

Parent Partnership meeting 26th March 2024 7pm

Attendees: Emma Ormerod (EO), Ed Jupp (EJ), Helen Beasley (HB), Margot Russell, Zoe Orr, Karlyn Durrant, Hannah Clark, Laura Diamond, Lauren Saunders, Sarah Scott

<p>Welcome and apologies: 7.00 - 7.05</p>	<p>Lucy Napier, Louise</p>	
<p>Approval of previous minutes: 7.05 - 7.10</p>	<p>All agreed</p>	
<p>Treasurer update: JC 7.10 - 7.15</p>	<p>£706.56 in bank account plus £21 Request for funding for football strips. Parent group agreed to funding for these. Two teams being supported by parents and at request from Young People for more extra curricular clubs.</p> <p>Just giving page and sum up suggested that PP could take on to raise funds. Portable chip and pin machine.</p> <p>Parent suggested a PP rep seek £5 donation at P7 open evening to raise funds or scan a QR code to donate.</p>	<p>EO to send request to JC</p>
<p>Headteacher update: EO 7.15 - 7.45</p>	<p>Attainment update. Insight data posted twice per year and we are strongest school in authority. All leavers data S4-6 only for those who have left. Above comparators. Level 4 and level 5 - above last years results, Literacy: above virtual comparator on level 4 and equal to at level 5 Numeracy: Best in authority. Virtual comparators significantly above at level 4 and even more so at level 5. Sought by 4 in LA and 2 outwith for sharing best practice. More doing level 5 in literacy - huge jumo from last year but still work to be done. Young people with ASN struggling to attain at these levels. Numeracy - different from literacy. 100% in S5 attaining level 4 in literacy All S5 left with attaining literacy qualification. ASN young people significantly above virtual comparators.</p>	

	<p>96.43% positive destination from S4-6 leavers. Challenging school to get more YP into higher ed. - pushed above where we were last year. Less into further as going into higher. Others into employment. 100% positive destination for S6s and best in LA. ASG working together to achieve this for DHS. Tracking and met with to support to succeed. Attainment for all: last year below Midlothian and this year we're above Midlothian. Mentors in place for YP. Continue to improve on attainment. Attainment vs deprivation: trying to be in line with national picture. SMD2 (7) and SMD 7 (1) in categories that need to be improve. In line with virtual comparator at all levels. Understanding what makes a difference to these YP.</p> <p>Laura Saunders said it would be Interesting to share this data with ASG primaries - EO sharing it with ASGs.</p> <p>New teachers appointed: Business, Drama, 2 Maths teachers pending pre-employment checks.</p> <p>PT of Inclusion post being interviewed this week.</p> <p>Acting HT short leet being interviewed 28th March. Will announce ASAP after this.</p> <p>New school website being launched in May. Existing one clunky and not easy to use on mobile phones. Parent Council section - what information we would like to include in that part. Whole school calendar included.</p>
<p>Toilet update: EJ, HB, EO 7.45 - 7.55</p>	<p>Toilets unfit for purpose and discussions held with Margot Russell. EO trying to work with BAM requesting refurbishment. Facilities raised regularly. BAM say enough capacity toilet wise with main toilets and singular ones throughout school. What was built 20 years ago not reflective of where we are now. Difficult areas to manage. Newbattle or Lasswade designed with open areas with floor to ceiling doors. YP struggling with facilities in school with vaping and vandalism. EO policing toilets regularly and getting into better habit. No toilets are closed but YP are using singular toilets and staying in there for long periods of time. YP using it as an excuse and wandering to find a toilet. Toilets are never closed by school.</p> <p>Vape alarms requested to BAM in January - chased again</p>

26th March. School would have to fund this. S1-3 vaping not senior pupils.

LS suggested PP could fundraise for this. Cost to install by BAM is more than cost of alarms.

AO - forum with YP, Parents, Teachers and BAM.

EO - Duty officers out every period and SLT in toilets regularly to ensure they are clean and if not are reported to day cleaner. One cleaner for entire campus (St Davids, Saltergate and DHS) YP caught with Vape and EO takes them into office and makes them call their parents themselves.

LS and LD - Talk to YP in Primary to support with PSHE lessons in BGE about dangers of vaping.

KD- can we use school nursing team to support.

EO - school nurse only at DHS max two days per week and not for last 6 weeks. Now back in place within school.

AO - LA support to educate about addiction related to vapes.

EO - advertising campaign important to education all about legalities of selling underage.

MR - big campaign about legal highs a few years back outside a shop selling to YP. Good Trading Standards guys if evidence provided.

KD - PC attends classes?

EO - attends classes, assemblies etc everyone gets same message.

ZO - perception that is socially acceptable now

AO - communication to parents.

EO - can send message out to parents.

JC - if vaping for 6 months addicted - can't just stop, need additional support.

