

MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 18th January 2023 (Zoom)

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
Introduction & Welcome	Sara welcomed all	
Minutes & Apologies	<p>Previous minutes approved</p> <p>Mrs Brown (DHT) and CH getting information on school trips to share with parents/carers. Work ongoing to develop the website - ongoing challenges around public sharing of calendars. Hope to resolve it soon.</p> <p>DV sent information to CH as per previous minute. To be picked up at a later date.</p>	<p>CH/C to progress</p> <p>SY/Student Support</p>
Councillors Questions	No Councillors present	
Parent Council Chair Update	<p>Successful Christmas Fayre. Well received by stall holders. £500 from stall holders and a few hundred pounds from sales. Final total to be shared by SA.</p> <p>Parent Council urgently looking for volunteers to help with fundraising etc. Supply of tea and coffee available and the Parent Council keen to support any events.</p> <p>200 club - numbers have dwindled so the fund pot is small. Looking at recruiting new lead for this from the Parent Council.</p> <p>Facebook updates quiet - some comments from S5 parents/carers regarding recent information evening and connectivity issues.</p> <p>QR codes - some concerns around the use of these from parents. CH outlined the school consultation process that took place in school, involving SLT, staff and students and rationale for the use of QR codes to capture useful data around the numbers and frequency of students being out of class during class time. Apologies from CH that the information was omitted from the HT update at the time of launching, but was included the following week. 2 queries came through the feedback form from this which CH is responding to. Within one week, there appear to be approx 1400 students leaving class during class time. This is too many. CH also outlined the positive impact that having this knowledge will have on maximising time for learning and teaching and supporting students if they require it. The usual procedures for supporting any students with medical conditions etc are unchanged to ensure young people's dignity is protected. The purpose is primarily to support young people and challenge those who may be out of class on a regular basis for no 'good' reason, not to prevent them from accessing the toilet or seeking the support they need for a number of reasons.</p>	<p>SA update minute with amount</p> <p>SA to share communication with CH for HT update</p>

<p>Session 23/24 Consultation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents' Evening Format • Dress Code 	<p>Parents' Evening format: previous responses gathered from parents/carers on their preferred format for parents'/carers' information evening. Not clear preference when data was analysed. We agreed that, for this year, video conferencing would be piloted with all year groups, with the commitment to revisit with the Parent Council in due course. Next Parent Council meeting will be after all year groups have had their evening (23rd March). Information and feedback is being gathered following every event. By the next Parent Council meeting we will be able to share the feedback. We also need to ask the staff their views as a key part of this process. We can then bring the options to the Parent Council for consultation and agreement for the next academic session. Thoughts invited from the Parent Council at this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sounds like a fair proposal • Use the Assembly Hall to host the meeting <p>Dress Code: Previous discussion reflected on. Proposal to update with minor changes to the dress code to reflect the cost of living crisis. Suggestion to request 'predominantly black shoes' as a request. Also need to discuss the blazer option and the cost of these. Discussion required around the challenges of 'enforcing' these as part of the uniform. School is addressing the cost of blazers to seek the fairest price. Intend to consult through Student and Parent Voice. Awaiting any pending update from the Scottish Government about uniform policies in schools.</p>	<p>AM to ask Admin to book assembly hall space</p> <p>CH/SA to publicise next meeting with parents</p>
<p>Question & Answer session</p>	<p>Q: SA - Have we heard anything about the Midlothian Council budget? A: CH - there has been a previous public consultation. Further consultation expected with the public. Anticipated that there will be a significant impact on a range of services and provisions across the authority, and therefore potentially on schools.</p>	<p>SA update parent council with relevant information</p>
<p>200 Club Draw</p>		
<p>AOCB</p>		

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 - John Aitchison (JA)

Shared Head Teacher - Campbell Hornell (HT-CH) -

Shared Head Teacher Acting - Alison Mitchell (HT-AM)

Ruth Watson - School Business Manager (RW)

Parent Council dedicated e-mail:

parentcouncil.lasswadehs@midlothian.education

Next Meeting date Thursday 23rd March 2023 (in person 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, assembly hall)
- ▣ Tuesday 30 May 2023 19.00 (in-person)