

MINUTES OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING 31st May 2022

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSIONS	ACTIONS
Introduction & Welcome	John French welcomed all.	
Minutes & Apologies	Approved; apologies - J Burton, S Adam	
Councillors Questions	<p>Cllr Milligan advised the budget cuts to be met - £38 million over the next 4 years. This is an extreme level of cuts which will decimate services.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander mentioned COVID-19 and the importance of ventilation/doors being opened.</p> <p>Cllr Virgo introduced himself; replacing Cllr Lay-Douglas.</p> <p>CH (Head teacher) confirmed, at this point, that the school budget and staffing levels were healthy. Also asked Parent Council to look out how next sessions meeting should be run: Zoom/In school or a hybrid model.</p>	
Parent Council Chairs Update	JF confirmed that S Adam will commence as PC Chair going forward and wished her success with this.	
Parental Consultation Survey	<p>CH feedback in this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School is pleased with responses that came in. Some negatives in S2/S3 that may be related to COVID impact and getting used to the size of the school. • Parent Evening feedback asking for more time for appointments. CH confirmed this is difficult given the amount of students a teacher may have but will feedback to the professional associations to try to increase appointment times slightly. • School is improving with Learner conversations and alerting parents so discussions can take place. • Parents would like to know more about how their children are being assessed. • Communication was raised, and although there are improvements there is still work to be done. • Is there scope for parents and students to learn together? The school were about to launch this then Covid-19 struck. • Generally parents feel their views are taken into account however there were a number of don't know responses in this section. • 2 questions around parent council: parents feel not involved or do not know what work is being done. Hopeful that Parent Council can be more visible. • Strong mandate to reinstate uniform. To review it was 55 % to 45% not to review. • Parents Evenings - no clear preference to type of evening. CH met with PC chairs to review the video trial of S1 Parents Evening and it was agreed to continue with this for all year groups then re-evaluate again. School staff views were a preference to virtual and prefer video calls - finalise by end of this session. 	

Reporting 2022/2023	Power point was discussed. First report October break and A Rankine, Principal Teacher of English is working with the teams in the school on refreshing the reports given the change to the school values.	
Performing Arts Academy	A Mitchell, DHT introduced M McTighe from Music as the schools Performing Arts leader. Video presented which showcased the schools talented and enthusiastic students. Auditions will be held for P7 students next week. There are professional workshops involved also and school is hopeful for some live performances next session. AM thanked the PC for the support it has given to this.	
Head Teacher's Report	CH discussed the Report which is attached to these Minutes.	
Question & Answer session	Blended Learning was discussed and CH confirmed that this is very much a last resort but affected by staff absences due to COVID and its impact. It was needed for the exam period due to the building being over capacity.	
Live Chat	Added to minute	
200 club draw	To be checked by PC chairs and treasurer - an update to be given	
AOCB	none	
Chat saved from meeting is attached.		

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.

Joint Chair - John French (JF)

Joint Chair - Sara Adam (SA)

Treasurer - Chris Hurst (CH)

Skills Bank - John French

Head Teacher - Campbell Hornell (HT)

Ruth Watson - School Business Manager (RW)

Parent Council dedicated e-mail:

parentcouncil.lasswadehs@midlothian.education

Next Meeting date Tuesday 6th September 2022 at 19.00 in school