

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 4th September 2008**, with the President, Mr Duncan Munro, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt: G.Burns, W.Henderson, D.Munro, S.Peddie, C.Rose, D.Stewart, T.Summers.**

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

2. **Apologies: H.Conlon, J.Devine, T.Duncan, A.McAuley, A.MacKenzie, J.Millar, I.Scott.**

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 19th June were approved.**

4. **Matters Arising:**

5(b) School Decant Procedures. After communication between L.A. Secretary and Director P&K will follow other authorities and seek permission to close schools.

EIS Reps information. The Secretary now has the e-mail addresses of all Secondary Reps and some 25 Primary Reps. The secretary intends to send out a newsletter about issues current at the JNCT and elsewhere.

5. **Reports:**

- (a) **Lifelong Learning Committee** (20th August) D.Stewart reporting:

Closure of all P&K schools on day of local government unions' strike (20th August). This decision was made by P&K during the summer holiday when consultation was difficult.

The October holiday in 2010 will be a week later than usual.

- (b) **JNC Sub-group** (26th August) S.Peddie reporting:

Review of deployment of support staff. C.Webb wants an independent reviewer to come in for this and to look at other aspects of the McCrone agreement. Consider different staffing models in Secondary schools.

Shared Headships. Small group has met and agreed remit. Likely to be 2 opportunities for a single HT between two schools. Also a possible shared headship at one school.

School decant procedures. P&K will look at all school moves on an individual basis.

Partnership learning agreements/ Role of school learning rep. Teachers side thought an EIS learning rep could act for all teachers in the school if accorded some time for duties. Some resistance from P&K over granting time for, and role of rep. D.Stewart suggested meeting A.Taylor. Info from J.Cessford for next JNC subgroup.

Workload enquiry by SNCT. P&K to say they monitor workload by reviews of school working time agreements. C.Webb and D.Stewart to discuss P&K initiatives to reduce workload.

Mobile Technologies. No meeting since May. ICT reference group to be involved (very big – a subgroup?). Still need review of mobile phones in class and latest legal advice.

Violence & Aggression reporting format. Form seems OK. Still under-reporting. What are staff's experiences of central feedback? D.Stewart to update next subgroup meeting.

JNCT agreements. To be signing off of recent agreements by Teachers' side and P&K. Agreements then to go onto SNCT website and P&K open site – perthshire.com.

Primary staffing. For new academic year, 14 promoted/unpromoted posts put out to advert. Of 41 probationers last year, 5 were given permanent contracts with others on fixed term contracts or on supply.

Secondary staffing. 10 posts out to advert. Of 34 probationers, 10 permanent contracts, 4 fixed term, 4 supply.

“Career breaks” national agreement. Need to monitor P&K implementation of this.

(c) Strategic Review of Human Resources meeting (3rd September) D.Stewart reporting:

The review talks of targets for saving money. Also suggests some duplication of effort within P&K.

(d) SEEMIS Reporting to Parents (4th September) D.Stewart reporting:

P&K are concerned about training in schools and about home access.

(e) Treasurer's report W.Henderson reporting.

Currently finalising the accounts for year to 31st August.

Has had 3 computers over the year, and has now a new computer program for accounts.

Current balance approx. £55,000. The Treasurer wished to review the decision to cease payment of honoraria to the L.A. Secretary.

6. Council Staff Strike Days – advice to schools

Advice from National EIS that staff should work within school. Few objections to this from teaching staff. If strike days in future, it is hoped that part of the day will be for preparation & correction, under the control of individual teachers. Following the lateness

of the advice from EIS HQ the Secretary was asked to write to Drew Morrice expressing concerns at the timing and apparent change in advice.

7. EIS Local Office - finances

Algo costs: initially £280 pm, now £322 pm.

Saved money in small business rates.

Treasurer to convene a meeting of Finance Committee.

8. National President's Visit – arrangements on 23rd October

Suggested that David Drever visits St.Columba's HS, St.John's Primary, North Muirton Primary.

Executive High Tea: Lovat Hotel 5.30pm. General Meeting at Algo 7pm.

9. Local Association Roles

Following the retrial of W.Henderson from his full- time teaching post, the following changes were agreed:-

Replacement for W.Henderson on Lifelong Learning Committee – agreed to nominate A.McAuley for the position of secondary sector representative.

JNCT:- T.Summers to replace W.Henderson.

JNC Sub-group:- D.Munro to replace W.Henderson.

Health & Safety committee:- S.Peddie to replace W.Henderson.

10. Correspondence

a3) Concern that school management are indulging in “informal” classroom visits.

c13) Retiral of Janet Ramsay from her teaching post and from this Executive. The Executive's appreciation for Janet's contribution over many years would be conveyed to her by letter from the Secretary, with an invitation to the President's meal on 23rd October.

11. Date of Next Meeting:

Executive Meeting
7pm

Tuesday 28th October 2008 Algo Business Centre

12. AOCB Nil

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8.20pm, with thanks to the chair.