

Blackhall Primary School Parent Council

10th May 2023

Minutes

Members Present

Julia Pearson	P1 rep	Colin Chisholm	Treasurer
Kate Walker	P2 rep	Jane Browning	Secretary
Emily Orr	P3 rep		
Nyssa Pinkerton	P5 rep		
Linda Rennie	P6 rep		
Ian Cameron	P7 rep and Vice Chair		

Other Attendees

Kirsty Martin	Head Teacher	Hal Osler	Councillor
Gail Middlemiss	Depute Head Teacher	Max Mitchell.	Councillor
Caroline Irvine	Parent	Gill Cole Hamilton	Parent

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Michael Duncan (Chair), Sine Munro (P4 rep) and Jill McIntyre (PSA rep)

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting on the 22nd February were agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting. No amendments required.

1.1 Matters arising from minutes

ASN representative for Parent Council to be found.	ASN representative still being sought. Any member of the parent body interested can be discussed with Chair. It was discussed that the rep does not need to be a parent of a child with ASN, but is required to be a link to the parent group that provide support to other parents. It is an innovative role on Blackhall Parent Council, with other schools now following. The action will stay open. Action: still open
TOTS campaign	JB noted that conversation with KM still to happen. PC agreed still worth pursuing some awareness of this campaign. Action: still open
Online safety session at joint PC/PSA AGM	KW updated that contact has been made with NSPCC and they are able to deliver training at

	<p>the meeting in June. Minimum of 15 attendees is required. Topics to be covered still to be finalised, likely to be gaming, privacy and modelling good behaviour. All agreed that this would be a worthwhile addition to the AGM. KW to liaise with NSPCC.</p> <p>Action: closed</p> <p>Class reps to highlight to year groups.</p> <p>Action: ALL</p>
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2. Head Teacher Report

The presentation is included as an attachment to the minutes. The following points provide key or additional information to the slides.

Slide 2

Communication sent to parent body about Mrs Middlemiss taking up an Acting Head Teacher post for 6 weeks at Niddrie Mill Primary. Mr Gardner will come out of class to support the senior leadership team.

Concerns regarding disruption to P4M are front of mind, and disruption for next academic year will be minimised when agreeing classes for next year. Separate email has been sent to P4M parents.

Slide 3

Ms McKinney is taking a 2 year career break starting in August 2023.

New classes are being configured and plans have been submitted to the council. We are expecting two p1 classes. Numbers are near the maximum size for P1 classes.

Max pupil numbers;

P1 25, P2+3 30, P4-7 33. Composite classes 25.

Slide 4

Continue to encourage families who are eligible to apply for free school meals.

Slide 6

Attendance letters will come out on 2nd June. Thanks to those that contacted school with the errors on the previous communication with respect to percentage achievement ranges.

Slide 11

Attainment meetings between senior team and class teachers are reviewing pupil progress and ensuring that interventions/ changes made are having the impact on the child as intended.

P3-5 trip to Royal Highland Show on the 22nd June.

Pupils going to decide on topic – French or Art – for the Linda Cross Award.

End of term outdoor assembly on the 27th June.

The Chair thanked Mrs Martin for an excellent and comprehensive report.

Mrs Martin confirmed that since the last PC, there have been no new families signing up for free school meals, so the school has not received any additional funding. It was acknowledged that this is difficult scenario to make improvements on.

3. Updates from year reps

P1 – P5 and P7 none

P6 – it was asked whether P6 not attending the school trip to the Royal Highland School was due to lack of availability of buses or cost of buses. KM noted that it was a tough decision on which year groups to take. Decision needed to be made due to the lack of availability of buses. Year groups were chosen based on what trips and activities they had already undertaken this academic year.

4. Planning for next academic year – Parent Council members

It was requested that all committee members let the Chair know of intentions to stay on the committee next academic year. If not intending to continue on Parent Council please canvas year groups for any new volunteers.

The list of vacancies will be shared with the Parent Forum to seek nominations prior to the new Parent Council being confirmed at the AGM in June. Under our constitution, even if someone wants to stay on the Parent Council for another year, another parent or carer can be nominated for a particular position, which would lead to an election at the AGM.

A member of Parent Council will be invited along to the new P1 parents evening on the 29th May to talk about the role of the Parent Council and see if a new P1 rep can be found.

5. AOB

Some P5 parents have voiced concerns about the format of the new report card. It was noted that the format was developed through a focus group with parent representation. The old format was thought to be old fashioned and new format seeks to include information on the child's progress and social skills.

A survey will be sent out to all parents/carers seeking feedback on the new format. It was noted that following any feedback received amendments and/or explanations for new format would be welcome.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 14 June 2023

Joint AGM with PSA 6-645 pm, followed by online safety session 7-8pm