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

Sent: 06 June 2005 22:49

To: Parental Involvement Bill

Subject: 782

Response from the Parentzone - Parental Involvement questionnaire

Name: Douglas Johnstone

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Postal address: 124 Salters road, Wallyford, Eastlothian

Responding as: An individual

Individual: Yes

Confidentially: Yes, make my response, name and address all available

Behalf of groups:

Sharing responses / future engagement: Yes

Question 1: Yes, but with the assistance of the school board system, AS they have worked well in the past.

Question 2: Yes, but with changes to the board system and not just with forums which under the guidelines in this document will become talking shops with no teeth to get things done.

Question 3: Yes, but be aware most parents want their school to "get on with it" too much info will have a negative effect on parents, Parents come home from work and want to relax and not to start reading a 5 page document about what the authority is doing at there childs school.

Question 4: NO, school boards have and are working well, complaints about having to be elected are few (the last election at my school was 7 years ago and I was up for election)Some changes are needed but why cut up a working system for a unknown group with no teeth.

Question 5: NO, because you WONT get ample parents to attend for any length of time.

Question 6: I don't agree with forums for this pericular case THEY WONT WORK. just make changes to the board system.

Question 7: NO there are too many diffrences between schools within a campus or within the local community. One school may have a larger infulance over other school groups and this will disharten some parents.

Question 8: NO MAKE CHANGES TO THE BOARD SYSTEM.

Question 9: Can't answer this one as I don't agree with forums in this case.

Question 10: No, a school IS also part of the community so the community should also be involved.

Question 11: The carers should be allowed to be a member/attend.

Question 12: Yes, but I feel P.T.A.S who do most of the activities with the children i.e. Disco'e etc will become detached and may fold. If this becomes the case the "Forum" will have to do it so checks may become nessacery

Question 13: Under NO circumstanses should teaching staff, pupils, local councillors,local community persons be barred from being included in the forum. The head teacher or their depute MUST be represented to give the school prorities/monthly report on events within the school.

Without these groups of people the forum will become a talking shop and oppertunities to assist the pupils/school will be missed due to wrong/old information being discussed.

Question 14: I feel that finding the veivs of a whole school will become a burden on the forum. our school has a role of 1,300 who is going to do the paperwork for any refferendum.

Promoting contact between the school and it's cluster schools should be mandatory.
Question 15: I agree with an open ended provision of reports as each school will have it's own strengths/weeknesses that they will want to upkeep/strengthen i.e. secondary schools may want to report on school transport and a primary on nursery provision.
Question 16: Yes, without this the forum/board will be hampered with its dealings with other groups.
Question 17: More clarity is required as to what is reasonable otherwise forums/boards will be unable to operate effectively.
Question 18: Financial support is essential along with provision of accommadation/secetry support.
Question 19: Yes, what has this to do with forums/school boards this should be a right within the educational system.
Question 20: Can't answer this as no info has been supplied as to what changes can be made ?? surely a interveiw has to be given to canditates so the best person for the job can be hired.
Question 21: I do agree.
Question 22: Yes, and the should be open and available locally (school level)

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