



## Lochnorris Primary School Parent Council

Tuesday 25 May 2021 – 7pm

### **Present:**

C Donnelly, S Hill, K Cairns, J-A Spreadbury, L Thomas, L Wright, A Hill, K Torbet, C Heggie and A McPike

### **In Attendance:**

C O'Driscoll (HT), Mr McPhail (DHT), Mrs Shaw (DHT)

### **1. Welcome & Meeting Etiquette**

CD explained the use of the functions on the meeting platform and asked people to remain on mute when they weren't speaking but have the cameras on if possible.

### **2. Secretary Cover**

CD noted that D Blinkhorn had indicated that she would not be able to continue in the role of Secretary. Members agreed to manage until the AGM where a new Secretary will be elected. L Wright agreed to take notes of this meeting.

### **3. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Debbie Blinkhorn, Russell Cowan, G O'Kane, J D'Agostino, P Auld, J Quinn and Nicola Young. A Hastings (Head of SLC) also submitted apologies.

### **4. Membership Withdrawal**

M Hutchison has advised that she wishes to withdraw her membership. It was also noted that M Wilson had not attended or submitted apologies for the last 3 meetings, and therefore membership would be withdrawn in line with the constitution. This leaves 18 members at this stage with other leaving at the end of term as a result of pupils moving on to the Academy. Quorum to be reconsidered at the next meeting and post AGM.

### **5. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes were approved by general consensus.

### **6. Matters Arising/Action Plan**

**Breakfast Club** – J Shaw advised that progress has been made and that subject to a further risk assessment review between EAC Health and Safety and Yipworld on 4 June, it was expected that an announcement would be made before the summer with the service to begin in August. C O'Driscoll stated that the service would be run by Yipworld and not the school. Members welcomed the plans as there is a great need for the service to support parents and children.

**Parking Issues** – C O'D is not aware of a planned date for the completion of the Car Park at the former Cumnock Academy site. She advised that there have been no recent complaints regarding misuse of

the ECC Car Park, but noted that the staff car park is not big enough to accommodate all staff. PC McPike, the Campus Officer, is monitoring the situation.

**Policy Review Timetable** – C O’Driscoll stated that the focus continues to be on operational matters rather than policy development. Members reiterated that it was important for the Parent Council to be involved in establishing policies for the new school.

## **7. Correspondence**

CD advised members of an email received and to be circulated for a Health & Wellbeing event on the Respect Me, Anti Bullying Program. She encouraged members to take up the invitation to attend.

## **8. Head Teacher Update**

**Mrs O’Driscoll provided the following update, incorporating topics requested in advance by members:**

### **Staffing:**

- No changes expected to the end of June
- J Shaw leaving to take up a Head Teacher post. A replacement is likely to be re-deployment from another school, rather than through an interview process.
- From August, expect one probationer teacher, 3 classroom assistants funded from PEF and an Early Years Practitioner funded from PEF to support the P1 Play Based Pedagogy. [CD asked and it was confirmed that the 3 classroom assistants were in addition to those already employed, and not a re-employment basis]
- Temporary teachers (Miss Mair, Mrs Ross and Miss Cooper) and covid recovery teacher (Miss Caldwell) will leave in line with the end of their contracts. Mrs Dougan-Smith due to return in August.
- The number of incoming P1s is not yet finalised due to a number of placing requests, but it is expected that there will be fewer classes overall as a result for more P7s leaving than P1s joining. This will require a full restructure throughout the school, but disruption will be kept to a minimum. Expect 18 classes in August, down from 19 now. [S Hill asked about Primary staff teaching Academy classes and how best to utilise resource. C O’D advised that there is a net benefit to Lochnorris under this arrangement with more Academy teaching time received than given]

### **Prize Giving**

The consultation received more than 100 responses. G Taylor (PT) is working on plans at the moment. Events likely to be held for class groups in Barony Hall, with a slideshow shared virtually with parents and carers. Prizes will be for effort, attitude and good work rather than general excellence.

### **Other End of Term Activities**

Sports Day will take place over the course of a week. Trips will involve walking to Dumfries House in class bubbles for a picnic. A summer panto has been booked and a movie half day is also planned.



For P7s leavers, an e-book and song are being developed and pupils will have fun days and receive gifts.

### **School Improvement Plan**

C O'D advised that the next plan will be a carry forward of the current year. It has not been possible to undertake Quality Assurance or Classroom Visits this year. The focus will continue to be:

Numeracy – Number talks and pedagogy

Literacy – writing

H&WB - Wellbeing linked to Vision and Values

A 2-year program of Health & Wellbeing is planned. It is also planned to establish a pupil wellbeing champion group. Whole school activities will follow the Circle Framework for Inclusive and Trauma Informed Classrooms.

CD asked the SLT to explain this to members.

J Shaw advised that staff had been undertaking a book study of “the Boy who was raised as a dog” to help develop awareness of how trauma impacts the brain. The aim of a trauma informed classroom is to help children learn to regulate their own emotions and to use pre-emptive strategies such as a peace corner, egg timer, teddy bear breathing and whole class mindfulness activities. The aim is for children to learn from positive role models in class. Certain behaviours will not be acceptable and the aim is for children to calm themselves without disrupting the rest of the class.

A McPike particularly welcomed this approach to help children understand what others are experiencing, or what they may experience at home or elsewhere.

### **SNSA and Teacher Judgement Scores**

Scottish National Standardised Assessments are now complete at P1, 4 and 7. Results are being collated. The SLT are undertaking tracking meetings with all teachers next week, this is done at all stages for all learners to establish areas of focus, identify support needs and help concentrate school improvement areas. P1,4 and 7 data will be provided to Scottish Government by EAC.

The data to date shows that lots of pupils’ learning has not been impacted by Covid. Individual pupil achievements and development needs will be shared at parents’ meetings.

C O'D agreed that the overall results will be shared in due course together with the resulting action plans.

### **Priority Plan**

C O'D presented a document showing progress against priorities in year 1 of Lochnorris. (CD to circulate to all members). This is a reactive record of what has happened and a road map is being developed for next year.

## **9. Supported Learning Centre Update**

C O'D provided the update on behalf of A Hastings.

- £250 was raised as part of the Captain Tom challenge
- Attendance has been good

- There has been a focus on language and communication
- Transition is going well, both P7 to S1 and new P1 this will continue over the summer
- The primary SLC will have 46 pupils next year
- ASN staffing is currently being reviewed by EAC
- An SLC parent group is being formed, facilitated by Jo Quinn
- Prizegiving and leavers celebrations are planned.

## 10. AOCB

CD congratulated L McPhail and J Shaw on successfully completing the Into Headship Qualification.

CD thanked J Shaw on behalf of the Parent Council, for her contribution and work at both Greenmill and Lochnorris and wished her well in her new position.

CD highlighted a poster competition being run by Shire Housing and asked parents and staff to encourage pupils to enter (information on social media).

CD noted that N Young had advised that the change in transport provider for SLC pupils was working well.

## 11. Date of next meeting

- **Tuesday 31 August 2021, to allow for AGM to be called during September.**

**The meeting closed at 8.15pm.**

## Lochnorris Parent Council – Rolling Action Plan

Meeting	Item	Action	Update
27/10/20	Breakfast Club	C O'D	25/5 – anticipated to begin in August 2021
21/4/2021	Respect for All Anti Bullying Policy to be reviewed at a future meeting	C O'D	
25/5/21	PC to be involved in policy development.	C O'D	
25/5/21	SNSA and teacher judgement results to be shared along with resulting actions	C O'D	