



## Linlithgow Academy Parent Council Meeting

7:00pm, Monday 29 November 2021, Zoom Video Conference

### Attendees:

Parent Council Members:	Douglas Maxwell (Chair), Ann Marie Penman (Vice Chair), Andrew Grant Campbell Ford, Dermot Murray, Hannah Dunn, Helen White, Iain Woodhouse, Jeremy Fuller, Lesley Paxton, Lynne Pascal, Mary Joseph and Pamela Calabrese
Head Teacher:	Grant Abbot
Teachers:	Luisa Burgess, Rhona White
Guest presentation:	Dr Edward Marsh
Pupil Representatives:	Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy
Parent Forum:	Kirsteen Cameron, Tej Malcolm, Edward Marsh, Stuart Coe, Rungthip Archer, Jie Yang, Dermot Murray, Claudette Boa, Martin Hawksey, Judith Gray, Lynne Cocker, Alison Rutherford, Fiona Sargent, Chris Beard, Tania Burns, Richard Payne, Patty McNair, Alison Spori, Andy Fang, Andy Gray
Clerk:	Soné Spottiswoode
Apologies:	ClIr Tom Kerr, Christine McGinnes and Silvia Small

### 1. Welcome, introductions & apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Dr Edward Marsh who was attending to give a guest presentation on the school improvement priorities in the area of learning and teaching.

Pamela Calabrese had requested to join the Parent Council following the AGM and was subsequently nominated by Douglas Maxwell and seconded by Campbell Ford. She was warmly welcomed as a member of the Parent Council.

Apologies were as noted above. It was noted that the zoom link had not been shared with teacher representatives.

**Action: It was agreed that the clerk would share the zoom link where necessary in future with teacher representatives**

### 2. Minutes from meeting of 5 October 2021

The minute from meeting of 5 October 2021 will be circulated by e-mail to PC members for approval

**Action : the clerk will circulate the minute of 5 Oct 2021 to PC members for approval**

3. Update from Actions arising from the previous meeting.  
No action from the last meeting
4. School staff presentations (Appendix 1)  
School staff gave 3 interlinked presentations.
  - a) Grant Abbot gave a presentation on the S3 curriculum update outlining key principles and a revised S3/BGE curricular model proposal reducing 16 subjects to 12. There was some discussion with comments and questions. The proposal was generally well received.
  - b) Dr Ed Marsh gave a presentation on learner engagement, context, rationale and examples in relation to the School Improvement Plan, with a focus on improving the quality of learning at Linlithgow Academy.
  - c) Alison Rutherford gave a presentation on the results of the school anti bullying survey along with suggestions for an action plan and next steps.
5. Anti-bullying sub group  
Ann Marie Penman gave an update. Parent /carer members of the group are Pamela Calabrese, Richard Payne and Kaylene Lindsay. The group are keen to offer their support and work alongside school staff and pupils in the revision of the anti-bullying policy and ongoing work and review. They had raised some concerns about the implementation of the parental survey directly with Alison Rutherford.

**Actions:**

Anyone from the Parent Council/Forum who is still interested in joining the group should contact the Parent Council

**Standing Items**

6. Councillor's Report  
Apologies were received from Councillor Tom Kerr
7. Head Teacher's Report  
Grant Abbot presented the Head Teacher report
  - The PC were reminded that schools are not back to pre-covid normality. A significant number of absent staff and pupils are higher than usual. The staff are continuing and extremely focussed but overworked.
  - Grant Abbot also gave an update on staffing, prelims, study skills/support and a brief summary of 20/21 national qualification results. He noted that there will be further information on this at a future meeting.
8. Pupil Leadership team Report  
Members of the pupil leadership team gave an update on
  - supported implementation of S6 run clubs
  - stonewall club
  - study space
  - pupil parliament
  - The Big Quiz

9. Teacher's Report

Rhona White gave an update on positive work in school and on fundraising including

- F1 fundraising
- Pudsey Bear
- S6 dress up
- S3-S6 girls fb group
- Skills for work lunch
- COP 26 activities
- The Princes Trust
- Eco group bee hotel.

10. Items from Parent Forum

- Prelims - will start January 2022. The website page is complete and study support is in place as well as skills support during school.
- West Lothian Council has decided that young people will not participate in the Scottish Health and Well-being Census

11. Special Focus topics aligned with the four headings in the School Improvement Plan

a) Update from anti-bullying sub-group - already covered

b) Update from Employability sub-group

Dermot Murray gave an update on the employability sub group. There had been a positive meeting with Grant Abbot and a Further discussion will follow with more specifically support, meta-skill point of view and all different skills, not just the university route

12. Communications sub group

Ann Marie Penman gave an update and asked anyone interested in joining the group and/or FB admin team to contact PC.

13. AOB

Dougie Maxwell had asked for views on continuing with online meetings. It was agreed to continue online until at least Jan 2022. Grant Abbot asked that the timings of the meeting be reviewed with a possible earlier start

## Appendix 1 – School Improvement Plan

<b>1</b>	<b>Improvement in all young people's wellbeing</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consult on and renew school inclusive policies
<input type="checkbox"/>	Learner Empowerment: Upscale Learner voice provision incl. creation of Pupil Parliament
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revisit and relaunch our positive relationships policy and restorative practices
<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduce Mental Health Qualification for S4 and Level 6 First Aid for S5 and targeted S4 pupils
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revisit the Responsibility of All elements within HWB to ensure teachers can identify and understand where and how they can contribute
<b>2</b>	<b>Enhance Learning &amp; Teaching</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify pedagogical approaches that promote engagement in learning.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish a collaborative, enquiry-based model of curriculum making and team teaching approach
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop a strategic planning framework that supports systematic reflection on practice and focused planning for learner engagement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revise and reframe school quality assurance procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adapt 'learning round' format to ensure that a clear focus on learner engagement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate young person's guarantee, career education standard and employability skills into day-to-day pedagogy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Embed and consolidate our improvements around Digital learning
<b>3</b>	<b>Closing the attainment gap between the most and least advantaged children:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revisit curriculum pathways to ensure we maximise attainment for the most disadvantaged
<input type="checkbox"/>	Faculties will consider the full range of qualifications within the SCQF in order to maximise the attainment and achievement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Publication of Accredited Achievement pathway that maps all qualifications and opportunities across the school
<input type="checkbox"/>	Introduction of Career Ready initiative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Target Numeracy and literacy S1 Groups at SNSA band 6 and below.
<b>4</b>	<b>Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop a bespoke pathway and support packages for identified learners that best meet their needs
<input type="checkbox"/>	School-Business partnerships database created through improved parental and community-based contacts and interventions.