

## Udston Parent Council AGM Minutes 9/9/19 18.30pm

**Attendees** - PC Members : Chris Barclay, Julie Whelan, Richard McKenzie - Baird, Margaret Murray, Faiza Baqir, Jean Miller, Lisa Warren, Joanna Clabburn, Gillian Scott, Nicola Philp, Tosh Sandhu, Sheena Chadwick.

**Staff** - Elaine Henry (Head Teacher) Lesley Fearnside-Brogan (Acting Principal Teacher)

**Parents** - June Gray, Laretta Carey, Arlaine McDonald, Caroline Ferry, Jennifer Davies

**Apologies:** Liz Morrison, Laura Rainbow, Nicole Clark

**Welcome** - Everyone welcomed to the meeting by Acting Chair Chris Barclay. Format of tonight's meeting explained.

### **School Report:**

#### **Parent Council Partnership**

A very warm welcome to parents and carers who have managed along to the AGM tonight. It's very important for us, as a school community, to have a shared purpose of supporting our pupils, their health and wellbeing, help them reach their potential, and celebrate their achievements. In terms of attainment, we aim to support and challenge our pupils' learning, and it's important that families are part of all of this. What matters to parents and carers is ultimately what matters to schools too.

We work in partnership with the Parent Council to implement the school aims and to help develop positive and purposeful relationships with our parent and carer representatives. Members of the Parent Council play an important part in promoting the school within the Community, and promoting the Community within the school. The Parent Council's Constitution is very clear and transparent about this also. Working in partnership with our local community and elected members of SLC are also a very important aspect of the Parent Council and we have very positive experiences of working in partnership with both.

The Parent Council are representative of the parent forum and therefore aim to represent parental/carers views. This session so far we have reported on the school's Improvement Plan and the priorities - copies of which were displayed for our annual drop-in session, are available on the school website, and are displayed here tonight. Likewise, our evaluation of how we met last year's plan is within the school Standards and Quality Report, which is also displayed & available on the school website. Our spend with PEF funds are discussed at Parent Council meetings, and likewise reviewed. Minutes of meetings are available on the school website for the Parent Forum to read and ideally feedback on.

The school really benefits from the fundraising aspect undertaken by the Parent Council members and monies received assists in the school achieving our aims. The annual subscription for Education City and its homework programme for up to 350 licenses are funded by the parent council. Likewise, Twig/Tig Tag programme has also been fully funded for the last two years as SLC could no longer cover this cost. Digital Technologies' resources have also been funded, including the cost of Bee Bots. This session we are in the midst of ordering multi-sensory resources; play-themed resources for indoor and outdoor use, and training for support staff to progress with Learning Outside - Playground Revolution, as it is called.

Working closely with families is an important part of supporting our children - being able to talk about what matters to parents and carers is an important part of our partnership also. Ultimately we all want the same for our school community - to be SAFE, HEALTHY,

ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE AND INCLUDED. Our School Charter is based on all of the Wellbeing Indicators - through the use of the Shanarri Family characters. All families were given copies of these at the Class drop-in in the hope that parents and carers can talk to their children about them, and the children can talk to the adults at home about what they mean. Our Positive Behaviour Programme is based on these. Our Parent/Carer Review Group met on Friday with the aim that we collectively create an Anti-Bullying Policy based on Building Relationships. Members of the Parent Council will also be part of this process, as will the parent forum.

In the meantime, we are very busy in progressing with the Learning and Teaching across the school and look forward to another productive year, with the school, Parent Council and Parent Forum all working together.

## Chair Report

As I'm sure many of you are aware, our chair and treasurer from last session moved on with their respective children to the big school, and of course we can't forget our other long serving members who have also moved on from Udston. That has left me as current vice chair to present to the parent council and parent forum the annual report and I will also incorporate some of the treasurers information in this report.

So Udston Primary School Parent Council. I'm thinking Amazing, I'm thinking emotional, I'm thinking exciting, I'm thinking there are probably many words that can best describe our parent council. But the key thing for me is dedication, when at discos, fayres or movie nights you see our members working together, members who probably have little in common with each other except for one thing thing, and that's the child or children they care for at this school. The dedication that each and every member and helper shows to the school is unquestionably amazing and as current acting chair I'd like to say thank you to all for the time, energy and enthusiasm that you bring to our events and activities. And of course it's the children who benefit from everything we do let's not forget that, it's why we do it.

So just what have we accomplished this last year? Well it was a healthy mix of traditional and new, old favourites and new ideas. Autumn isn't the same without our Halloween disco, always well attended and before we know it, December is upon us and our Christmas Fayre is one of our most important fundraising events on the calendar, the new year brought us a new event, the family ceilidh which many of you attended and I'm sure we can agree it was a great night had by all.

