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| **MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 3rd OCTOBER 2018** |
| **AGENDA ITEMS** | **DISCUSSIONS** | **ACTION POINTS** |
| Introduction & Welcome | JF welcomed all – AGM discussed and roles confirmed for this year. Chair- L McGregor, Vice-Chair – J French and Treasurer – G Young. |  |
| Apologies | L McGregor, G Young, A Hollins-Kirk, M Owen, Lesley Scott, Verity Smith, N Ferguson |  |
| Minutes last meeting | All checked and confirmed.  |  |
| Councillor Business | Cllr Alexander in attendance. Lothian Buses say there is not an issue however parents still report this. S Yule, DHT will draft a letter to go to parents.` | SY to draft letter |
| Parent Pay update | Leanne Stewart introduced herself and Parent Pay. Talked through the benefits of this. Can pay anything except, at present school meals – this is being looked at to come along next. Live in all Primaries active in Secondary schools after next week. Keeps accurate records of past payments and parents can get automatic alerts. School can also send communications through e-mail or letters.  |  |
| Student Presentation – South Africa | Students talked about raising awareness of the Journey for Change Group in South Africa and bringing a group of students and youth workers over to LHS in February. Students need to raise their own funds for this. Mr McKay, Principal Teacher of Social Studies discussed the arrangements for this. We will also visit Primaries and work with them through our ASG schools. Q – what do the South African students gain from this? Many benefits and the experiences gained are valuable. Some go onto work with other charitable organisations however it is not a continued success for all. |  |
| DHT’s | CH introduced Ms Lynsey Struthers, new DHT this session with responsibility for Melville House. Lynsey discussed aspects of her remit. S1’s, Learning, Teaching & Assessment. Working with staff from around the school inter- departmentally to analysis the impact of adjusting practice and share good practice around all. 3 year plan which will evolve over this time period. Maths, Science and RMPS are departments within Lynsey’s remit.Also working with Student Voice to prepare a video to talk about what matters to students and what they would like to be involved in.Lynsey is also the SQA Co-ordinator.  |  |
| School Captains Update | Lewis & Abby updated:Leadership events to help them bond as a team and have chosen 6 areas to take forward this year. Hope to have a visual House board to let all see how the Houses are progressing through the year.* House system & Merit system
* Improving school image in community
* Life skills programme for students
* Building Mental Health Support in school for students
* Senior School Email system
* S6 Last Day

Christmas Fair – Senior students are planning this event this year. Had many stall holders requests. 49 stalls so far – looks like 50 will be the maximum.Q – CH asked what they have learned so far. Abby said you need a strong team with you. Lewis said that he now appreciates the work behind an event like this. Q – please explain structure of House Captains and School Captains:4 House Captains for each House and 6 School Captains that meet regularly. Assemblies held to highlight roles. All Captains were involved in the Friday/Saturday team building event. Lewis asked for volunteers on the night of the Christmas Fair. Lewis will give a list of priorities and PC can link in to ensure full support on the night.  |  |
| Christmas Fair Donations | Allergens to be labelled and office will store.  |  |
| Fundraising/ 200 Club | Fiona Harris asked that people sign up to this wherever possible – forms are on the website/Facebook.No 35 – Anne Dale is the winner this month.  |  |
| Curriculum Update | CH – updated on Curriculum. Previous changes to timetable have been phased in over last couple of years. Plan to target a group of students who Modern Languages feel would be able to take on a second language.Change to Science model due to the content heavy nature of the subjects. New recommended model will be a minimum of 1 Science – with three periods given (previously was a minimum of 2 Sciences with two periods each). Also allows the 3 Science option to be taken up more easily. This leaves a period free – so we will build on work done in S1/S2 either through Connections or Personal Support. Best option brings cross subject learning within the Connections option and the proposal is to bring in a Scottish Award. 5 PT’s of Broad General Education will bring this together.  |  |
| Light up Learning Mentoring | Secured new volunteers and about to enrol another 14 S3 students. Assist with the students aspirations and assist them to reach their full potential. Ms Moar is leading this and is awaiting the paperwork process to move the Mentoring forward.  |  |
| Head Teachers Report | CH discussed the Head Teacher’s Report.* School working with Osirus and 10 staff will be involved and staff are videod when teaching to look at best practice. Osirus will feedback through discussion with these teachers.
* Insight – Database of awards and achievements – released end of September and departments are looking at this information. Compares us with our Virtual Comparator School and for the first time we have outstripped our Virtual Comparator school.
* Student Leadership Team are working very hard and their enthusiasm is boundless.
* School Review in November by Midlothian Council where volunteers will be sought from Parent Council.
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| AOCB | S Yule updated on Music productions. Christmas Concert will go ahead and if there is enough uptake and interest from students a Summer Concert could be planned. CH – school is trying to make short videos to go onto website and one of these topics is the Parent Council. The company will attend at the next meeting and film some items to promote the Parent Council.  |  |

**E-mail contacts for information:**

**Lindsey McGregor, Chair (LMcG) – lindseymmcgregor@aol.com**

**John French, Vice Chair (JF)–** **durinsbaneuk@gmail.com**

**Graeme Young, Treasurer (GY) -**

**Marie Owen, Secretary/Social Media (MO) –** **marieowen@me.com**

**Ruth Risien School Office Manager (RR) –** **r.risien@mgfl.net**

**Fund Raising Committee:**

**Fiona Robertson - fionarobertson1@btopenworld.com**

**Skills Bank:**

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**Next Meeting date Thursday 29th November 2018 at 19.00 Lasswade High School – Room 114**