

MINUTES

Woodside Primary Parent Council
Thursday 11th March 2021: 7pm
Zoom Meeting: AGM

Attending Angela MacLennan, Claire Thom, Elizabeth Fletcher, Gillian Henderson, Jaclyn Robertson, Lori Thom, Lucy Colligan, Lynn Daly, Michelle McQuade, Rhona McRae, Sarah McCready, Barry Naismith, Jonny Simpson, Jennifer Beattie, Cllr Nailon and Elaine Renwick.

Apologies: Julie Lamont, Carol White, Charlotte Officer, Kristina McKean, Eileen McKellar, Louise McRobbie, Kathleen Faloon and Cllr Ross

Introduction and Welcome:

Claire welcomed everyone to the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting 14th January 2021 were approved.

Treasurer's report – See treasurer's report emailed out. Bank balance is currently £2201.08, still waiting on invoice for the hoodies but the supplier may currently be on furlough. Angela has a forecast balance at end June of £885.02 based on projected costs from last year. Given the circumstances we don't currently know if any of the leavers events, sports days or house awards will be able to take place. Angela will be leaving at the summer, after emailing the parent council to ask for anyone interested in taking on role of treasurer to contact Claire, Jonny Simpson is going to take over the role of Treasurer. Angela and Jonny to arrange transfer of treasurer information and to update signatories. Angela has spoken to the bank about altering the account to one that earns interest, easier to change accounts now as everything is online – **discuss at next meeting whether to pursue this**. Elaine thanked Angela for all her hard work over the last few years. Angela will drop off stuff belonging to the school, such as jugs for discos etc to Claire to be returned to the school once we are able to have access to the school again.

Election of Office Bearers

Jonny Simpson elected as treasurer – proposed by Angela, seconded by Claire.

Claire Thom re elected as Secretary – proposed by Jaclyn, seconded by Sarah.

Julie Lamont re elected as Chair - proposed by Jaclyn, seconded by Sarah.

Class Photos

Taking Class photos of each of the classes within the school discussed. Decided to organise this for the summer term – either get teachers to take photos or approach Tony Connolly or Ryan Mimiec to ask if they would be willing [if allowed] to take photos [probably outside] of each class. **Claire to contact to see if they would be willing and how much they would charge**. Decided to give each child a photograph free of charge.

Issues arising from Hamilton Grammar PC meeting [Angela MacLennan]

HGS PC had someone from National Parent Forum for South Lanarkshire speaking. She spoke about sources of information available and was happy to assist individual parents or PC's. Angela to contact her to ask if she could provide us with a summary of what she would be able to talk to us about and we can make a decision whether to invite her to speak at the next PC meeting.

Apps for contact with parents also raised at HGS PC meeting. HGS have purchased parentmail which costs approx. £2800 per year. HGS using PEF funds to pay for this. It will replace all current email, twitter, facebook, webpage communication with parents and will also enable the issuing of permission slips. Will be launched May 21. Parents will be able to opt out if wish to. Elaine gets calls all the time about different apps available. Woodside currently using Parentpay to send emails to all parents. All parents, bar 1, on parentpay so it's working really well for the school. PC members happy with communication via parentpay emails so this will continue to be the method Woodside use for communication.

Headteacher's update:

- Google Classroom and parentpay will continue – schools have altered and so methods within schools have changed. **Could PC put out a guide to Google Classroom ? i.e access it via google classroom app – makes switching being different childrens accounts easier.**
- P1-3's back in school and have settled really well, very tired by end of week ! Settled better than after 1st lockdown – coming back to same teacher and stage and have had more contact with teachers during this lockdown. Thank you to all parents, 1:1 time with kids shows and teachers very impressed with the work that has been being done over google classroom – learning has continued this time over lockdown. Looking forward to getting all the kids back in school.
- Some assessments will be carried out after the Easter holidays. The focus will continue to be on literacy and numeracy with a bit of health and well being. No homework for P4-7 until after Easter.
- With all school coming back need parents to continue to support the school by dropping kids off/ collecting them and then moving away at both 9 and 3 – need to keep the school gates as clear as possible.
- Hope to manage some form of sports day in the summer term – perhaps potted sports for each class to allow them to remain in their bubbles. Kids will be outside as much as possible. School thinking about ways to create good memories of this year for the kids and included in that is some form of event for the P7 leavers – perhaps something along the lines of an outdoor BBQ. Anything arranged will focus on keeping the kids and staff safe.
- Report cards usually due out now. SLC have changed the format of the report cards – more similar to high school report cards with less information. Will bullet point info but information will be restricted. Staff to be trained in the new report cards with Reports going out to parents at the end of May to give teachers time to assess kids. Parental phone calls will take place for all kids before Easter. These were very successful earlier in the year. P1-3 – week beginning 22nd March, P4-7 – week beginning 29th March. Will be a small update on literacy and numeracy and how they have settled back into school.
- There has been a lot of pressure on teachers to learn new skills – increase in ICT skills
- Evelyn McGonagle [Youth and Family Service Worker] has been a huge asset. She has made contact with parents who are not online, supported families having difficulties, delivered computer and food parcels to families in need.
- No Easter service this year but the kids will get an assembly in their classes with Rev. Joanne Hood from St John's Church.

AOCB

Twitter – some classes get lots of photos on twitter, others are never on twitter. School aware of the issues. Currently up to individual class teachers to send photos to Miss Baillie to be put on twitter. The school are going to look at how to get a more equal balance of photos put up.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 13th May 2021