Another new event followed, which proved even more popular with the children, that's the movie night at school which was repeated again in term 4. We could be forgiven for thinking some sunshine might come our way after Easter, wrongly it seems with a rather wet and soggy treasure hunt, still well attended and quite the favourite now with the children. Term 4 is a busy month inside and outside of school, but we still found time for our Summer Fayre and of course the end of year disco which as is tradition, is presented as a gift to all the pupils.

And of course this is just one area where the fundraising has been directed. Throughout the year the Parent council has funded or part funded the School App, which has been an incredibly useful tool for the school to push out information to parents and carers, the new school Camera which has been great at capturing those moments at school that we as parents sometimes miss out on. Following on from some of the discussions at our regular meetings concerning the cost of the school day, the parent council decided to set up a hardship fund for those parents or carers that need a little more help and this fund is managed discretely by the school to benefit any children on the school role. The two

movie nights we had last year proved very popular and to comply with copyright laws, we were required to purchase a license to screen movies, the great thing is that this licence covers a full 12 months and so we can expect further movie nights in the year ahead, watch this space. Education city is a key tool for a good number of Udston classes, and once more the parent council funded the subscription required for this resource, continuing something we've done for several years. And of course the p7 hoodies are a great gift for our wonderful P7s to treasure when they move on, it's lovely to see so many still worn with pride around the local area. However, one of the most important features of our fundraising this year has been the amazing 5000 pounds donated to the school directly from the parent council. These funds have been earmarked to go towards a new pupil sensory programme and room and this will also incorporate revitalising the external garden area to ensure Udston primary school remains as one of the most successful and best loved schools in Hamilton, loved and respected by parents, carers and of course our children too.

But I really can't stress enough how important your support is in making all these events and funding happen. Not just financial support at the fayres but your time in encouraging the children to come along, coming along yourself and dedicating your time after school, at weekends whether it's being a hall monitor for the infant disco or filling up buckets of water and sponges for our brave teachers. None of these events would happen and I think it could be a much quieter school without this support so again, thank you all for the help and dedication and I hope we can count on as many of you as possible to continue this support going forward into session 2019/2020.

**New PC Forming** - Currently have 14 members. 3 new requests - Arlaine McDonald, Nicole Clark and Lauretta Carey. Agreed that all 3 will be new members of the Parent Council.

Question asked about the number of members on the PC. At present there are 17. No other requests to join. Other parents present at the meeting who are happy to come to meetings and assist at events but did not want to join the PC. Therefore numbers to remain at 17 at the present time.

**New Office Bearers** - 4 current pc members volunteered to take on these roles. 2 people (Julie Whelan & Margaret Murray) applied for vice chair. A vote then took place by show of hands with the vote in favour of Julie by 6 votes to 5.

**New Board** -

**Chair** - Chris Barclay

**Vice Chair** - Julie Whelan

**Treasurer** - Liz Morrison

**Secretary** - Margaret Murray.

End of AGM - 19.27pm.

## PC Meeting Minutes 9/9/19 19.42pm

**Apologies** - Liz, Laura and Faiza who had to leave after AGM.

**Financials** - £382.31

**Dates of meetings discussed** - 7<sup>th</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 16<sup>th</sup> March 27<sup>th</sup> April.

A possible extra meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November to discuss Christmas Fayre with no school presence required.

**Halloween Disco** - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 P1-3 6.30-7.30pm P4-7 8-9pm

Caroline Ferry to check on a DJ Price with someone she knows.

All helpers at Discos must have a valid PVG which needs to be shown to the school for copying and filing.

**Christmas Fayre** - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019. 10am-1pm

Request for stalls to go out via website, app, and parents forum.

**Movie Nights** - P1-3 and P4-7 Dates to be discussed and checked with school as to when we can fit these nights in during what is already a really busy term.

**Fundraising ideas** - Christmas cards to continue this year. New events to be discussed - if anyone has any ideas please bring to next meeting so we can look into them.

**Constitution Changes** - Joanna Clabburn requested that Proxy Votes be considered for AGM alone for absentee members. Chair Person has asked that Joanna put this in writing to him before the next meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> October. Any changes to the constitution must be put out to the whole school forum for consideration and approval.

Also requested by Laurretta Carey that the number of PC members be looked at. The number was set at 17 when the school had a much lower school roll. It was discussed again that we had had no other requests to join the PC. In the event of more requests to join this would be a more pressing matter but as there were not it can be discussed at a later date if necessary.

End of meeting 8.15pm.