

Garrowhill Primary School Parent Council Meeting
VIA TEAMS
26 April 2022 7p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

Present:

Angela Patrick (Vice Chair/Secretary)
Gayle Clarkson (Headteacher)
Tracy Byrne (Teaching Staff Representative)
Lorna Chatham (Acting Depute Head)
Laura Beastall (Depute Head)
Lindsey Connolly
Gillian McLellan (Treasurer)
Gemma McPike
Lee Bennie
Nicola McGrath
Laura McCosh
Stuart McCosh
Margaret Wilson

Apologies:

Shona Paterson
Gemma Rennie
Amanda Giraud (Chairperson)
Cherie Lincoln
Alan Young

Minutes

Angela Patrick

1 Welcome

a) Apologies

Apologies were noted.

Review Previous Minutes

- 2** The previous minutes from 1st February were reviewed but no actions outstanding.

Action	Who

3 Head Teachers Report

School Roll and Staffing

School Roll is currently: 442

Primary 1 numbers for next session are capped at 66 again. There were 60 Placing Requests so a lot of refusals. Next session we will have 3 straight Primary 1 classes.

We are entitled to two 20 hour SfLW positions. This is due to the increase of universal free school meals for Primary 5 pupils. Due to a 17.5 hour vacancy we were able to increase these positions to two full time 27.5 hour posts. One of these positions has been filled and we welcomed Miss Kirsty Brown to the staff team. We think it may be August before the other position is filled.

We currently have 2 Post-Graduate students working with us. Gillian Leckie previously worked in Primary 2a and now is completing a senior school placement in P7/6. A new student, Megan Thomson, is currently working with P6/5.

Term 4

Term 4 has started well. The P6 & 7 trip to Inverclyde was a huge success. The children had a ball and I am delighted it could go ahead. Huge thanks to all the staff members who accompanied the children on their trip – it wouldn't be possible without them.

Term 4 has also seen an easing of many restrictions in school. The children are now all in school from 9am-3pm. This has made a difference for all staff in terms of managing the school day, it is also better for the children as they are enjoying the opportunity to mix together before school and at breaks. Breaktimes are no longer staggered and the children do not need to stay in bubbles. We also have some new playground equipment which the children are enjoying – football goals and basketball nets to come soon. Primary 6 are currently receiving Playground Pals training. This will allow them to support infant classes at lunchbreak and will continue into their P7 year.

Annual report cards will be sent home on 10th June. Parents are welcome to contact the school office if they wish to make an appointment to speak to their child's class teacher. A parental response sheet will be sent home with the report card.

We have some events planned for this term. We also intend for Sports Day to go ahead this year. Parents are welcome to come along and spectate. P1-3 on the 9th of June and P4-7 on the 10th of June. P7 Graduation events are also planned for 20th and 21st of June. More details will follow to P7 families. Pre-Entrant afternoons are also planned for the 18th and 25th of May. We had a large number of placing requests – our popularity continues to grow – and sadly many refusals.

Next Session

Our staffing for next session has been cut. This is, in part, due to the low Primary 1 numbers this year and the high number of leavers as 71 P7 pupils are leaving us. Technically we are over-staffed this year. Next session we have been given 0.4FTE additionality – this is for raising attainment. Garrowhill has never had an additional staff for this so we are pleased to receive it and it is helping towards staffing.

We have a draft classification in place – for staff, not pupils – but we cannot confirm this yet. We are awaiting information on probationer allocation for next session and also supply staffing. Mrs Leigh Collins is pregnant and will stop for maternity leave in early September.

Budget

We do not yet have access to our budget for this financial year.
School fund – **£2,373 available.**

PEF

We have been given note of our PEF allocation for next session. We will receive £45,325. This is not a huge sum of money. This will pay for staffing – PEF PT differential payment. We are also hoping to pay for a probationer teacher to allow some more flexibility for Principal Teachers and Support for Learning.

School Improvement Progress – April 2022

Priority 1 - HWB: Resilience, Inclusion & Equity

Priority 2 - Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Raising attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

Priority 3 - CFE: DYW and Sustainable Learning

We have made very good progress across all areas of the School Improvement Plan for this session.

Equalities – framework and policy has been launched with staff and SLT have completed initial training on the LGBTQ Toolkit. The main focus for equalities work is about children recognising themselves in the curriculum. This will be a key priority in the next school session.

Active Schools – Two clubs on offer this term; P3 multi-sports and P4 tennis. We hope to have much more availability next session. There are limited number of coaches available as many were made redundant due to lockdown. We will maintain football training and practice for City of Dance finals. The dance crew were successful in the heats and have a place in the final.

Read Write Inc development day in mid-May. Attainment and achievement for all pupils is good and children are showing skills in applying their learning.

Writing - Ms Byrne is leading this area of the curriculum and will be attending Literacy for All training through 'Glasgow Improvement Challenge' this is with a view to developing a progressive writing programme across the school and developing writing skills amongst the children.

Digital Learning – Ms Chatham has been delivering with Quality Improvement Officers and will be working with HTs soon.

PARENT COUNCIL BALANCE

Our current balance is £2611.70 with payment of ties, mugs etc for the P7's and P1 book bags due to be made anytime. We are happy to assist with any other transactions the school may need but are struggling with funds for. Gillian is in the process of setting up the new bank account with the BoS and will be contacting those who have expressed an interest in becoming a signatory.

UNIFORM RECYCLING

School will send out a reminder around our uniform recycling scheme and make the new P1 parents aware of this.

CARS AROUND SCHOOL

Unfortunately, there has been an incident today around a parent receiving verbal abuse from someone driving into the grove just before 9am when many children were about. Reminder to be issued again by the school on responsible parking and behaviours. Will also get the JRSO to design no parking posters which can be displayed around the corners of the school to try and discourage parking here. Alan Barclay will be contacted again around getting the "Keep clear lines" repainted.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

7 June 2022 (AGM)

