



Lochnorris Primary School Parent Council

1 November 2022 – 6.30pm in School

Present:

C Donnelly, S Hill, C Heggie, T Fleming, K Ferguson, L Thomas and A Walls

In Attendance:

C O'Driscoll (HT), L Smith (DHT), Councillor Watts.

1. Welcome

CD welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from R Cowan, L Wright, J D'Agostino, A Hill, L Punton, and J Taylor (DHT).

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were approved by general consensus.

4. Matters Arising/Action Plan

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club attendance has improved & booking procedures tightened up now that initial teething issues are resolved.

Road/ Campus safety concerns

Ongoing discussion around heightened traffic around the school property caused by parents and carers not using the correct drop off zones for the campus. S. Hill advised that this also a topic of discussion at the RBA PC meeting and that P. Gilchrist was aware of concerns. There was also conversation around poor lighting on the bridge area of the school and was discussed that this should be raised at a campus level to ensure safety for pupils especially across the winter months. C O'Driscoll and L Smith also confirmed that the areas which were raised as safety concerns by the parent council (playing fields) were monitored during staff working hours and out with these would appeal to parents to review times pupils are arriving at school. Staff will continue to review supervision requirements and react to areas of concern as necessary. C O'Driscoll also advised that the safe walking route has been amended to include the built-up area around the Aldi supermarket on Ayr Road and is currently in draft to be republished. S.Hill has asked that the concerns be logged within the health & safety register for the school and where possible mitigations to these risks highlighted within there also.

Councillor Watts confirmed that the safety concerns around parking and road safety remain high on his agenda, he is in continued contact with chief inspector Jennifer McCulloch and continues to highlight any incidents passed onto him through the appropriate channels. He is persuading the council to consider placing bollards further along Auchinleck Road as an added precaution. He also confirmed that double yellow lines are to be extended further down Terringzean Way. CD suggested that it may also be appropriate to add a hatch box at the lights at the bottom of Holmhead.

5. Correspondence

Parent Council Steering Group - CD provided an update of the meeting.

Standards and Qualities Report

CO'D advised that no feedback had been received on the document submitted to EAC but that it would be shared in due course.

E-Learning Journals

C O'D advised that one class is piloting the use of e-learning journals. As well as having an impact on teacher workload, there is an issue with sharing photographs due to outstanding photographic consent – this also impacts information shared on school blog and Twitter.

“Let’s Talk Education” consultation

Detailed discussion as to how best to collate responses or encourage parents to engage in the process. The school confirmed that there were no plans to run a facilitated session for parents, but that an exercise would be completed with children. Due to time constraints of the deadline of the survey it was agreed that the Chair would draft information to be shared with parents via the App/Blog to encourage participation.

Warm Spaces

The Head of Education had advised the PCSG that schools were to be used as warm spaces. C O'D noted that she had not been made aware of this and that it would not be appropriate due to safety concerns. Councillor Watts confirmed that this was not something he was aware of and would raise at his own follow up sessions.

6. Head Teacher Update

C O'Driscoll provided the update.

- Parents Evening Survey shows mixed response next Parents evening will be face to face, this seems to be the consensus for primary schools across Ayrshire.
- Continued focus on cost-of-living crisis and reducing the cost of the school day. Recycling of jackets/school clothes to be available at parents evening. Poverty proofing continues to be a significant focus point with community links but the school being used as a warm bank has never been discussed.
- Classroom observations has recommenced as part of effective teaching & learning processes as this was paused due to COVID restrictions.
- Teachers have continued to participate in Harmony project training.

Upcoming events

- P7 residential – booked Monday 5th June.
- Mindfulness groups to start
- Cumnock Tryst Concert P7
- Christmas Parties
- Christmas Concerts

7. AOB

Discussion around the accuracy of the school website/blog. LS confirmed that because this was a blog and not a website there was no official rules around updating the blog and this was completed by staff when they had time to do so. SH asked if this could be reviewed as the school handbook was out of date and there was no school management report available to view along with other policies not being available to parents, as had been previously committed to by Lee McPhail (Former Staff Member).

Current versions of Numeracy and Literacy policies to be recirculated for Parent Council to review.

Parent emailed asking about Homework club- School confirmed there would be a survey going out in November to gauge interest.

Discussion around parent helpers starting back up and how any helper now needs PVG checked. Vibrant communities or Volunteer disclosure Scotland Service may be able to assist with free PVG checking if required.

8. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 6.30pm in the school. (However, can be changed to remote should weather issues arise). Proposed that L Thomas approaches speech therapy contact to discuss communication friendly schools at the next session. To consider other “guest speakers” for future meetings.

Lochnorris Parent Council – Rolling Action Plan

Meeting	Item	Action	Update
27/10/20	Breakfast Club	C O'D Chair	Now established – item closed
26/4/22	Consideration of fundraising remit	CD	To be included as agenda item for AGM. 7/9/22 for ongoing discussion
26/4/22	Safety/security – supervision across campus	CO'D	8/6/22 – School to remind/update parents on safe walking routes, areas supervised by staff and where parents are permitted.
26/4/22	Cross campus sharing of staff	CO'D	
8/6/22	Consider survey for PEACE Childcare after summer	All	7/9/22 - On hold – to pick up in future