

# The Educational Institute of Scotland Perth and Kinross Local Association

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Minute of a meeting of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Local Association held in the Queens Hotel, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2007**, with the President, Ms Holly Conlon, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** H.Conlon, R.Dickson, T.Duncan, A.McAuley, D.McFarlane, A.MacKenzie, C.Mackie, J.Millar, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, D.Stewart

2. **Apologies:** J.Devine, W.Henderson, M.Mackintosh, I.Scott, S.Smith. G.Campbell, Local Officer

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2007 were approved.**

4. **Matters Arising:**

The National President, Kirsty Devaney has confirmed she will visit P&K on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **P&K Lifelong Learning Committee** (6<sup>th</sup> June) D.Stewart reporting:

The reconstitution of the JNCT and sub-committees was approved. New Convenor Councillor Grant.

HMI reports on various schools considered.

Tributes paid to the work of Colin Mackie over the years of Perth & Kinross Council in the Lifelong Learning Committee and in the JNCT.

(b) **JNCT** (18<sup>th</sup> June) and **Teachers' Side Meeting** (11<sup>th</sup> June) A.McAuley reporting:

Teachers' Side meeting held to confirm Teachers' side composition.

A.McAuley to remain as Joint Secretary. Douglas Stewart to become Leader of Teachers' Side.

A member of PAT will replace the NAS/UWT as per rota agreement.

Mobile technologies – will ascertain whether guidance given to schools is being implemented.

D.Stewart to look at reporting format for Incidents of Violence and Aggression.

Health & Wellbeing Strategy – Two officers to be appointed for a fixed term period to improve employee attendance. (W.Henderson to monitor).

ILL – hoped for financial close in July. No delay expected in entry dates or a reduction in build standard.

Need for a P&K policy on “Keeping in Touch” in line with SNCT 51 for employees on maternity leave.

Class size reduction in S1/2 English and Maths. There should be a rationale for any classes exceeding 20.

“Streamlining Initiative” – 50% of schools to pilot this, to improve central collection of data. Need for SCC’s to monitor workload.

Holiday entitlements of part-time staff. C.Webb to progress this.

Appointments procedures for Head Teachers – effect of Parental Involvement Act. JNCT to meet on 20<sup>th</sup> August to agree arrangements.

Centre for Primary pupils experiencing difficulties in coping with mainstream school is to be set up. Will have 10 places, with a residential unit at Almondbank House, North Muirton.

Early retirement – a new policy, implemented from March 2007, has not been properly agreed by the JNCT. C.Mackie to write to H.MacKenzie to complain.

**(c) Reduction in Class Contact Group** (30<sup>th</sup> May) D.Stewart reporting:

In Primary sector, 50 minutes PE, 50 minutes Expressive Arts and 50 minutes supply staff to be provided, as much in line with schools’ preferences as possible.

A document of FAQ’s is to go out to Primary teachers and EA specialists.

**(d) School Estate Management Group** (31<sup>st</sup> May) C.Mackie reporting:

Considering Primary and Secondary school capacities and catchment areas. C.Kiddie now on group.

**(e) Dignity at Work Meeting** (19<sup>th</sup> June) Meeting cancelled

**(f) EIS Conference** (7-9<sup>th</sup> June) J.Millar reporting:

Felt some debates lacked quality.

Motion passed against Armed Forces recruiting in schools.

Motion defeated calling for industrial action on class sizes.

(g) **Treasurer's Report** W.Henderson absent

**6. Interim Secretary:** arrangements

New office in Algo from 1<sup>st</sup> July. Broadband and voicemail to be installed.

D.Stewart has bought desk and chair. D.Stewart and C.Mackie have arranged the removal of Secretarial materials into the new office next week.

Official handover date to new Secretary 13<sup>th</sup> August. D.Stewart is to be seconded full-time, initially for 1 year. J.Fyfe to provide D.Stewart with written confirmation.

**7. P&K Lifelong Learning Committee – nomination of Teacher Representatives**

After consideration, C.Mackie has resigned from the Lifelong Learning committee. A by-election is unlikely, so D.Stewart will be the sole teacher representative until elections are held.

**8. Representation on various Committees - vacancies**

R.Dickson is retiring next week and will step down as Past President and from this Executive. He was thanked for his contribution to the EIS. It was unanimously agreed that Rod should be nominated for Honorary membership of the EIS.

D.McFarlane to continue as Benevolent Fund Convenor, but on retirement, demits from the Executive.

K.Gillies, rep at Perth Academy, to be approached to fill the vacancy.

Standards & Scrutiny committee: D.Stewart to replace C.Mackie.

Teachers' side of JNCT: S.Simpson to be approached to replace C.Mackie.

J.Millar to act as substitute for W.Guthrie of the SSTA.

School Estate Strategy Board: D.Stewart to replace C.Mackie.

School Estate Management Board: D.Stewart to replace C.Mackie.

Staffing group: D.Stewart to replace C.Mackie.

Secondary Management Restructuring group: D.Munro to replace C.Mackie.

RCCT group: H.Conlon to replace C.Mackie.

**9. Correspondence**

a)11 National EIS website – now need to register using EIS number.

b)2 P&K will not pay for jobsizing training for teachers' representatives, despite current lack of jobsizing expertise within P&K. Posts are being advertised based on school rolls from 4 years ago due to lack of jobsizing.

c)10 Agreement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (McCrone). Members need to be aware of the updated guidance issued for 2007/08.

**10. Date of Next Meeting:** Executive Meeting **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007** **Algo Business Centre** 7pm

**11. AOCB**

School meetings in Collegiate time should take account of staff circumstances, especially part-time staff.

The President, on behalf of the Executive, thanked Colin Mackie for his outstanding work over many years for the EIS and for education in Perth & Kinross. This was applauded by the whole committee.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8.55pm, with thanks to the chair.