**LHS Parent Council Meeting Tuesday**

**11th Nov 2025**

1. **Welcome and apologies**

**Present:** Scott Steele (SS – Headteacher), Ali Berardelli (AB - Chair), Jane Halewood (JH- Treasurer), Lorraine Servant (LS), Charlotte Cant (CC), Nick Cochrane (NC) Jessica Roberts (JS)

**Apologies:** Laura Kingswood, Lisa Wharton (LW – Secretary), Becky McCook

**Welcome:** The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Previous Minutes**

No minutes available from last meeting, to be approved at the next meeting Tuesday 16th December 2025.

3. **Financial Update – JH**

Current balance= £3016.80

4. **Head Teacher's Report**

Report included:

- Update on current staffing situation and upcoming vacancies.
- S3 exams have been brought forward and started this week.
- Enchanced transition visits have also commenced this week.
- Charitable donations have been made using money raised from the hike (5% to Archie's Child Bereavement and 5% to Lochaber Hope).
- Planning to deliver 300-400 Christmas parcels. The money raised during dress down day supports this.
- Christmas dances are scheduled for 17 & 18 December.

SS requested thoughts from the parent council on the effectiveness of parent's evenings, and in particular how we might encourage better attendance. Discussion of this as a group, including whether this might form part of a wider parental engagement strategy, with other alternatives offered to ensure parent buy-in.

**AP** – Parent council to consider doing a bit of work/ survey to consider and investigate this.

5. **Planet Youth**

Victoria Clark, Health Improvement Specialist from Planet Youth, gave a presentation on what Planet Youth is: it is based on an Icelandic model and it has been demonstrated to significantly reduce youth substance use, improve mental wellbeing, and boost school engagement by reshaping the environments in which young people grow up. Since launched in the Highlands, it has now grown to include 13 secondary schools including Lochaber High School.

The first Community Action Group met three weeks ago and focussed on smoking, vaping and nicotine patches. The group will work closely with existing organisations in the area including clubs, health officers, Community Councils, school staff, youth workers and Active schools coordinators.

A survey of students was conducted in September and collected anonymous data which is now being analysed. This will be shared school nurses, staff, parent council and the students themselves.

Vicki is happy to link in with parent council to run session either in person or online, and will come to the January meeting to present and explain results.

All resources are available on the parent hub:

**The Parent Hub:**
The Parent Hub - Planet Youth Highland | NHS Highland Engagement Hub

**Parent and Carer Health and Wellbeing information and support:**
https://padlet.com/PlanetYouthHighland/planet-youth-parent-and-carer-padlet-working-with-communitie-m6ddc873byvsdsod

**AP** for parent council to help raise awareness amongst parents, primary schools and primary to secondary transition parents.

**6. Eating habits within school**

Discussed the Sweden Healthy Eating Article.

SS presented figures for uptake of school meals. Overall, slightly less than half of students are eating in school (approx 80 having breakfast, 360 having snack, and 80 having lunch). The breakfast club at school is already working with Morrisons on using surplus food. SS is working with local shops to try and cease selling of high caffeine drinks. There is also work ongoing to review space with the aim of expanding the barista space to include healthy options such as a smoothie bar.

**AP** for parent council to look at potential funding opportunities to assist with this once space becomes available.

**7. Glencoe House Garden Update**

Unfortunately renovating the garden space is a bigger job than volunteers can take on and there are associated safety risks, so this needs action by the Highland Council. SS has passed this on.

**AOCB**

- Talent show will be week beginning 15 December.
- Request for any fundraising opportunities to be highlighted to parent council.
- Bereavement support is continuing, and is available via guidance teachers.

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th December 7pm, LHS Library**