EO - chemical waste when sanitary bins tipped over - two days to get it professionally cleaned. Duty officers check toilets and

	<p>toilet passes issued. Has improved things.</p> <p>JC - how much for vape alarms?</p> <p>EO - finding quotes and creating communication with parents.</p> <p>MR - suitably unimpressed by toilets, Met with Steven Smail (council liaison officer with BAM) He is looking into the cost for single cubicles. Preferable solution. SS costing options.</p> <p>Urinals - modesty an issue for boys. Place partitions in urinals so not overlooked. Short term solution. Will chase up vape alarms too.</p>
<p>Letter to council: EJ, HB 7.55 - 8.00</p>	<p>MR - full council meeting. Intake both primary and secondary . Improve intake limits. Safeguard places to attend catchment schools. DHS catchment S1 213 limit 220. Increased beyond sustainable limits. Capped at some stage. Council say timetabling will solve issues. Information elected members is not correct. Capacity for fire safety from BAM 1000 next year 1054. Reached capacity next year but St Davids role is declining. Support team moved into shared office to use as classrooms and breakout spaces. Capped at 220 not 200 as usual. 217 due to start in August.</p> <p>KD - house building needs to stop.</p> <p>MR - can we say to developers not to build? Checking with legal team they can say no when it comes to planning. Waiting for them to respond. Infrastructure not there for house building. No more land of council owned land only Dof B land.</p> <p>EO - still need a solution for Dalkeith as breaching capacity now.</p> <p>LS - Scottish Government need to agree funding for Shawfair.</p> <p>EO - Danderhall parents will be affected and no Danderhall parents at PP. How can we reach these families to ensure parents' voices are heard. Can speak with Danderhall PP and speak with HT there. Education have little process as its a planning matter. We need to ensure that Education is central focus to those discussions.</p> <p>MR - Shawfair land purchased by developers already. Talk about school but needs a focus - Parents can seek a meeting to discuss with Danderhall PS as well as DHS.</p>
<p>Bullying and classroom behaviour/disrupted learning: Parental email 8.00 - 8.10</p>	<p>Bullying and equalities consultation to be launched in Aug 24. Pupils and staff involved, parents sought but only 2 parents replied to that. FB page requesting parental involvement too.</p> <p>Bully button on new website to report things sensitively. Survey results felt they wouldn't report things as seen as snitch.</p> <p>Classroom behaviour - two weeks - twice as many staff supporting every period in corridors and classes.</p>

	<p>Improvements are being seen. Assemblies for S1-3 as these years groups are causing most concern.</p> <p>TofK coming into school to work on behaviour, respect and feelings and how to manage that for S1s. 51 people in S1 and S2 intervention with art link. All YP are fantastic but in groups don't work well together,</p>	
<p>Dyslexia policy and support staff: KD 8.10- 8.20</p>	<p>No individual policy on dyslexia but this comes under inclusion. R&W toolbar introduced and training on this occurring.</p> <p>SEEMIS info for each child. SIP on inclusion spreadsheet - all info and strategies included on that.</p> <p>KD and AO attending focus group with council regarding this. Neuro condition and how it affects children in different ways. Training by dyslexia scotland.</p> <p>ADHD training in October and part was including dyslexia - do upskill staff regularly.</p> <p>EO - Member of staff trained to test YP with dyslexia and other interventions in place. Paired reading etc To many to support individually so upskilling teachers in classroom is key.</p> <p>AO - need enough LA support in school to support YP so need all class teachers to understand and support</p> <p>EO - Twilight sessions to keep things fresh for teachers.</p> <p>KD- mental strain on YP significant and tests etc not a reflection on YP ability</p>	
<p>Playground supervision: KD 8.20 - 8.25</p>	<p>Are staff monitoring areas of playground over breaks?</p> <p>EO- SLT on rota and Middle leaders too.</p> <p>EO - PC Kindry chatted regarding being off campus. Owner of land isn't putting fence to prevent access. Across from bus bays - wooded area including a burn. When aware YP are there member of staff are sent to return children to school.</p>	

	MR - will ask developers to put fence up by SUDS water by Sainsburys	
After school sports clubs: LD 8.25 - 8.30	BGE clubs all on one day. Last year all spread out. YP have to choose one thing. Can they be spread out.	EO - will feedback to staff. Extra Curricular led by staff down to staff availability
SUSTI: LN 8.30 - 8.35	<p>Not enough staff to do trips away and 650 YP missed school. Not enough places. Asked leaders of SUSTI to lead S1 Year trip and S2 year trip but not enough staff. Reduce timings to include more options. No other secondaries doing SUSTI. Challenges = cost for families and YP and all YP have access. Has been cancelled. Class teachers can run trip if they wish. AO - are these trips solely for departments only. EO - offered to all though priority given to department YP.</p> <p>KD - could parents run it? Eo - parents would have to be Disclosure checked. SS - what meaningful activity happening last week of term? YP don't want watch movies - how do we engage and ensure attendance?</p> <p>EO - not communication to teachers from EO. MACO from other secondaries could miss learning due to SUSTI. Starting new courses so learning takes place.</p>	

	<p>LS - no teaching due to not enough children being in.</p> <p>AO - no learning so YP not going in.</p> <p>KD - sports day was fun but half of DHS left to go to McDonalds.</p> <p>SS - expectation on YP was that they could leave if they want.</p>	
<p>Transition Q&A events for parents of children with ASN: AO 8.35 -8.45</p>	<p>Parents of ASN and enhanced transition also have an enhanced transition experience to gain same info YP are given.</p> <p>EO - Parents will get that at P7 parent evening later in year. Another pastoral and learning support.</p>	
<p>Communication around events: 8.45 - 8.50</p>	<p>Red nose day info sent out to all staff to read out each day of the week.</p> <p>Tannoy announcements made.</p> <p>Active school coordinators send out info on items they lead.</p>	
<p>AOCB 8.50 - 8.55</p>	<p>MACO - no update from council. Saving 50 mins per year group.</p> <p>S1 technologies</p> <p>S2 PSHE</p> <p>S3 Rotation of core 4 x core (opportunity to look at curriculum next year after next year) pupil support, pe and RME/PE half way through year</p> <p>S4/5/6 reduction of core eg health and wellbeing pe/dance</p>	

	Shared break on a Friday	
Date of next meeting: 8.55 - 9.00	Wednesday 8th May 7pm, Art Department	