



# Torrance Primary School & Early Years Centre

## Parent Council Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 @ 18:00

**Location:** Bocclair Academy

**Present:** Dave Fielder (DF, Chair), Laura Browne (LB, Clerk), Joanne Cockburn (JC), Laura Law (LL), Lynsey Slowman (LS), Euan MacMillan (EM), Gillian Bonar (GB) and Cllr Lynda Williamson (LW)

**Apologies:** Lizzie O'Donnell (LO)

### 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

DF welcomed all to the meeting and noted attendance as above.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the May 2023 meeting were agreed.

**Action:** Cost of the School Day. ONGOING See point 3a

**Action:** Joint meeting between PTA and parent council to be set-up. ONGOING LL to arrange a date for this

**Action:** Red blaze pitch. ONGOING LW has arranged for Greg Bremner (Interim Chief Education Officer for East Dunbartonshire Council) to come out and look at the red blaze pitch. LL is considering using Food for Thought funds and using part of the area for planters.

**Action:** LB to share ideas with Bocclair PC for consideration. COMPLETE

**Action:** JC to provide a PC update for the upcoming June school newsletter. COMPLETE

**Action:** Parent Council Constitution: Parent members agreed to meet to create a TPS Parent Council Constitution. LB to arrange meeting. COMPLETE

**Action:** DF, LB and LL to agree dates for next year. COMPLETE

### 3. Matters Arising

#### a. Proposed PC 23/24 work plan

DF shared details of the PC's proposed 23/24 work plan, which includes the following key areas:

- Support the school to achieve its improvement plan
- Progress the FAIRNESS room
- Assist in accessing relevant funding
- Support/provide input in relation to the upcoming homework pilot/review

LL supportive of the PC's proposed 23/24 work plan.

LL suggested improvement plan PC support/input in relation to the world of work careers/skills block of learning in term 3 and in relation to the anti-bullying policy review which will happen pre-Christmas. PC members were in agreement and will await further details. **ACTION:** LL

PC members expressed their keenness to progress the FAIRNESS room and get it up and running. **ACTION:** LB to work with LL and GB to prepare a communication to parents requesting donations and providing further details.

Discussion took place on priority areas for gaining access to additional funding. LL suggested exploration of the Flight Path Fund to find out more about what we could potentially access funds for, with the planting area (red blaze pitch) in mind. **ACTION:** LL to share details with EM to explore further.

A discussion was held around the number of support staff / teaching assistants in the school. LL advised that the school utilised the staff it had well and whilst more support staff would always be welcomed, the level of support was manageable at the current time. The PC offered to advocate additional funding if that would help with the process.

The upcoming homework pilot/review was discussed, along with various options for consideration. The PC is supportive of LL's plans to run a pilot, with a survey pre and post to measure its success.

It was agreed that the PC's proposed work plan will be shared in October's school newsletter, providing parents with the opportunity to provide input before finalising. **ACTION:** JC to prepare PC update for October's school newsletter.

### 4. Councillor's Report

Given the recent school holiday period LW had nothing to update on, but did inform the PC the SQA secondary school results for East Dunbartonshire had been very positive.

## **5. Head Teacher's Report**

LL talked through the Head Teacher's report that she had prepared in advance of the meeting. It covered the following areas:

- Staffing update
- Dogs in the playground
- Homework
- Vision, Values and Aims
- School and EYC Improvement Plan priorities

It was agreed that the 'Paws off our playground' video prepared by the P7s, to help discourage the walking of dogs in the playground, should be shared beyond the school and that the Torrance Community Facebook page would be a good way to do this. **ACTION:** LS to share the video on the Torrance Community Facebook page.

LL shared the school vision, values and aims. The PC members provided input to the proposed SHINE aims. Views were expressed that the aims should include more emphasis on ambition, achievement, inspiration, challenge, inquisitiveness, curiosity, no limits to what can be achieved. LL to consider.

## **6. Correspondence**

LB updated that no correspondence had been received through the PC email account.

## **7. AOB**

Buchanan Place stairs: LL updated that access to the school via Buchanan Place has been closed as there is movement in the stairs. The school is currently in the process of gaining 2 quotes, which will be completed imminently. The work to repair the stairs will then commence, with LL aiming to get this started as quickly as possible.

## **8. DoNMs**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March (AGM) 2024

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

All to be held at Bocclair Academy at 6pm