

Lesmahagow High School Parent Council Meeting

Monday 2nd September 2019, 7pm

Attendees: Wendy Russell (Chair), Lorna Laird (minutes), , Donna Kelly, , Richard McGowan, Elspeth Martin, Angela Norris, Hazel Leggate, Moira Fell, Marie Cox, Philip Frame, Vicki O'Rourke, Colin Bates

Apologies: Tia Gallacher, Sarah Smith, Barbara Lee, Karen Hynd

WR welcomed everyone to the Parent Council meeting

1. Election of Office Bearers

Chair – Wendy Russell (approved by Lorna Laird and seconded by Hazel Leggate)

Vice Chair – Colin Bates (approved by Elspeth Martin and seconded by Wendy Russell)

Joint Secretary – Lorna Laird & Angela Norris (approved by Wendy Russell and seconded by Donna Kelly)

2. Adoption of Parent Council Constitution

WR advised that the constitution state the aims and objectives of the parent council. There were no amendments and constitution was approved.

There was discussion around the suggestion of hearing pupils concerns and suggestions. It was decided that the Captains would be invited for an allocated slot at the November meeting.

Action: HT to invite Captains to November meeting at 7pm

3. Approval of minutes

Approval by EM and seconded by HL.

4. Treasurer Update

- A Grant has been identified for £500 through a charity (**do we know which one?**) for the purchase of an electric piano.
- Parent council raised £80 at Young Musician of year selling coffee and home baking

5. Partnership Working Actions

The paper from Brainstorming actions was circulated and to be reviewed at next meeting. HT advised that the school are looking for anyone with their own business or working for organisations to come in and speak to pupils about experiences.

Action: Agenda item at next meeting.

6. Fundraising

Bag Packing arranged for Saturday 26th October and VO to arrange buckets. It was agreed that money raised would be put towards Duke of Edinburgh and Sports Strips.

VO suggested Clothes Bank and Quidco as fundraising options. HT advised that Christmas Concert is 17th December and Young Musician of the Year 14th November, he also advised that there will be no Christmas Fayre this year and the pupils are considering alternatives. It was discussed that Parent Council could support both organised events with Tea, Coffee etc.

Actions:

- Attendees for bag packing to be confirmed at next meeting and HT to invite Captains.
- HT to check about if a location would be able to be used within school
- TG to design signs for Bag Packing buckets.
- MF To publicise Bag packing on Facebook page.
- To consider where Parent Council wish to lead Christmas Fayre and support at two functions at next meeting.

7. Use of Social Media

WR picking up details with HT and TG.

8. Head Teacher Update

New Staff

- Mr David Robertson – Depute Head Teacher
- Mrs Vicky McGregor – Biology Teacher
- Mr Gordon Rouse – Area Cover RME Teacher
- Miss Melissa Melvin – Maths NQT
- Mr Ross Beveridge – Maths NQT
- Miss Gail Mackie – English NQT
- Miss Alisha Hope – French/German NQT
- Mr Douglas Roberts – Geography NQT
- Miss Nicola Forbes – Biology NQT
- Dr Tanya Mathie – Chemistry NQT

SQA Results

Strong SQA results for many of our young people and a strong performance of our leavers going onto positive leaver destinations. Further statistics will be available at a future meeting.

Senior Leadership Teams

Updated version of the remits is available at:

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/SMT-remits-from-Aug19.pdf>

Email addresses for Extended Leadership Team available at: <http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/contact-us/contactelt/>

Year Heads

S1 – Alastair Gray

S2 – Barbara Lee

S3 – David Robertson

S4 – Alastair Gray

S5 – Barbara Lee

S6 – David Robertson

House System

Kerse House – Mr Jim Mallaghan

Logan House – Mrs Linda Wright

Milton House – Mr Fergie Robson

New School Day

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/LHS-School-Day-Aug19.pdf>

[Aug19.pdf](#)

New school day includes Tutor Time, which is a great opportunity to have regular year group or house assemblies.

Communication with Parents

We are working hard to improve our communication with parents and make use of the following systems to communicate with parents:

- ParentPay
- Twitter
- School App

Show My Homework

We have had a positive start to the use of *Show My Homework* and many positive comments been received from parents about the visibility of the program. We appreciate that will always be difficulties with any new system.

Calendar

Parents/Carers can download our school calendar from our website to their phone calendar. We will also issue a one-page document with reporting dates and parents' meetings listed.

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/school-calendar/>

Cost of the School Day

Thank you for the feedback from the Parent Council regarding *The Cost of the School Day* – our position statement is available on the website: <http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Lesmahagow-HS-Cost-of-the-School-DayPosition-Statement.pdf>

School Improvement 2019-20

Strategic Priorities:

- Learning and Teaching – To improve the quality of learning experiences for all young people and ensure consistency across the school.
- Wellbeing - To improve the health and wellbeing of all young people and develop an inclusive approach, where barriers to learning are removed.
- Curriculum - To deliver a learner-centred curriculum, which facilitates tailored learner pathways for all young people, leading to positive and sustained destinations.
- Attainment and Achievement - To secure increased attainment for all young people, which includes the entitlement of literacy and numeracy qualifications.

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Improvement-PlanPoster-2019-20.pdf>

Pupil Equity Fund 2019-20

Our Acting Principal Teacher (Equity – Raising Attainment). Our 2019-20 allocation of money is to £44,400.

Pupil Equity Funding is additional funding allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty-related attainment gap. The Scottish Government has committed to this funding as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge programme from 2017/18. The Pupil Equity Funding forms part of the £750m Attainment Scotland Fund which will be invested over the current Parliamentary term. Pupil Equity Funding will continue until the end of this Parliament. The funding should be focused on activities and interventions that will lead to improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Pupil Achievements (In School and out of school)

We are planning to create a system within school to log pupil successes in school and out of school in order to track and celebrate achievement success of our young people as well as attainment.

Clubs and Activities 2019-20

We have various clubs and activities on offer this session – download a copy of the calendar from: <http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/LHS-ClubsActivities-19-20.pdf>

Support for Learning – S1 Open Evening

Monday, 16th September 2019 – 5-6pm. More info at: <http://www.lesmahagow.slanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/LHS-SfL.jpeg>

9. AOB

N/A

1. Points for discussion at next meeting.

Due to time constraints, points for discussion at next meeting.

- Partnership Working

Remaining PC meetings this session:

Tuesday 08/10/19 Wednesday 13/11/19 Monday 13/01/19