

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (ONLINE)

MINUTES FOR 15 September 2021

Present: Alan Bonnyman (Chair), Dorian Grieve (Secretary & P5 rep), Chris Bryce (Treasurer), Helen Brown (Head Teacher), Julie Wynn (Deputy Head), Fiona Batista (PT), Victoria Moir (PT), Stephen Frame (Deputy Head), Kate Kitson (PT), Jaime Guenther (P3 rep), Susan Kesson (joint P2 rep), Clare Keatley (joint P6 rep), Katie Brady Patterson (joint P6 rep), Anne-Marie Rigby, Kirsty Chambers (PT), Roz Laing, Alexis Wright, Paddy Morrison (Afty), Natalie Watson, Laura Macdonald

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

2. After school club presentation

PM thanked all the staff of the school and the parents that use the Afty for all their support over the last year. In spite of the pandemic, numbers at the Afty haven't had to be cut drastically; from a usual capacity of 106 pupils they are now taking 95. Although guidance is different for the Afty they try to follow broadly the same arrangements as the school. There are now two bubbles, down from four: P1-3 and P4-7. They are hoping things will return to normal service after the October week.

AMR asked if the restrictions have affected trips. PM said that the summer period was quieter than usual for many reasons and that travel passes which have usually been available for holiday periods have not been available since the start of the pandemic. Nonetheless he hoped there might be a trip at the October week and that by Easter trips to Troon, etc., would be back on. HB thanked PM for all his work at the Afty.

3. Senior Leadership Team report

(HB) HB noted that many important and enjoyable aspects of school are still missing: having parents in for school shows, after school clubs, Christmas fairs, etc. It had been hoped to hold parents' nights in September but, with high numbers of COVID cases continuing in the community, this is no longer looking and they have been postponed to 27 October and 4 November. The school has kept the same restrictions as the previous two sessions which have worked well at containing spread within the school but as society generally has opened up there was a spike in cases at the start of term. GCC and the Scottish Government have said that current regulations would run for the first six weeks of term (until the September weekend) and there has been no indication yet whether these will continue or be eased. If they are eased then not only will parents' nights be possible but also social events, trips, and other winter events. This year the focus of the school's improvement plan is on equity, equality and diversity, making sure learning resources reflect our society and the diversity within it. The school will also be focusing on health and wellbeing, COP26, as well looking at the 2+1 Language programme and the school's assessment and tracking of its pupils.

(SF) There have been some tweaks in the SLT: KC now has overall responsibility for P1, SF will have responsibility for P2-4, and JW, P5-7, with result that there will be a member of the SLT allocated for each level of the curriculum.

Last session one of his main responsibilities was exploring digital platforms for literacy. Having trialled and then purchased Rising Stars for P1-3, the resource has now been purchased for the upper school also, with VM helping to roll that out. This session the school will be looking at the 1+2 Languages programme. It is now a national entitlement that all children are entitled to learn a first modern language from P1 to the end of general education at S3. In the context of Hyndland Primary, Language 1 will be English as the primary mode of communication within the school, Language 2 will be French which will now be delivered across the lower and upper schools. SF has been in touch with the 1+2 Languages development officer, Elizabeth Norton, and the school is already well on the way to knowing what shape the programme will take. Ideally a third language will be introduced at this stage. The selection of this language will be based on the capacity within the staff and also what might be for continuity with the Secondary School.

(KC) As well as P1, KC has strategic responsibility for nurture and for health and wellbeing across the school. Prior to COVID the school did have successful nurture groups along with successful health and wellbeing interventions and those are in the process of being re-established. This term the school is focussing on rolling out its core health and wellbeing programme, Jigsaw. KC will be supporting SF and JW with the active literacy rollout and has also been working with the Young People's Forum which is very involved with the Children's Voice part of COP26 and the Glasgow Children's Rights Charter.

(JW) JW has responsibility for P5-7, pastoral care, teaching and learning and moderational assessment [?] of learning, ASN (Additional Support Needs) and works closely with GDSS (Glasgow Dyslexia Support Services). This year she has also taken on the Family Support Services remit working with outside agency staff, in particular Angela Boyle who is allocated to the school all day on Tuesdays works with families for a lot of different reasons and acts as a bridge between school and home. In the school also at the moment are Marie [surname?] and Alison Smith, play therapists who will be working in the school 1.5 days/week throughout this school year. JW noted the huge positive difference that was made for children Marie worked with when she was in the school previously. One of JW's other remits is the P7-S1 transition programme which normally starts in October. Although the residential trip was not possible last year they are hoping that the P7 trip will be able to go ahead this coming March. The upper school has successfully been working on improving its digital capacity. JW also has a remit around Maths learning which she will be discussing more in the future.

