

## **MINUTES OF MENZIESHILL HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2015 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: H Gray, S Baird, A Collins (Chairperson), K McNally, F Kelly, H Rennie, S Hood, G Scott, P Crosbie (Minute)

Apologies: C Irons, T Jamieson, K Turnbull

### **1. Welcome**

Alison welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed this meeting would be held to update on the closure of the school.

### **2. Update**

Alison updated the meeting with the feedback from the meeting held with parents and Paul Clancy regarding the interviews for the Head Teacher's post at Harris Academy on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Helen updated the group on a core group meeting held today with 3 senior managers, Helen, Angela White, Barry Millar (new Head Teacher at Harris Academy), and two local authority reps. Staffing was discussed and an overview of the closure.

Two deputies have been involved in curricular transition and are trying to work out what the new curriculum could look like which will then lead to staffing numbers in January/February 2016. Once this has been done surplus staff and staff shortages should then be able to be worked out.

The new building looks impressive and will hold fantastic opportunities for all pupils.

A mock course choice will be completed by pupils in November to get more of an idea what the figures may look like for next year.

Practicality discussions are ongoing around how inductions into the new building will be able to take place.

Principal Teachers have all received individual interviews. The redeployment process for them will take place between now and January 2016.

The next three in-service days between November and February have been set aside for staff from both schools to be able to come together to work on curriculum issues within both schools.

Principal Teachers within both schools are to work together.

The In-Service Day in May will be for all new staff in Harris Academy to have the In-service day together and any staff who will be moving to other schools across the city to spend the in-service day with their new school.

Departments are also working toward informal transition events throughout the year.

Pupil transition – guidance staff from both schools met to marry together processes to work out similarities and differences between both schools. Leona and Alison will draft up an action plan. They will meet again in January 2016.

Enhanced transition has started and is ongoing.

There have been consultations held with pupils to work through their hopes, fears and anxieties of the move. A loss of identity was what most pupils felt and it has been agreed to put a plaque up in the new school.

Transition events in the planning:

May/June – it is hoped to develop a transition to manage the 3 week period of change of timetable for orientating pupils.

It is hoped to show photos of the new school's progress at assemblies to update pupils.

Transport group – All pupils and families will be consulted and an action plan drafted. The Community Learning Development placement within the school is assisting with this.

Feedback to be received back from the community by December in order to sort transport arrangements re buses, or school passes.

The primary cluster associated with Menzieshill (Hillside, Gowriehill and Camperdown Primaries) will now be part of Harris Academy Cluster.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November and the timeline for transition will commence from today's date.

Bingo Evening: It was agreed to hold the Bingo Evening in February 2016 to be able to plan more effectively.

Mr Baird suggested using the proceeds from the Bingo Evening to help fund Year Books with the History of Menzieshill, as well as current staff and pupils being a theme.

Christmas Concert – This will be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Helen asked if the parent council would contribute with a Chocolate Tombola Stall and the proceeds of the evening will go towards a Band Camp being organised by Miss O'Neill