

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 Algo Business Centre, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Thursday 15th May 2008**, with the Vice President, Mrs Patricia Duncan, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** G.Burns, J.Devine, T.Duncan, A.MacKenzie, S.Peddie, I.Scott, D.Stewart.

2. **Apologies:** H.Conlon, W.Henderson, A.McAuley, J.Ramsay, T.Summers.

D.McFarlane, Benevolent Fund Correspondent; G.Campbell, Local Officer.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** held on 27th March were approved.

4. **Matters Arising:**

5b) Camera Phones – has been put onto agenda for JNC Subgroup.

7) Visits to schools. D.Stewart and G.Campbell planning to visit further schools before the end of term.

6) Appointment to Negotiating Committee. T.Duncan stated she was pleased to be back on the Negotiating Committee after the mistake made at the Executive following the AGM over the numbers on the Committee. She felt that she should still have been on the JNC Subgroup as previously. The representatives from the Negotiating Committee to be on the JNC Subgroup were elected at the Executive of 27th March. D.Stewart agreed to look at the P&K LA constitution to see if how representatives to the Subgroup were appointed needed clarification.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **Secondary Staffing Formula Group** (16th April) D.Stewart reporting:

Looking at staffing standards and historical background and rationale of staffing in different schools.

Document presented by I.Borthwick suggested a mechanism to reduce penalties on schools when head teachers over-estimate staff numbers.

(b) **Primary Staffing Formula Group** (28th April) D.Stewart reporting:

Proposal for a PT in all Primary schools other than 1 teacher schools; and non-teaching heads in schools with rolls over 114. This was rejected, but S.Gordon is to look at different models for increasing numbers of PT's and increasing management time for DHT's.

(c) **JNCT** (29th April) D.Stewart reporting:

RCCT in Primary schools. Most schools have been happy with Expressive Arts/PE/Music provision, although a few have opted to gain additional staffing instead. Concern at possible loss of 10 minutes shared time between classroom teachers and specialists.

Managing Teacher Competence document presented by M.Anderson – now due to go to LLC. Discipline procedures may need small amendments as a result.

Review of small schools – shared headships. EIS concern at role of PT and contact arrangements for parents.

Flexible benefits scheme: employees will be able to set aside part of their pay in exchange for childcare vouchers in order to save tax.

Disciplinary framework. At hearings, teachers would now only be able to have a representative from a professional association or a work colleague with them and not a family member.

Incidents of Violence & Aggression. Group to look at figures in more detail. Concern that a small number of pupils were having a disproportional influence on figures.

Employee Assistance Service Provider. Care First, new provider, now offers a 24 hour telephone counselling service, with possibility of face to face sessions. For employees and their families.

(d) **EIS Council** (9th May) D.Stewart reporting:

Concern at budget cuts in certain local authorities after concordat with Scottish Government.

Concern at ability of Probationers to find jobs at the end of their year.

Equality committee to look at appointments in denominational schools.

Subscriptions to rise by 2.75%, in line with salaries.

Curriculum for Excellence – EIS to be involved in discussions.

Looking at local authorities' procedures for the return to school of perpetrators of violent incidents.

(e) **IIL School Decant Policy meeting** (13th May) D.Stewart reporting:

Concern at situation of Dunning Primary school.

P&K does not wish to close schools for a period. Would rather use supply staff, but financial implications.

To go to JNC Sub-group.

(f) **Treasurer's report** W.Henderson absent.

6. EIS Local Office

The Executive wishes a breakdown of costs from the Treasurer at the next meeting.

The Secretary has found the room invaluable. Rent next year to go up by approx. £200.

7. Local Association Equipment

Secretary given approval to purchase a laser printer for office.

Learning Representative, T.Duncan, given approval to purchase a computer.

Treasurer has a spare laptop – to consult A.McAuley if this is suitable for her needs.

Website manager given approval to purchase a printer.

8. AGM arrangements

A.MacKenzie not to attend AGM unless absentees.

9. Correspondence

a14) Agreed to send £200 to Bangladesh Cyclone appeal.

b2) Letter to SNCT concerning possible dual status of PT and Chartered Teacher.

b10) Concern at lack of training for SEEMIS (computer admin system) use in schools.

c11) Concern at level of travel expenses for teachers.

c12) Need to check with Probationers that they are not being put under pressure to increase their class contact over the maximum in their final term.

10. Date of Next Meeting:

Executive Meeting
7pm

Thursday 19th June 2008 Algo Business Centre

11. AOCB Nil

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.05pm, with thanks to the chair.

