

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 Dewars Rink, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Tuesday, 21st March 2006**, with the President, Mr Rod Dickson, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** G.Burns, R.Dickson, T.Duncan, W.Henderson, A.McAuley, D.McFarlane, C.Mackie, J.Millar, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, S.Simpson, L.Reid. G.Campbell, Local Officer

2. **Apologies:** H.Conlon, J.Devine, I.Scott, D.Stewart.

The Executive agreed to co-opt Louise Reid of St.Madoes Primary and welcomed her to the meeting.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** held on 14th February 2006 were approved.

4. **Matters Arising:**

4)..... Suspensions. Still no contact from P Steel. JNC Correspondent to contact at next JNC.

4)4)7)8) Establishing Reps. C.Mackie & G.Campbell to visit Kinross Primary next term. Also need to visit Perth High School.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **EIS Council** (10th March) T.Duncan reporting:

Asylum seekers who are teachers may be offered associate membership of the EIS.

The “Samaritan’s Purse” organisation, which runs a shoebox appeal, has given reassurances as to its purpose and operation.

Decided to campaign for the statutory provision of fully qualified teachers within Nursery schools.

Implementation of “Personal Lesson Planning” seen by members as time consuming and bureaucratic.

Evidence on the role of classroom assistants to be collated nationally.

Pensions – possible increase in members’ contributions to allow existing teachers to achieve a normal pension age of 60.

Salary increase from 1.4.06 – the Consumer Price Index has not risen by more than 2%, so there is no basis to renegotiate the 2% pay increase this year.

(b) Lifelong Learning Committee (24th February) C.Mackie reporting:

Director presented the draft “Raising Achievement” strategy. Consultation to the end of May.

He also presented his “Improvement Framework”.

The paper from the JNC on Principal Teachers in Secondary schools was approved.

The process has started to merge Cherrybank and Glebe schools.

(c) JNC Subgroup (17th March) A.McAuley reporting:

Consideration given to the draft Service Improvement Plan – to go to JNC on 24th March.

The EIS has doubts over whether the money and resources will be available to implement the plan.

There is to be a review of the management restructuring (Deputes) which has already been implemented.

Employee survey – issues to be addressed by September. Discussion on how to include staff in decision making. Suggestion of a day meeting of all SCC chairs and head teachers. Discussions on Collegiality will be useful when Service Managers visit schools in May/June.

Management information systems need improvement.

Monitoring working time agreements. Revised exemplar to be issued to schools after approval by the JNC. Need for mediation if problems in signing off agreements between SCC and Head teacher.

Staff absence monitoring – need for employee counselling/online advice. Consideration needs to be given to the causes of stress leading to absence.

(d) Secondary Management Restructuring Group (1st March) A.McAuley reporting:

Making arrangements for appointments to substantive PT posts. Any interviews to be held in April.

Guidance – there should be no reduction in provision but the staffing standard needs to be reviewed.

Principal teachers in Primary schools – group looking at the allocation of PT's.

(e) **Fixed Term Regulations Group** (7th March) C.Mackie reporting:

Redundancy – P&K is pressing for a policy on this.

(f) **Reduction in Class Contact Time Group** (2nd March) A.McAuley reporting:

Deployment of Visiting Specialists considered and their workload implications for planning and reporting. All Visiting Specialists should be Primary GTC registered if solely in charge of classes.

Exemplars prepared for use of Collegiate time. Formal assessment has been incorporated in exemplars, as has preparation time before the school year, but each school has to produce its own agreement.

18 FTE additional staff requested by P&K unlikely to be fulfilled. Likely cuts in 5th and 6th year provision. Need to buy in extra supply staff for Primaries.

(g) **School Estate Strategy Board** (14th March) C.Mackie reporting:

Still to appoint builders.

(h) **Standards and Scrutiny Committee** (8th March) C.Mackie reporting:

Various reports on schools considered.

Implications of the FOI act.

Concern at how the comments of the Teachers' representative on this committee about one school report were portrayed in the press.

(i) **Local Authority Self-Evaluation Day** (9th March) C.Mackie reporting:

Much discussion on the performance of E&CS.

(j) **Learning Representative's Report** T.Duncan reporting:

Few members' requests. A leaflet has been produced and there is now more publicity in the TES etc.

Has been meeting teachers on the Chartered Teacher programme at network meetings.

(k) **Treasurer's Report** W.Henderson reporting:

Funds stand at approx. £46,000.

6. **Correspondence**

a9) Reply from P&K thought resourcing of “Reduction in Class Contact Time” was adequate!

a13) Bill Henderson has been recommended for the award of FEIS.

b3) Rate my Teachers website should be blocked for in-school use.

c14) A mobile phone film recording of a classroom incident led to a complaint against a teacher.

c22) Concern at role of Business Manager. Some have been on interview panels for teaching posts.

7. **Date of Next Meeting:** Executive Meeting **Thursday 20th April 2006 Dewars Rinks** 7pm.

8. **AOCB**

Assistant Secretary to e-mail all school reps with advice on operating in school during industrial action by other unions.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.30pm, with thanks to the chair.