming summer fayre in June. Suzanne confirmed that new guidance had been received from the council and we would not be able to host stall holders at the fayre due to rules on trader's licenses.

7. SIP and PEF Subgroup Meeting

7.1 Pamela provided an update on the group which had met to discuss the School Improvement Plan in more detail, with a further meeting to take place soon. It had been agreed that a child and parent friendly version of the SIP would be produced.

7.2 The group would also consider communication and parental engagement, with staff being given the opportunity to input into the SIP during an in-service day session on 20 May.

7.3 A date would also be set for the inclusion group, which would look at PEF, to meet soon.

8. ELAPCM Meeting Update

8.1 Suzanne provided an update from the recent ELAPCM meeting. There had now been agreed a policy on SchoolPay and when to chase parents for debts on the system. This information had been provided to schools and set out what action schools should take at different levels of debt incurred on the system. A post had been placed on the facebook page to promote the sign up to and the use of schoolpay and further consideration would be given to how Pinkie Parents could be further involved in this. **(Action: Suzanne D)**. There was also a wider link to food poverty and the school was currently looking into the provision of holiday clubs via the PEF funding and the Musselburgh Area Partnership.

8.2 The results from the parental engagement strategy were due to be published week commencing 6 May. Suzanne would look at these with Colette with a view to an update being provided at our next meeting. **(Action: Suzanne and Colette)**.

8.3 The meeting had also discussed the use of social media, and how individuals needed to use their social media responsibly as parent council members.