(VM) VM has a remit for digital and digital equity. This year she has been in charge of deploying P7 ipads which went very smoothly. She is in class with P5s and 7s but also working with SF with the first level. She is currently mentoring a probation teacher in P6 and working alongside another probation teacher in P5. In the next few weeks she will be facilitating the deployment of the Rising Stars programme across the upper school. The big thing she will be looking at this year is family engagement and helping families to support their children's education.

(FB) FB is a P7 class teacher and has a remit around sustainability, encompassing COP26, outdoor learning, fair trade among other things.

Last year the school was successful in obtaining grants in this area including one for training which has recently taken place. 10 staff attended the training many good ideas arose during the sessions.

This session there is a focus on COP26 and they are hoping to have a Sustainability Fortnight in the week leading up to the conference and the first week of it. FB noted that there are members of the parent body who are involved in various aspects of climate change and appealed for the PC to spread the word to anyone we might know in this field who might be willing to give a talk in the school over that period encouraging them to get in touch.

Also in this regard, last year FB worked with Hannah McFadyen, the P2 teacher, to embed sustainability goals throughout the curriculum in the lower school.

(KK) KK is working 3 days/week in P1 and her PT role focuses on diversity and equity. Last session she revised the RME (Religious and Moral Education) curriculum, rewriting the policy and curriculum pathway with regards both to the Curriculum for Excellence and the school community. This is being implemented and evaluated this session. Last year KK was also the community police liaison and the school had a number of sessions with PC Barry who talked to the P7s and P1s and was quite a visible figure through the school and that is set to continue this year. She will also be working on a diversity policy in line with the framework provided by the GCC.

CB congratulated the school on the P7-S1 transitions. KBP asked FB how parents who could contribute to the sustainability fortnight should get in touch. They should email HB.

4. The role of the parent council and chair's report

AB outlined the role of the parent council: to work in partnership with the school to represent parents, to be a voice for parents in the school and also, as importantly, with the local authority and the Department of Education, to help build stronger links with the wider community and to bring parents' experience and expertise into the school.

Last year the PC raised funds for and had built three shelters in the school's playgrounds. Most of the usual fundraising activity is based around social events which have not been possible recently and so with the help of the school a recipe book was produced which has raised around £700 thus far.

This year, plans are underway with AMR and JW for gathering a focus group to discuss additional support needs of children; the PC will be lobbying the council again for improved school meal service and is hoping to invest more in the playground.

AW asked if there were plans to have a shelter in the P2 playground; AB outlined the reasons various previous plans have not been practicable and invited any new thinking on the topic.

5. Financial report

(See attached sheet). Music club is the only usual expenditure not incurred last year, due to COVID restrictions, and AB expressed the hope that it will be able return soon. HB noted that, beyond the restrictions themselves, there may be issues around the return of the Music Club as many of the tutors have had to move on or to take on other commitments over this period.

CB thanked everyone in the school and wider community for their generous donations. She also discussed the further potential of the recipe book to raise funds and the possibility for the easy fundraising app to raise more also.

6. Approval of minutes

The minutes were approved.

7. Appointment of year group members and officers

Roz Laing, Natalie Watson and Anne-Marie Rigby volunteered as P1, P4 and P7 reps respectively. The officer holders remained in their current roles.

8. Proposal of meeting dates and any other business

The dates for upcoming meetings were provisionally agreed as: 20 October, 24 November, 19 January, along others in March, April, and June dates to be confirmed.

AB sought board approval to get a quote from Broxap for replacement of the broken polycarbonate sheets on the bike shelter.

AMR noted that she is working with JW to produce a booklet of information on how things work at the school for children additional support needs and is forming a group of relevant parents and carers to inform this. If reps know of anyone who would be interested in this please encourage them to contact Julie Wynn at the school.

AMR asked if getting the various school clubs up and running again is going to be difficult. HB said that, the Music Club apart, the only major issue preventing the other clubs from starting is the space currently required to maintain bubbles and that hopefully these would be back if restrictions ease in the near future.