



## Boroughmuir High School Parent Council

### Minutes of Parent Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019

#### Attended by:

Gareth Clegg (GC) (Vice Chair)  
Ellen Langdon (EL) (Minutes)  
David Dempster (DD) (Head Teacher)

Marion Bourbouze

Kay Douglas

Will Howell (WH)

Dawn MacNeil

Margaret Ries

Sarah Moran

Clive Hembury

Howard Kippax

Maeve Fryday

Merav Gardi

Fran Richards

Carolyn Hurrell

John Bonnar

#### Apologies:

Scott Davis  
Miriam Jackson  
Avril Mahon Roberts  
Nasira Rauf-Bradley  
Scott Arthur  
Debbie Tinsen  
Fiona Liddle  
Kate Morris (KM)

Topic	Action
<p><b>1. School Extension Progress and Process</b></p> <p>Elaine Watson and Pete Almond, Edinburgh City Council officers, introduced the school extension process and plans. Planning permission was achieved on August 2019 to add an extension to the school. Visual plans of the layout of each floor of the new extension were shared. Additional classrooms will be used flexibly as general-purpose rooms and to accommodate increased IT classes from 20 to 30 students. Existing IT classrooms will become science rooms. An invitation to tender for these works will go out imminently. Works will commence on February 2020 and be concluded on August 2021. Once the extension is built, the capacity will be 1550. A concern was raised on the affect an increasing number of children would have on the capacity limits of facilities such as the dining area and toilets. It was asked if by increasing the capacity, would it affect health and safety. The officer stated that there may be multiple dining sittings to accommodate extra children. DD said although it will be tight, that he thinks there is enough space with one sitting, because not all children dine in the dining area at one time but use other parts of the school. A reassurance was given that there are enough toilets to cover the increased number of children because there are already more toilets than the current capacity requires. It was asked if the capacity projections for the school included the new property developments in the catchment such as the old Boroughmuir School Cala development. The planning officers reassured the parent council that these were included and that capacity requirements were projected to be 1405. It was asked if there will be a catchment boundary area review. The reply was that an annual review of the catchment area is taken by Edinburgh City Council to see if</p>	

capacity limits have been reached. If these are exceeded, then it would be necessary to have a catchment boundary review. The timeframe for any proposed changes to catchment boundaries would take six months from initial consultations. A comment was made about the limited parking spaces and DD explained that there is no movement on the 11 spaces that the school will have. Copies of the extension plans presented will be available to download from the Boroughmuir High School website.

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous AGM**

Minutes approved

**4. Matters Arising From The Minutes**

No matters arising

**1. Welcome and Introduction from the Chair Gareth Clegg, Vice Chair presented**

Thanks from the Parent Council was given to the Social & Fundraising parent council subgroup for the extensive work that went into the successful October wine tasting event and for the ongoing work by the parent council subgroups.

**5. Head Teacher's report David Dempster presented**

DD summarised the attainment levels detailed in the Head Teacher's report at <http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/HTs-Newsletter-Nov2019.pdf>. The data shows that Boroughmuir continues to achieve well above average in nearly all measures. Additionally, the lowest 20% of Boroughmuir school results are comparably better than other schools. DD emphasised that a lot of teacher focus and investment goes into this area. He stressed that only 59% of S4 pupils did 8 Nat 5s this year and that this percentage is not higher because it is not a focus for the school to push children to take more subjects at Nat 5 level but that the school focusses on maximising the childrens' individual capabilities and allows pupils to take some subjects at Nat 4 if appropriate.

**6. Information Sharing Marion Bourbouze presented**

The Communications (comms) subgroup was thanked for all the work they've done on social media. This item was raised to work out the best way that parents can contact the parent council. A separate meeting to discuss this further was proposed and agreed. WH reported that 420 people follow Boroughmuir High School on Facebook and 150+ people on Twitter as it is the quickest way to pick up PC information. To follow on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Boroughmuirparents/> and on Twitter: @Boroughmuir\_PC. The comms team have created group emails for communication with each parent council subgroup. These group email addresses and the group's leader are tabled below and will be shared on the school's website and will be added to public communications such as minutes or agendas. The comms group will also look at the easiest way to publicly share documents. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

<b>Parent Council Contact Details</b>		
Chair	Kate Morris	chair@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk
Vice Chair	Gareth Clegg	
Treasurer	Dawn McNeil	treasurer@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk

	<table border="1"> <tr><td>Secretary</td><td>Ellen Langdon</td><td>secretary@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>New School Subgroup Leader</td><td>Scott Davis</td><td>newschool@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>Curriculum Subgroup Leader</td><td>Kay Douglas</td><td>curriculum@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>Sports Subgroup Leader</td><td>Roxanne Hur</td><td>sports@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>Social &amp; Fundraising Subgroup Leader</td><td>Merav Gardi</td><td>social-fundraising@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>Engage Forum Co-ordinator</td><td>Margaret Ries</td><td>engage@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> <tr><td>Communications Subgroup Leader</td><td>Marion Bourbouze</td><td>comms@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</td></tr> </table>	Secretary	Ellen Langdon	secretary@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	New School Subgroup Leader	Scott Davis	newschool@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	Curriculum Subgroup Leader	Kay Douglas	curriculum@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	Sports Subgroup Leader	Roxanne Hur	sports@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	Social & Fundraising Subgroup Leader	Merav Gardi	social-fundraising@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	Engage Forum Co-ordinator	Margaret Ries	engage@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	Communications Subgroup Leader	Marion Bourbouze	comms@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk	
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7.	<b><u>Treasurers Reports</u></b> <i>Dawn MacNeill presented</i>																						
	<p>£2295 funds are available. Half of this was generated from parent council activities and half was left over at the end of the previous academic year raised by the Social and Fundraising group. Income of around £1200 from council funding has still to be received as this has been delayed. Additionally, income and expenditure from the Wine Tasting evening has still to be accounted for. Subgroup leaders should contact Dawn with any additional planned income and expenditure not yet declared for 2019/20.</p>																						
8.	<b><u>Subgroup Reports</u></b>																						
	<b>Social &amp; Fundraising Subgroup</b> <i>Merav Gardi presented</i> <p>Information shared at the s1 welcome event was well received and a list of volunteers was generated. The October Wine Tasting event was also a success. Figures will be shared at the next meeting. A Winter Raffle is planned and prizes are being sourced. If any parent can offer a prize, please contact Merav Gardi at <a href="mailto:social-fundraising@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk">social-fundraising@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk</a>. Easy fundraising was mentioned as a way parents can donate to the school. Find out more information at <a href="https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/boroughmuir-pc/">https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/boroughmuir-pc/</a>. Details of the Art department showing event will be discussed at the next meeting. A Christmas thank you to the teachers of up to £100 worth of catering is planned for Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>.</p>																						
	<b>Curriculum Subgroup</b> <i>Kay Douglas presented</i> <p>The Curriculum subgroup now has a full complement, with a parent representing each year group. The group reviewed the 29-page Edinburgh Learns, Improvements in Performance/Attainment report 2018/19 and met with DD on 30 October 2019. The results of the meeting were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A recognition of good ongoing numeracy and literacy results at all levels.</li> <li>2) A future meeting will be scheduled with depute head teachers to discuss exam support materials that will be available on the school's website.</li> <li>3) A suggested link with ENGAGE to encourage attendance of individuals was suggested and will be taken forward.</li> </ol>																						
	<p>Dates of 2019/20 parent council meetings at 6.30pm in the dual teaching space are:</p> <p>22 January 18 March 22 April 20 May 2020 at 6.30pm.</p>																						