



# Prospect Bank School Parent Council

81 Restalrig Road, Edinburgh EH6 8BQ

## Minutes from Parent Council Meeting 11am Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023

**Parents:** John Brewer; Melat Chaka; Kristine Tumbaga : Tida Jammeh

**School:** Sandra Ali (Acting Head Teacher)

**Apologies:** Valerie Watt (Acting DHT) Alison Cairney Page

**Chairperson-** Kristine Tumbaga

**Treasurer-** Tida Jammeh

### Previous points updates

#### **FOPB- Playground Fund Raising**

Update- We had the final costs = £35499 (for equipment, surface and installation)

£1000- From the Lodge

£2000- Heathers church

£10000- School fund

**Total= £13000**

Total cost of Playground £35499-£13000

= **£22,499 (amount to fundraise)**

**FOPB- chair** – We now have a new Chair Nicole Michael

#### **Playground improvements**

Fund raising ideas

We are hoping to set up Amazon funding account to support fund raising. Please look out for further information on this

Just giving on Facebook – Alison will look up this re setting this up through FOPB and linking this to our school Facebook group. We will share details at the next FOPB meeting. \*\*\*  
action check with Alison if this has been set up

Morrisons- Sandra Approached Morrisons previously they were not able to offer support at the time, she will approach them again.

Tesco - Val has applied for between £500-1500

Asda – not able to offer help at the moment

**School visits to yard** – Val approached the Yard about using family discounts for the school, however this is not possible as their funding is separate for schools and families.

**PSO**- Pauline Cole will be full time permanent PSO from January 2024. This should mean more families being supported.

## **New points of discussion**

### **Staffing**

- Carole our admin assistant is retiring on 13<sup>th</sup> December she has been with us for 28 years, it will be a big loss to the school. Interviews for new admin assistant are on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December.
- Staff shortages- we have had 3 PSAs leave and one nursery nurse retire since August. Currently we have temporary supply staff in place currently, but we have been interviewing through the city wide special School PSA group. We have one PSA starting in January and 2 further PSAs have been offered posts, the onboarding can take time so hopefully they will be in place in January. Alison Blair one of our Nursery nurses retired in October and we had interviews and Karen Allan who is was a PSA in school with NN qualification was successful in the interview.  
There has been a high number of staff absences since August and this has meant we had to close some classes. This is due to the not being able to get cover for absences. It was agreed that this is not good for the children to miss school, but the safety in the class is also a high priority.  
Sandra explained that this is a city wide problem in all the special schools and there is one manager working with the schools to support staffing.

### **Rowan playground**

- In a recent playground inspection the 2 climbing equipment has been condemned in that we have to get it removed as soon as possible and get it replaced. There has been a quote acquired for the replacement of the climbing house and the climbing net replaced with a rope bridge. This is approximately £3000. However the surface would also need changes. Sandra is waiting for a quote to remove the old equipment, replace the surface and install the new equipment. After a visit from council managers last week there may be some help available for the plan.  
\*\*\* action Sandra contact Julie Kelly re final costs and managers with the quotes.

### **Kate's Memorial**

- The event involving staff, current and past families, and pupils on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 2:30. Kate's husband and Daughter will also be attending. The money raised has meant we could purchase a memorial bench and have had a special installation created to be displayed on the wall at the front of the school.

### **Parent interest in parent council**

- During this mornings parent coffee morning some parents expressed their interest in joining the parent council.  
\*\*\* action Sandra to contact these parents.

**Next meeting:** TBA- before Easter Holiday