

The Educational Institute of Scotland Perth and Kinross Local Association

Minute of a meeting of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Local Association held in the Queens Hotel, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Wednesday, 18th May 2005**, with the President, Mrs Patricia Duncan, in the chair.

1. Sederunt: G.Burns, R.Dickson, T.Duncan, W.Henderson, J.Loptson, A.McAuley, D.McFarlane, A.MacKenzie, C.Mackie, J.Millar, A.Moir, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, D.Stewart. G.Campbell, EIS Officer.

The meeting welcomed Andy Moir on joining the Executive.

2. Apologies: H.Conlon, I.Scott.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 20th April 2005 were approved.

4. Matters Arising:

HMI inspection of Perth & Kinross. Subsequently, the Executive Director of Lifelong Learning has taken early retirement in order to facilitate a review of services. L.McConnell is to act as interim Director from 1st July.

Role of Learning Representative – T.Duncan has prepared a leaflet.

P&K employee survey – many schools did not give time to complete this.

5. Reports:

(a) **EIS Council** (13th May) T.Duncan/C.Mackie reporting:

Member subscriptions to rise by 4% this year.

Survey of LA Secretaries – need for more ICT training.

EIS are supporting the abolition of school boards with a more flexible system.

Classroom monitoring paper accepted – in line with our local agreement.

Time off for Teachers' side leaders in LNCT's – motion at AGM – Council will ask for remit to allow opinion of LA's to be ascertained.

McCrone Preparation/Correction time – alterations possible in 2006.

(b) **JNC** (9th May) A.McAuley reporting:

C.Mackie presented a paper on teacher stress, especially related to pupil behaviour. Subgroup to be set up. DHT's should offer both staff and pupil support.

Health Promoting Schools initiative – will affect P.E. in schools, eating, and travel to school.

IIL project – still within timeframe, despite delays.

Reduction in class contact – bid put in for supernumerary probationers to enable this reduction in 2006.

5-14 pupil tracking – ICT provision for initial tracking in English and Maths.

Integrated Community Schools – T.Duncan and R.Dickson to be on the reference group.

Nursery schools – overcapacity in some schools – need for redeployment of some staff.

Monitoring Learning & Teaching – near agreement on revised protocol – need to check against new national EIS guidelines.

Freedom of Information Act. The Press sought information on school bullying, causing many staff to spend many hours seeking out this information. Amongst the schools in P&K, the definitions appear to have been interpreted differently, making comparisons meaningless.

The EIS nationally are to publish guidelines on FOI and Data Protection soon. this matter will be placed on the agenda at the next JNC.

(c) EIS/ Scottish Executive Education Conference (14th May) D.Stewart reporting:

Review of curriculum – “declutter” Primary curriculum, review S1-S3, but introduce Enterprise and Health.

Discipline – constant levels of low level discipline hampers progress.

All proposed changes will involve consultation with classroom teachers.

(d) LNCT's Event (11th May) A.McAuley reporting:

Making agreements work at school level – effectiveness of collegiate approach very variable.

(e) Standards & Scrutiny Committee (27th April) C.Mackie reporting:

Reports on various schools considered.

(f) Exclusion Guidelines Meeting (16th May) C.Mackie reporting:

C.Mackie suggested an amendment to proposed guidelines on exclusion as the norm in cases of physical assault. This was accepted, but may yet be subject to review.

(g) **Treasurer's report** W.Henderson reporting:

Still recovering from computer glitches over the year. Balance approx. £44,000.

The Executive approved the purchase of an answering machine for the Treasurer.

6. Programme of Meetings 2005/2006

Tuesday 20th September. Panel meeting on current issues.

Wednesday 23rd November. Jack Barnett, National President. (date to be confirmed)

Thursday 2nd March 2006 Local AGM.

Tuesday 25th April 2006 Motions for the National AGM.

7. Correspondence

a7) Entitlement of part time staff to time off for Public Holidays.

a10) Survey of Promoted Post Structures in Secondary Schools found deterioration of teacher morale and increased indiscipline.

b5) Staff on temporary contracts can be made permanent without interview if their initial appointment was through fair selection procedure.

8. Date of Next Meeting:

Executive Meeting **Wednesday 15th June 2005** Queens Hotel 7pm.

Preceded by High Tea at 5.30pm in the Dining Room.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.10pm, with thanks to the chair.