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| **MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 4th SEPTEMBER 2018** | | |
| **AGENDA ITEMS** | **DISCUSSIONS** | **ACTION POINTS** |
| Introduction & Welcome | LMcG welcomed all – great turnout especially with new members. School Captains welcomed and congratulated. Welcome to S Yule, DHT & K Hughes, Acting DHT. |  |
| Apologies | Kelly Moffat, Sharon Jones, Sue McKenzie, N Ferguson, M Owen & D Nelson. |  |
| Minutes last meeting | All checked and confirmed. |  |
| Councillor Business | Cllr Alexander in attendance. Very helpful re the Rosewell Bus issue raised at end of last session. However raised as still a big issue, Cllr Alexander will raise again.  West Lothian service new bus operator cancelled yesterday – not helpful. |  |
| Student Presentation - Humanutopia | LMcG welcomed the School Captains to hear how they came through the selection process and the Humanutopia presentation.  Mrs Hughes (Acting DHT) – key priorities to keep a positive ethos around school. Humanutopia work with all age groups re influence of themselves and how to cope with peer pressure – encourages students to think about their attitude and get a balance between their responsibilities and also others being supportive to them. Last year’s S6 found it very positive and felt it should be rolled out – survey done and high percent were extremely positive.  Abbie– presentation was strange at first – asked to think about how you affect others and how others have been affected by experiences. Heard stories of what others had gone through and during day talked to everyone and hugely bonded the whole year group. People opened up and shared many experiences.  Lewis – each year there are quite separate groups within the Year Group but after this many people came together. Gave many students more confidence within themselves and as a group.  Q - How does the school utilise this positivity and foster this in other year groups?  A - Humanutopia currently working over two days with S4’s – feedback from today’s session encouraged leadership opportunities. School would like to develop a mentoring programme and work with carefully selected S4’s. S4’s will then be given the same opportunity to lead and become leaders for S2’s. Will roll out and include all year groups over time. Need to manage this and measure impact before rolling out totally – school wants to get it right.  S5’s will get a session with Tree of Knowledge before the exam times to help with managing stress and coping with final preparation for exams. They will then go onto Humanutopia when they go into S6.  Humanutopia personalise and individualise the programme to ensure impact is real and not diluted for each Year Group.  Meet with staff before hand to be fully informed before delivering a session. CH said it was clear that there are issues within different year groups. Honest conversations taking place. PC and HT have spoken about how to change behaviour and this programme has a huge potential to impact our students. Systems in place through Student Support and the Leaders/Heroes to support fully and follow through with where this is needed. School Captains said they were hugely impacted by this and this momentum has maintained. School will trial support from this, adapt if need be and sustain support.  PC asked if the school had the resources to sustain this high level of support. CH advised KH has been given this topic to move forward and do a lot of background work at present but the fully staffed Student Support Team and others can and will maintain this programme.  PC – how will mentors be supported? Humanutopia are committed with resources re mentoring and KH will look at these resources and see what we can use and imbed practices to allow it to continue. CH – looking to around 30 mentors to be put into place. CH meets with School Captains weekly.  Can PC see what Humanutopia present so parents can help reinforce this also? KH to check with Humanutopia. Letters and text were sent to parents of the Year Group involved to be given information so discussions can take place.  Tanzania:- 2 Groups to Tanzania.  17 days – was amazing! 5 days helping build toilets for 700 children and 6/7 classrooms. Working with community.  Trek through Tanzania and rest and relaxation was good but the main part was life changing and would have happily spent all the time with the community work.  School looking to visits to India/Malaysia/Cambodia June 2020– but this needs further investigations and will be announced.  Science trip to Mexico in  Lewis and Mr McKay and Ms Petrie will present to staff to ensure the best mix of staff and students to affect the huge success.  AH-K said that the students he had spoken with he saw a huge change in them.  Always going to be 3 School Captains present at PC meetings.  Congratulations to Anna for S5 Dux.  PC – look at school trips and ensure best price is sought eg. China went from £950 to £550.  Can school trips be listed on Website | KH to check  RR to speak with Trip Leaders and put onto Website |
| Parent Council Aims for the Year | LMcG – asked room to list:  What do we want to achieve this year?  Topics you want to hear about?  Anything else you want to change?  These will be collated and LMcG will feedback through e-mail.  Next meeting is AGM and all encouraged to attend – all elected roles are allocated.  Fundraising help and refreshments help always needed so please let us know.  £1600.00 from Daisy Chain Trust to Mental Health Initiative within school. Other Grants being applied for. |  |
| Fundraising/200 Club/Grants | FH - £1200.00 and approx £800.00 can be available to support school.  £500.00 available in Bank Account.  200 numbers dipped a bit over summer – please think about joining and if setting up a Standing Order please make it an on-going order.  Draw taken place and winner is July - Sue McKenzie and August – Fiona Robertson.  Summary from RR to highlight what funds have been used for at the S1 Family Learning Evening and School Captains will promote at this night. | RR to prepare summary |
| SQA Results | CH presented on SQA results – many good news stories within these.  Statistics over a 5 year period.  Based on 4th Year Students at level 4 and level 5 were discussed.  Positive destinations data is terrific.  Virtual Comparator statistics will come through in around 10 days and this is a Scotland wide statistical analysis. |  |
| Head Teachers Report | CH went through Report which was sent prior to this meeting.  Re-coursing is nearing the end – making efficient use of resources.  First time S4 have scored over 1000 Level 5 passes.  Developing Teacher-Learner Community.  School Captains =6 and House Captains = 8, weekly meeting with HT.  Mr Mitchell intends to retire at Christmas – recruitment process will commence shortly for his replacement.  DHT’s remits identified.  Columba 1400 working with S2’s this year.  12 International students – 3 in S4 and 9 in S6  Robert Owen Centre worked with Maths last year – much improved in 2018. Over 100 N5 passes in S4.  Parent thanked the school for support to allow student to go overseas for 3 months.  Large turnaround of staff for many different reasons.  Computing staffing good. Appointed new Computing teacher –  Ms McIntyre. |  |
| AOCB | Due to time restraints this was not covered. |  |

**E-mail contacts for information:**

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**Next Meeting date Wednesday 3rd October 2018 at 19.00 Lasswade High School – Room 114**