LHS Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 21st Jan 2025

Present: Scott Steele (SS – Headteacher), Ali Berardelli (AB - Chair), Jane Halewood (JH- Treasurer), Lisa Wharton (LW - Secretary), Shona Fleming, Dee Collins, Becy McCook, Iain Murray, Sara Murray, Janette Irvine

Apologies: Lorraine Servant, Yvonne Clark, Ceri Ewing, Laura Kingswood, Rachel Tonks, Alison Stephen, Hilary Tresidder

Welcome: The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Previous Minutes:

Amendments to be made to the previous minutes regarding the constitution.

Assuming amendments made, the minutes were approved by SF and seconded by DC.

Treasurer's Report – Dee Collins

New balance= £2,837.17

Head Teacher's Report

Staffing:
3 x teachers off long-term sick
Gaelic teacher is being advertised
Chemistry and History teachers required
Extra maths teacher in to cover for sickness leave

Impact of changes
HE has been dropped from the curriculum as no teacher is available.
Gaelic – lots of Gaelic learners coming from BSGLA – need more Gaelic teachers

Prelims
Prelims have gone well. There is a complex mix of support needs which can be challenging but making accommodations for pupils makes a massive difference.

Mr Steele opened the floor to questions from parent council members and there was a general discussion.

Fundraising Update
Parent Council ran a Bottle stall and sold teas and coffees at both nights of the Cannibals of Caol school show on the evenings of 11 & 12 December. **This raised £250.12**

DC still keen to have a beetle drive to raise funds. BMcC to assist. Date undecided at present but possibly start of June.

Business Mailing
Shona Fleming has drafted a letter to go out to local businesses asking for support. The businesses contacted will be listed in the Parent Council Google-drive. Deputy Head Teacher Stephen Stuart has set up a *Go Fund Me* page. Any money raised will be transferred by him to parent council bank account.

AB has created a template letter for businesses. This is planned to go out by 1st Feb.

Constitution
This is being revised to be in line with the guidelines on Parent Council Network site. Once updated, will be stored in the shared PC google drive with other document files.

Mobile Phones

Phones are pupils' property. They are allowed to use them at break, lunch and after school but not at other times and between classes. If found using phone when not permitted, the phone is confiscated, and they get it back at end of day. If this happens 3 times, parents have to come in and collect it.

Other schools are taking further action. Grantown Grammar School has implemented a total ban, and anecdotal evidence shows that young people are chatting to each more and playing games at break times.

This will be revisited in next month's meeting. The Pupil Voice will be asked to become involved in the topic on behalf of the learners.

A.O.B

- Scottish Water will come in to Glencoe House to do learning session on water cycle (JH)

- AB will email to check whether parent and carers are happy to be contacted by PC on the email addresses given on the data collection strips on school record update. If not opting out, names will be added to contact list. This will be done by Google Form so info can be extracted into a spreadsheet and easily updated. The contact email column can be copied into BCC email field for ease.

- PC admin – the library needs to be booked in advance. The booking form goes to the school 10 days in advance. The form will be added to the PC Google drive.

- Email reminder to SS for Heads-Up week before meeting

- Ask for Text alert from LHS to go out to all contacts on Monday before meeting.

- Frequency of meetings: suggested move to 2 x main PC meeting per term, with smaller project-focused groups meeting when required. This change will happen after summer break.

- Fundraising sub-group: suggested change to start a separate fundraising meeting for those who are interested in helping with this part of PC work.

- SF will email school to change office-bearers on website.

- AGM 2025-minute showing nomination of office-bearers is needed to add/remove signatories from PC bank account (awaiting SF and DC reports to finish minute)

- Parent Council funding from THC needs the constitution for application.

Date of next meeting: Tues 25th Feb, 7pm, LHS Library