

**MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
Introduction & Welcome	Sara Adam welcomed all.	
Minutes & Apologies	Approved; apologies - A Hollins-Kirk, M Murray and J French	
Councillors Questions	Councillors introduced themselves to the PC Group Dianne Alexander - Carbon footprint David Virgo - Education Group Ellen Scott - Education Group	
Curriculum Reform	<p>CH introduced A Mitchell - shared Headship for next 2 years as CH is working for two days per week with the Authority on curriculum reform.</p> <p>Over course of pandemic, two important reports come through with recommendations, which are being implemented by Scottish Government. CH presented the two reports.</p> <p>CH confirmed the school Mission Statement - are we preparing our students for their next steps in the world?</p> <p>Group task: What are the challenges that face young people in these times? A changing and challenging world. Groups asked to deliberate "What is the purpose of school?"</p> <p>VUCA world - Volatility Uncertainty Complexity Ambiguity</p> <p>Purpose of school and education</p> <p>What might we need to do different?</p> <p>Second task: 4 CfE capacities; RRSA, school new values - creativity, effort, kindness and respect.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> task: What might a more purposeful/meaningful school look like?</p> <p>Parent question: will the students be asked? CH/AM - Yes, as well as others groups and partners. Parent Council views are crucial for the school to understand thinking.</p> <p>Sheets and feedback from these tasks will be a first step in collating views.</p>	
School Improvement Priorities for the Session	<p>CH - school must publish the School Improvement Plan once a year and we will publish this in September.</p> <p>CH gave overview of PC calendar of meetings and asked for topics that PC wanted a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who are your student groups? Year Group; Duke of Edinburgh, Student Voice, Sporting and Cultural clubs from the extracurricular programme; specific subject groups etc.</li> <li>• Supporting success in exams?</li> <li>• How can parents get involved; can they help out and what are the channels if they needed to get in contact.</li> </ul>	
School Captain: Meet & Greet/Plans for the session	<p>Keir and Luke at meeting to represent School Captains Team.</p> <p>Keir - Captains went through a lengthy selection process: application&gt;group interviews&gt;speaking to previous Captains and Senior Leadership Team&gt; two group tasks test&gt;then made a video for students and staff to vote on.</p> <p>Luke - Focusing on bringing students issues/questions to weekly meeting with HT.</p> <p>Other students were successful in House Captains roles. 3 per House</p> <p>Next event is Senior Prize Giving.</p>	
Parent Council Chair's Update	John French leaving and next meeting (AGM) will need the date changed - <b>UPDATED NEW DATE MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.</b>	

Question & Answer session	<p>Prelims question: CH is negotiating with Midlothian Council to allow parents to view our full school calendar on the website. No set prelim diet due to lack of space in the building. Looking at an assessment calendar so these prelims can be done within the double period's class times.</p> <p>Blazers question: Concern that the braid was removed from the Senior Blazers. Financial decision as braiding was an extra £15.00 for each blazer. There is a consultation by the government on uniform, which we will be led by. Clear mandate for return to uniform however very strong feelings for and against - quite a polarised view. Comments that as some have braided blazers others that have the new blazer and they feel they do not want to wear it. School were very conscious of the impact financially on families. The school has supported the costs by subsidising the blazers at £30.00. Question on school of football etc and is there any leeway so these students can wear their football wear that have the school badge on it. CH - difficult to make certain exceptions, as there are many groups that could then be eligible not to wear uniform. It would then diminish the uniform ethos. Question - how do we ensure children do attend if they cannot afford uniform? The school has monies that are used to assist those in need. We have the Uniform Shop that our students manage well. No one is denied education if they do not wear uniform - the school sets the expectations. The school works discreetly with families to support. Midlothian have a uniform shop also that Sara will share the details.</p>	
200 club draw	To be updated for next meeting	

**Contact names for information: If you wish a query or comment to go to a particular person, please add their name to subject field in any e-mail into the dedicated Parent Council email address and this will be forwarded to them, thanks.**

Chair - Sara Adam (SA)

Treasurer - vacancy

Shared Head Teacher - Campbell Hornell (HT)

Shared Head Teacher Acting - Alison Mitchell (HT)

Ruth Watson - School Business Manager (RW)

Parent Council dedicated e-mail:

parentcouncil.lasswadehs@midlothian.education

**Next Meeting date Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 19.00 in school**

**Dates for the session**

- Tuesday 6 September 2022 (in-person)
- Monday 10th October 2022 (AGM) 19.00 (in-person)
- Wednesday 23 November 2022 19.00 (via Zoom)
- Wednesday 18 January 2023 19.00 (via Zoom)
- Thursday 23 March 2023 19.00 (in-person)
- Tuesday 30 May 2023 19.00 (in-person)