



LINLITHGOW ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Monday 2nd October 2023

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Meeting in School and via Zoom video Conference

Minutes of meeting

Present:

Parent Council (PC) Members – Ann Marie Penman, Campbell Ford (via Zoom), Ky Norton, Mary Joseph (via zoom), Hannah Dunn, Andrew Grant (via Zoom), Audrey Cairns, Julia Miller

Parent Forum Members – Adam Schofield, Katherine Burnett (via zoom), Anu Jadsal (via zoom), G Aitken (via zoom), Jen Cox (via zoom),

School Representatives – Grant Abbot (head teacher), Luisa Burgess (via zoom), Sarah Carney (via zoom)

Student Leadership Team – Orla (head student), Rebecca (deputy head student)

Cllrs - Cllr Pattle (via zoom)

Apologies – Richard Payne, Cllr Orr, Fiona Couper-Kenney, Lesley Paxton, Pamela Calabrese, Nick Goldfinch, Joe, Rowan, Cllr Conn

1. Welcome and apologies

AMP welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed with no amendments.

3. Introductions from parent council members

AMP welcomed new PC members and invited all PC members to share their own reasons for joining.

4. Welcome to parents/carers of S1 pupils

AMP welcomed new S1 parents/carers.

GA gave an update on

- S1 open evening
- Open evening in November for current P7 pupils looking to join next year

- Review of transition process

JM and CF gave feedback on their own experiences as parents of S1 pupils.

5. Items from parent forum

Security

- GA clarified school access and security procedures

Mental health counsellor

- GA gave an update on the current in-school counsellor provision and other mental health supports

Use of/maintenance of toilets

- GA addressed a number of issues including
 - break and class time access to toilets
 - cleanliness of toilets
 - vaping in toilets
 - architect services visit to school

There was discussion around the topic and it was agreed to seek feedback after the visit from architect services

Action: AMP to add to agenda after visit from architect services

Curriculum and home learning

- GA outlined the broad general curriculum (BGE) overview on the school website and highlighted the family learning content

6. Focus Topics

Fundraising

- There was discussion around this and it was agreed to put it on the agenda for the next parent council meeting.

Action: Fund-raising to be agenda item at the next meeting

Constitution

- AMP asked for volunteers to look at this over this school sessions. HD volunteered and an email will be sent out to all PC members asking for anyone else interested.

Action: AMP will email members asking for interest

Attainment & Wider Opportunities

GA gave an update on attainment results highlighting

- strong performance 2022/23
- where improvements had been made
- where continued improvement is planned

GA outlined the importance of in school wider opportunities for pupils and gave further details on

- the range of opportunities available
- tracking of pupil participation
- Thrive Drive

7. Head Teacher Update

GA gave his update covering the following:

- Staffing
- Formal Assessment Calendar
- Linlithgow Learns
- School residential trips policy
- IT Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
- First Aid
- Pathways with Purpose

8. AMP thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Dates and proposed focus topics for Parent Council Meetings for 2023/24

- 1 Monday 2nd October Attainment & Wider Opportunities
- 2 Wednesday 29th November Attendance/Cost of the school day
- 3 Tuesday 16th January Physical school environment
- 4 Thurs 7th March Student interactions/Equality and Diversity
- 5 Thursday 25th April CORE/Pupil voice and learner engagement
- 6 Tuesday 4th June School improvement plan

Education glossary:

<https://linlithgowacademy.westlothian.org.uk/article/77048/Education-Glossary>