



Minute of Meeting

Monday 1 June 2020, 7pm

Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Kelly Wiltshire (Minute), Rebecca Moir (Chair), Dawn Shewan, Marianne Clark, Kelly Bilsland, Nicola Campbell, Jill Smith, Shelley Begg, Emma Fraser, Lesley Phillips, Colleen Callaghan, Caroline Stevenson, Louise Anderson, Hayley Wood, Cheryl Forbes, Ruth Archibald-Swaan, Claire Hunter, Carol Fullerton.

Apologies: Vicky Murray, Emma Gibb, Hannah Findlay, Austin Stevenson, Emma Mowatt (Treasurer), Louisa Casasola, Elaine Strachan, Fiona Petrie, Iain Bell.

Welcome and apologies: RM welcomed the group

The minute of the last meeting was approved

- **Financial Update** - Balance as of 30 March 2020 was £8,600.82
- **School Update** – JS gave an update - Staff looking at different ways of connecting and creating a visual connection with the children, different videos. Good feedback as children enjoying the videos. Caterpillar stones is symbolic and fantastic response and lots of people have already taken part.
- Moving forward with charity number for food donations as Mearns Academy Parent Council and school is not a registered charity.
- Management team is in awe of the teaching staff and PSA's in the way that they have kept the learning going and make the transition back to school to be safe and a success. Everyone has been really positive. Lots of kindness and support. To take something positive out of this experience and take forward. Proud of staff.
- Laptops, reading books and food for those families that need it are being delivered.
- Letter coming out tomorrow to all parents from Jill Smith.
- Nursery are doing daily stories and working on transition..
- **Back to School Plan** - No official plan. Tonight's meeting is just a conversation and initial discussions. What does the Government's advice look like when implemented in our school? Will be worked out on a school to school basis.
- Physical distancing - How can this be achieved? Communication strategy will be crucial. Sharing information with parents is key. It will be hard for the children as it will be a different version of school. Playtime and lunch will be very different too. It will not be a full class. Learning estates have looked at how many people can be in each area of our school. Likely to be a third of a class. A 'bubble - 8 to 10' to limit/stop contact with other children and people to reduce cross contamination. Looking at sibling groups. School transport and their safe travel to school. Additional support needs children.

- No wearing of PPE unless in some limited circumstances. Hand washing will be heightened and lots of hand washing procedures. Lunches will be in classrooms. Increasing the use of outdoors. Timetabling outdoors. Toilets need to be considered. Children will be able to go to the toilet as and when required. Potential one way system to travel around the school.
- Likely to be reduced days and length of school day. Two models; over two weeks - in for 3 days or over three weeks in for 4 days. Children may not be in school on the same days each week, but parents/carers will be given the dates that they are in. Critical childcare hubs are likely to still be in place until Christmas time.
- Laurencekirk Out of School Club (Loosc) for parents who may need wrap around care, no discussions have been held between the school and Loosc on whether they will be able to run or if they can whether they can run in school building due to needing to reduce the people in the building. Loosc gets advice from the Care Inspectorate.
- Working on and compiling new classes, they won't just be able to move up.
- School Uniform, bigger push on outdoor learning. Need to be appropriately dressed. School jumper only? Relaxation in the short term? Unlikely to require different indoor and outdoor shoes. No objects/teddies, everything will be at desks. Cloakrooms will not be used. Strong emphasis on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. Minimise movement within the school. Classrooms will be cleared from all unnecessary furniture etc.
- Create a sense of permanence in each classroom (not muddling through, not stacked up furniture etc), even though it will be so different.
- Build trust and confidence
- Transition for p7 to S1 and getting information to parents and children. What can they expect? Likely to come out from Mearns. P7's to have some sort of virtual or otherwise bringing back together to say goodbye and move forward. P7 teachers looking into this. Could LPP do this? Throw a celebration and bring them back to school when appropriate?
- Cleaning will be revised and will look very different.
- **Donation Boxes Update** - One for school supplies and one for food items. They are currently in transit. Still to be decided where they are going to be put at the school. LPP will advertise these when they arrive. Likely to go next to sheds on school playing fields. Should be in place by the end of the week. Resource Station. Will be for donations and taking away resources that are required. A bottle of hand sanitiser will be available next to the box.
- **Virtual Events/Community Activities** - Treasure hunt? Could we promote the existing treasure hunt? Another Where's Smithy? If anyone has any ideas please let Rebecca know. Name the caterpillar competition. Then a mini hide and seek mini caterpillars treasure hunt?
- **AOCB** – no other business
- Next meeting is to be held on **29 June 2020, 7pm, Virtual meeting, link will be sent out in advance. May have another meeting in between if required to discuss Back to school.**