

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NAME OF NEWLY MERGED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN NEW CUMNOCK

CABINET – 02 JULY 2008

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval for a name for the school resulting from the merger of Castle Primary School and Cairnhill Primary School.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As part of the Better Schools: Better Learning initiative, on 19 March 2008 Cabinet took the decision to merge Cairnhill Primary School and New Cumnock Primary School from August 2008 or as soon as possible thereafter. A further report was considered by Cabinet on 21 May 2008 which summarised the timeline and costs for this merger and the others which are part of Better Schools: Better Learning.
- 2.2 Although considered from the aspect of its site, New Cumnock Nursery School is not part of this merger.

3. THE CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The staff, young people and parents of the three establishments involved were consulted in June 2008. Local elected members have also been consulted. A variety of names were considered, including those which retained the names of the present establishments either singly or as amalgamations.
- 3.2 The preferences were:

	<u>Number</u>
New Cumnock Primary School	171
Afton Primary School	103
Castlehill Primary School	32
Gen Afton Primary School	14
Afton Water/River/Burn/bank Primary School	14
All others	less than 10 each

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1 It therefore proposed that the name "New Cumnock Primary School" should be adopted for the new establishment. This will signal the new beginning for primary education in the New Cumnock community, with the name expressing the high degree of unity that has been expressed in the village throughout the consultation. This unification under the new name will take place in accordance with the Cabinet decision of 19 March. This

means that the physical merger will occur in October 2008 although all P1s will be brought together from August 2008. The Parent Councils of the schools have been fully consulted regarding this phasing.

- 4.2 The various departments of the Scottish Government of HMIE will require to be informed of this development.
- 4.3 In accordance with tradition the school community itself has the privilege of deciding the form and colours of the school uniform. It is usual for children to be involved in designing the new badge.

5. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Nil

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Nil

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Issues such as new signage will be held within the budget allocated for renovations resulting from the merger.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members :

- (i) agree that the name of the school resulting from the merger of Cairnhill Primary School and Castle Primary School will be "New Cumnock Primary School; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report

Graham Short

Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

GRS/GRS

27 June 2008

Members requiring further information should contact Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services, Tel: 01563-576017

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Better Schools: Better Learning, Cabinet 19 March 2008
2. Better Schools: Better Learning, Cabinet 21 May 2008

Implementation Officer: Graham Short