

**MINUTES of Carmondean Parent Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019**

**Present:** Gordon Chree - Chair  
Gillian Brunt - Vice Chair  
Mrs Best - Parent  
Mrs Laing - Parent  
Mrs Scott - Parent  
Mrs Sneddon - Parent  
Gillian Millar - HT  
Matt Shanks - DHT  
Claire Pringle - Acting PT  
Fiona Harding - PSW (Minutes)

GC thanked all present for their attendance. Apologies had been received from Aileen Jamieson.

**LEARNING TOGETHER - SELF EVALUATION TOOLKIT**

In conjunction with Scotland's national action plan on parental involvement, parental engagement, family learning and learning at home 2018-2021, HT and DHT presented tonight to PC a questionnaire to be completed in order to evaluate progress against the goals and actions of the national action plan. GM informed PC that discussion had already taken place between SMT and teaching staff, the general consensus being that some aspects of the questionnaire appeared rather repetitive. Document comprised 46 questions to be answered using the traffic light system of marking - where amber or red was selected, discussion was given as to next steps required in Action Required box.

Extremely positive feedback with only a few Action points to be carried forward, mainly concerned with consultation about school improvement planning and use of the Pupil Equity Fund, and re-vamp of the school handbook.

SMT will now submit the findings from tonight's meeting to West Lothian and the school now has an Action Plan to work on with parents.

## **QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS**

The question was raised by Mrs Scott about the overall general apathy and poor attendance by parents to these meetings. HT had been in consultation with other schools re their figures for attendees to similar meetings and in actual fact we have quite a good turnout this evening, given that in some cluster schools there had been a total of two parents turning up. Attendance to PC meetings in general is also dependent on working patterns in families, availability, childcare, time of year etc. Mrs Best suggested that as lots of parents were very happy with the school they therefore had no issues they wished to raise.

Mrs Scott also asked if invites could be extended to parents/carers/relatives who had particular interests, talents, occupations to share their knowledge within school. We have already had RBS in and the Emergency Services had been well represented with visits from an Ambulance crew, the Fire Brigade, Police and Mr Wotherspoon, who had previously been a member of the Mountain Rescue, had come in to talk to Primary 2.

GC praised the children and staff for the excellent P1/Nursery Nativity play but queried why the rehearsals had often coincided with PE lesson time. HT informed meeting that the logistics and planning of these rehearsals took an inordinate amount of time, when often hall time had to be negotiated as children needed opportunities to practise on the stage altogether. All staff concerned had worked long and hard to make this annual event such a resounding success.

## **PLAYGROUND**

Despite having hoped that the resurfacing job would be completed before Christmas, this has not yet been undertaken. Date for this is now before the end of the financial year and the job has now gone out to tender. HT stated she is confident that logistically the school will cope with contractors being on the premises, given that during the upheaval of our new hall build, we had to relocate the school office to the art room and re-jig the entrances and exits, whilst still managing to provide and maintain our usual standard of service.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Scots Poetry recitals by whole school to be held next week and two pupils from each class will be chosen to represent the school at the annual Burns Competition.

A start has been made on the P6/7 Show which will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> April with a P4/5 show to follow in the last term.

Continuing with our PEEP Programme in the Nursery - encouraging parents to engage with their children's learning.

HT thanked all present for their patience and input at tonight's meeting.

**NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY AT 6.30 P.M.**

