



North East/ South East Locality

Meeting Details			
Date of Meeting:	26.10.2022	Location:	Via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Attendees Present	
Name:	Position Held:
Elaine Gallagher (Chair)	Senior Education Officer CEC
Lynn Paterson	Senior Education Manager CEC
Cllr Keith Robson	City of Edinburgh Council
Alex Ramage	Liberton High School Parent Rep Education Children & Families Committee parentrep.edin@gmail.com
Naomi Barton	Currie Community High School PC P
Jennifer Graham	Abbeyhill Primary School PC
Jenni Longstaff	Drummond Community High School PC
Rhona Maurage	Castlebare High School PC
Martin Bennett	Queensferry High School PC
Tefan Santjer	Bruntsfield Primary School PC
Sharon Fairweather	Portobello High School PC
Sarah Scott	James Gillespie's High School PC
Siobhan James	James Gillespie Primary School

Apologies Received	
No Apologies were received.	

1. Welcome.

Elaine Gallagher (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting. Elaine introduced Lynn Paterson. Elaine noted Lynn now has Parental Engagement within her remit.

1a AOCB

Alex Ramage requested that changes to Scottish Education be added as an AOB item. Elaine explained that due to the time constraints of today's meeting and the lack of advance warning this was unfortunately not possible.

Noting that there are 2 consultations running concurrently at the moment relating to Education and SQA with one consultation closing on 5 December, delegates suggested an interim meeting to discuss these consultations only with a view to ensuring all PCs can discuss and ensure parents a given a voice in these consultations. Elaine will consider this option.

Sarah Scott suggested Parental Engagement write to Parent Councils advising of both consultations and include the link to each.

Elaine agreed this would be done.

Elaine also advised that Stephen Kelly, Senior Education Manager will be attending the next Locality meeting.

2. Parental Rep Nominations

Lynn Paterson Senior Education Officer CEC shared her presentation "Edinburgh Learns for Life" "Learning together".

Lynn discussed CEC's vision of A fairer, healthier, greener future for everyone, where learning for life happens at school, in the wider community, at home, and in in the workplace and the goals to Transform, Connect and empower.

Lynn discussed the national vision for education – improve attainment and the health and wellbeing of children noting that all departments and agencies must work together to achieve this aim. Lynn stressed the importance of parental engagement.

Lynn discussed the Consultative Committee with Parents; CCwP noting this is a forum that gives parents from across the city the chance to discuss citywide and national issues with members of our staff and other groups.

The CCwP meets four times a year. Agendas and papers are sent out one week before the meetings.

Cllr Joan Griffiths is the new Chair of CCwP and holds the post of the Convenor of the Education, Children & Families Committee. Cllr Griffiths wishes to have two parents sit on the EC& F Committee: one from the Primary Sector and one from the Secondary Sector. This will enable Parent/Carer Representatives to speak on the behalf of all parents and carers, taking their views from their locality groups and the (CCwP).

To this end nominations are requested, if interested contact the Parental Engagement email account by 1 November 2022.

Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk

Lynn confirmed that this person is not required to hold any office within a Parent Council. Also confirmed was although 2 years is noted for the duration of the post it does not preclude anyone who may only be in a position to take part for a lesser time.

Alex advised that the CCwP are normally held 4 times per year - more if required and convene at 6pm - 8pm and the EC&F Committee convening at 10am lasting until around 2 or 3pm. And on rare occasions longer.

Alex also reminded delegates the Parent Rep(s) have no voting rights on the EC&F Committee.

The official procedure is Nomination -Parents and Elected Members will vote and this will go to full Council for ratification, Alex reminded delegates that before the Parent Reps can sit on the EC&F Committee, they must be PVG checked - CEC will pay for this process. Alex also noted that the Parent Reps will be required to complete a financial statement as per elected members.

Delegates questioned why CCwP was not broadcast noting it would be possible if the meeting was held in a meeting room which has a webcast facility. Delegates agreed broadcasting would both raise awareness and encourage inclusiveness. Alex advised the amount of time he would spend on Parent Rep works on a weekly basis could fluctuate greatly depending on subject but could be 2-4 hours – “but not every week”

The suggestion of a small publication being put together explaining all the requirements, (including usual times of meetings) of the Parent Reps would be useful as this could be shared with Parents/Carers cohort. Lynn will arrange this.



Locality Meetings
Parent Rep Informatic

Elaine thanked Lynn for her excellent presentation.

3. Future Meeting Agenda Items Discussion

Elaine requested proposals for common issues that should be ongoing agenda items for future Locality meeting noting the previous NW/SW Locality meeting held on 25.10.2020 had suggested Staffing, SQA Exams etc.

Delegates agreed the following;

IT Costs, provision and how funded.

Growing the offer of digital learning.

Attainment in Maths around the city given the teacher shortage

Procurement: what are the rules around purchasing as some PCs feel they are given mixed messages.

The Edinburgh Promise and how this will affect schools

Quality of catering including Halal meat options

Rising Rolls (Elaine advised that Robbie Crockatt will attend the January Locality Meeting

Parental Engagement - engaging with more, diversity - translators, child-care etc.

Sharing best practice and ideas with a view to driving parental involvement.

School Lets, toilets and vaping issues.

Lynn agreed that the proposals concurred with CEC priorities which therefore suit both sides, noting that we must ensure there is not too many items on agendas to allow sufficient time for each topic.

4. CCwP

Elaine reminded delegates that the next CCwP will be held on 8 November. This will be held in the City Chambers 6pm -8pm. Naomi Barton, Sarah Scott, Alex Ramage will attend and Jennifer Graham will possibly attend.

Delegates agreed that going forward, volunteers to attend subsequent CCwPs will be asked for at each Locality Meeting. Alex reminded delegates that 12 volunteers can attend from the geographical localities with a further 2 each from Special Schools and ASN Mainstream

-a total of 16 delegates.

Elaine thanked all for attending and their valuable input and there being no other business closed the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting	
23 November 2022	Microsoft Teams

Addendum to Minutes

North- East/South -East Locality Meeting held on 26 October 2022

Following the meeting, Alex Ramage, Parent Rep has requested the following be added to the minutes:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/12841/parental-engagement>

Extra things that parents need to consider as part of the Parent Representative role:

1. The person needs to have a current PVG certificate. The council will pay for you to get this.
2. The rep needs to complete a councillor declaration regarding financial and non- financial information. (All councillors need to do this and the council may be asked to disclose it).
3. They may be approached by the press to give an opinion on a current issue.
4. Some items of committee business cannot be shared - parent representative must honour that.
5. All committee meetings are webcast.
6. Papers for committee meetings can be large. Biggest I remember is over 500 pages to read, normally in the 300 page mark.