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From: Mailer-Daemon@scotland.gov.uk [mailto:Mailer-Daemon@scotland.gov.uk]

Sent: 25 March 2005 08:40

To: Parental Involvement Bill

Subject: 033

Response from the Parentzone - Parental Involvement questionnaire

Name: J David V Dent

Responding as: An individual

Individual: No

Confidentially: Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

Behalf of groups:

Sharing responses / future engagement: Yes

Question 1: Yes

There is very little input or access to staff I currently have

Question 2: Yes and talk to the parents in a broad consultation not just through a very limited Board who it is difficult to access and details of how to contact them are not available

Question 3: It is a reasonable suggestion - however it would be nice to have a number of scenarios

In this way you ie the SE present what you want and say is this better, well it is better but not ideal and a group of options would get you a better answer, as opposed to the my way or the old way approach.

Question 4: Yes but this must not be set by the school as they try currently to minimise parental involvement to a non controversial school board who would not challenge the school - ineffectual

Question 5: No a framework of options should be put forward with open scrutiny pre an post event and not a system which relies on your friends nominating you

Question 6: Yes

Question 7: No

Question 8: Yes

Question 9: A national framework would be better otherwise local education authority can interfere with the process.

Question 10: Yes Parents and only Parents other people may attend as guests

Question 11: who ever is in loco parentis can act as a parent and be included in the process - this should be an individual not an organisation

Question 12: I think they should be exposed to any sorts of queries that a teacher would be I also think they should put together a background summary to allow people to see what they have to offer and also to allow diversity - the current board is made up of 30 something white middle class women hardly diverse

Question 13: I think Parents should have the right to attend the whole [process, but written in should be an allowance for a private and public session (Like Health Board Meetings) The teaching staff representation should come to the public sessions - not always the teaching management

Question 14: Access is key it currently takes a month and a half to get to speak to my headteacher I have three children at primary school and I find this unacceptable, There should be a clear preferably internet base facility for parents views to be registered and recorded and

support for this could be provided through school administrative facilities. This new school committee should also have accessibility and accountability to the general school parent body

Question 15: leave it

Question 16: this is fine

Question 17: where are the lines of accountability do the authorities or schools have to incorporate this view is there an arbitration level when board recommendations conflict with either education authority or head teacher - where's the accountability and the teeth, you should be careful that this is not a talking shop that won't allow the views of parents to take primacy - none of this is clear, and should be prior to putting this consultation together.

Question 18: It should be the SE of the EA position to financially support this - after all they should be part of running effective schools - you would not not pay your teachers

Question 19: Yes

Question 20: Yes

Question 21:

Question 22: Yes

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