



Oxgangs Primary School – Parent Community AGM Minutes

Thursday 29th October 2020 – Hosted on Teams

Present: Aristides Kiprakis – Chair (AK), Lesley Roarty, Kaythie Reid (KR), Ewan Stewart, Kathryn Wright – Head Teacher (KW), Kevin Brack – Former Acting Head Teacher (KB), Louise Mercer – Teacher Rep, Lauren McKay (LMcK), Crerar Christie, Gill Christie, Ben Panter, Fiona Morrison, Ben Bunting (BB), Gordon Robertson, Jen Edmonston, Victoria Harte, Kerry Knox (KK), Amelia Hill, Bertrand Frossard, Patricia Rudolf Von Rohr, Jo Stewart, Ruth McGrath, Barbara Findlay (BF), Eilse Quesnell, Herve Lacroix, Vijay Kumar Parri

Apologies: None

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

2. Approval of previous minutes (17.09.2019)

AK approved the minutes- duly seconded by KR

3. Updates

(i) Head Teacher Report – Kevin Brack/Kathryn Wright

KB thanking the parents, staff and pupils at the school and wishing everyone well for the future.

KW beginning by noting her thanks to KB who has made the handover very much easier by way of comprehensive lists and notes. Also noting that it is very clear within the school just how much KB was valued and appreciated.

Having not been in the door long, KW just wanting to note a couple of themes going forward that she wanted to look at developing:- (i) communication- parents are likely to be feeling very excluded/distanced from their child's education following the events in recent months, and (ii) staff development- mentioning in the short term mandatory training for all staff on equalities.

(ii) Chair Report – Aristides Kiprakis

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AK also reiterating the Parent Council's condolences to Mrs Irvine and her family- this was one of the saddest times for the Parent Council community.

(iii) PTA Report - Lauren McKay & Ben Bunting

LMCK noting that there is approximately £7000 in the pot at the moment, Missing the May Fair this year was a big loss, together with the Hallowe'en and Christmas parties which will also not run this year. Reporting that the Christmas cards brought in £515.

Otherwise, it being discussed that currently of the two PTA signatories one no longer has a child at the school. BB updating the meeting on the handover of the accounts, which, unexpectedly given COVID and lockdown, was taking much longer than anticipated.

BF stepping forward to offer to help with the PTA going forward.

(iv) Playground Development Group Report – Kaythie Reid

The activity cube due for the infant playground earlier in the year had been delayed for obvious reasons. There were some issues around updated costs which will need to be looked at but it being noted that the parent council has money in the pot to assist with this if necessary.

Aims for this year are to engage with KW re what had previously been proposed and to check that the previous plans were still what the school wanted to do with the playground.

There have been no work squads this year. Noting that some work as now required to check/maintain the shed before the winter.

4. Election of PCC Members and new Committee

The election of a new committee is not required at this time but various people put themselves forward to be PCC members- Kerry Knox, Herve Lacroix, and Jo Stewart (FGR, LMCK, CC and AK noting their intention to remain members also).

5. Discussion of issues raised by the Parent Forum

- (i) GR asking if there was a need for new ipads. KW reporting that a consignment of new ipads was expected imminently which will give the school 20 per year group (excluding nursery)- once these have been rolled out the need for more will be assessed.
- (ii) Regarding breakfast club, KW noting that she intended to look into whether a way to restart this service might be by offering a pay as you go service which would still involve pre-booking, as with school lunches, but which would not require parents to commit to using it 100% of the time. She intends to run the survey again to see if this unlocks things.
- (iii) KK expressing concern over (i) the amount of the curriculum missed out by pupils due to the lockdown, and (ii) the fact that homework does not presently seem linked in any way to what classes are working on in school. Noting that it is very difficult to have a feel for how children were doing vis a vis the curriculum in light of this.
- (iv) AK noting that the parent survey was coming up. There was likely to be some COVID specific content that it would be appropriate to include- this was to be discussed further at a future date.
- (v) LMCK asking about alternatives for the cancelled school camp this year- KW indicating that at present she was thinking around some sort of outdoor learning day activity, possibly in the summer term.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is Monday 16th November at 6.30pm.

AK closed the meeting at 7.45pm