
Oaklands Parent & Carers Council

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Chairperson: Elaine Weir
Vice Chair: Steven Mansfield

Secretary: Trina Kirkpatrick
Treasurer: Michael Donn

Members:

Claudia Romero
Jane Holmes

Marissa Wilson
Steph Craig
Natasha Murray



Oaklands Parents & Carers Council (Closed Group)

MINUTES

Venue: Oaklands School, Conference Room

Date: Wednesday 22nd February 2017

Time: 7pm

1	Welcome and Apologies	ACTIONS:
	<p>In attendance: Elaine Weir Morna Phillips Leigh Verdot Steven Mansfield Claudia Romero Natasha Murray</p> <p>Apologies from: Steph Craig Jane Holmes Marissa Wilson</p>	
2	<p>Previous minutes</p> <p>Approved by email. Update on actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holiday Play Scheme Summary provided of meeting between MP and EW, and Aneta from Inc Consortium, Robin from The Action Group and Amanda from Lothian Autistic Society.	<p>EW to inform of any updates</p>

	<p>Meeting very reassuring and positive. Group are well organised to take over the summer play scheme and appear to have the wheels in motion for a good transition.</p> <p>They came across and motivated and enthusiastic. The tender had not yet gone out at the time of the meeting, but subsequently has. No details have been made available.</p> <p>It is thought this could have a positive outcome on the quality of the scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SKFF funding for Snoozelan. Funding has been secured from the council to replace the old/broken equipment in the snoozelan. This leaves open the option of appealing to SKFF for the stage lighting needed. Black Light have provided quotes for lighting options and MP is keen to push on with this also as it would benefit many children who are using the school for performances in the coming months. This also strengthens the argument for the benefits of funding. • Charitable status – Alison Nicholson has been contacted via Redhall and is willing to assist/advise on the set up of a charity for fundraising purposes. She is busy in the short term and will be in contact towards the end of term. 	<p>ACTIONS:</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Parent Council matters</p>	
	<p>3.1 Head Teacher Post</p> <p>The advertisement for Oakland’s Head Teacher Post has now gone live with a closing date of 1st March. It is a national ad so it is hopeful it will capture some good candidates.</p> <p>EW and MW underwent the ‘Recruitment and Selection’ training required to sit on the interview panel yesterday 21st February with Maria Lloyd. This was interesting and informative.</p> <p>Next stages are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * selection for interview on 2nd March, * Long leet 13th March, * Short leet 20th March <p>The long leet panel includes 2 PC members, Maria Lloyd, and a CEC colleague. The short leet is the same with the addition of 2 counsellors.</p>	

4	Head Teacher's Report	ACTIONS:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing – 2 permanent PSA posts which are currently vacant will go live 23/2/17. There is also one member of staff returning from maternity to teach part-time after the Easter break. • Website – group are working hard to keep this up to date. Classes will be providing some details later this week about what they have been up to. • CMRG (Case Management Review Group) – will meet 8/9 March to discuss schools intake. It is likely that Oaklands will continue to host a class from St Crispins again next academic year and possibly until their new school has been built. • Dance Festival took place in the school on 8 Feb. This hosted 9 other special schools, and was a tremendous success. • School will be celebrating National Book Day by holding a special assembly in which author Emily Dodd will be attending, reading and staying for book signing after. Pupils and staff are invited to come to school in their pyjamas for a Bedtime story for £1 to raise money for The Scottish Book Trust. All Welcome. • Week commencing 6 March is 'Rights Respecting Week' at school. As the school is already a recognised Rights Respecting School, they will this year be working towards level 2 of this. As part of this pupils will take place in a Rights March and will focus on 5 or 6 of the most relevant rights of the child e.g. rights to an identity, education, a home, food and water. Pupils are invited to have a 'Rights Hunt' in the wood along with role play activities and games. They will also have an International School Dinner day sampling foods from Turkey and Morocco, decorating flags and listening to music. Parents and carers are asked to send in an object/ favourite toy/smell/music that identifies their child. • The Primary will be having a visit from the Little Birds Puppet Show (in connection with North Edinburgh Arts). • The Clown Doctors are visiting the school for a 5/6 week period this term. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter/Spring assembly is on 31 March. Daniel Robertson from Davidson Mains Church of Scotland will be attending as Chaplain to help in the celebrations. • Staff have been involved in updating school policies in advance of the Ready, Steady Go self-evaluation. These policies include Equality, diversity and antibullying; learning and teaching; and Intimate care. MP will email these around the parent council for review/comment with a view to approval. • Following a review of the recent Pupil Review meetings, school have put forward a draft letter to go to families in advance of next year’s meetings. This would act as a guide to the format of the meeting, in addition to offering an opportunity for families to invite other relevant professionals or individuals who are involved with their children. Members thought this was a good idea. • School will be holding a memorial service for Connall on 27 March. Pupils, staff and Connall’s family will be attending to celebrate Connall’s life. Any family and friends of the school are also welcome. • Funding –MP asked if the PC would be willing to provide some money or fundraise for pupils swimming. Currently some pupils swim for free in the school pool while others go to Ainslie Park, but are being asked to pay £2.50 per session. In order to avoid exclusion of families who cannot afford this in favour of pupils who get to swim in school for free, it was thought that around £750 would cover this for the year. EW thought this was a great idea as no pupils should have to pay while others don’t. The fund provided to the PC from CEC should partially cover this. Members are asked to email their suggestions for a fundraiser to EW. 	<p>ACTIONS:</p> <p>PC Members are asked to look out for MP’s email and provide feedback accordingly.</p> <p>Members ideas for fundraising to EW asap please.</p>
5	<p>Next meeting date:</p>	
	<p>It was decided to revise the frequency of meetings to two monthly. We will also give another day time meeting a go with a view to reverting back to evening meetings which are better attended.</p> <p>The next meeting will be Wednesday 26 April at 11am.</p>	

6	AOB	ACTIONS:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EW to attend Special Schools Parent Chairs Meeting Mon 28 Feb • Social Meet with Braidburn Parents to forge some links and share/collate info on great activities for our kids was agreed as good idea to take forward. • Morning meeting again on 26th April in the hope this encourages/suits some new attendees. 	