



Lornshill Academy Parent Council Meeting Thursday 26th September 2019

Present

Helen McNaught(HMc), Linsey Ferguson (LF), Laura Shaw, (LS), Will Hensman (WH), Gillian Goodwin (GG), Tom Black (TB), Kirsty Swanson (KS), Fiona Hughes (FH), Christine McGregor (CMcG), Pamela Cowan (PC), Aileen Lindsey (AL), Gaynor Westland (GW), Karen Cassidy (KC)

Apologies

Audrey Pirie, Gillian Fraser, Karen McCabe, Karen Brander, Caroline Muir, Laurie Mooney

Welcome

HMc opened the meeting by welcoming new parents.

TB introduced 2 members of the Top Team - Gemma and Laekin.

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

- The Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate account.

Top Team Update

Gemma and Laekin updated the PC about projects the Top Team are involved in this year.

- Cost of school year for S6 - there are several events that take place throughout the year for S6s requiring payments to be made. The Top Team are in the process of setting up a payment scheme to help families spread the cost across the year.
- October Fest Event - again with costs in mind, this year the Top Team have introduced a change to the way activities are paid for at each stall at this event. Pupils will initially pay for their October Fest ticket and will be issued with raffles tickets that will be used to pay for each activity offered.
- In future, 2 members of the Top Team will attend the PC meeting to give their update. HMc thanked Gemma and Laekin for attending.

PC Updates

- Cake and Coffee Meeting - the 1st PC meeting of the school year held in the Café was a success and HMc suggested it should be repeated next year.
- Early Budget Discussion - there are several transformational projects happening in Clacks Council looking at money saving changes that could be made throughout the year rather than at the last minute for the Budget.
- Joint Chair Meeting - PC Forum - HMc & WH attended this meeting. The discussion was mainly around the National Improvement Framework (NIF) that was launched last week. There are 6 main themes in NIF - Active Travel Plan, Poverty Plan, Early Learning and Childcare (this will receive additional funding), Parental Engagement, Autism Plan, STEM plan. Short term working groups within Clacks Council will be put in place to develop these areas. There are 4 NIF Priority Areas that are linked to National Priorities :- Attainment, Literacy and Numeracy, Positive Destinations and Health and Wellbeing. There was also discussion around the Budget about how things could be run more efficiently to reduce costs and avoid last minute cuts.
- The next meeting of the PC Forum is 10th December where Positive Budget savings will be discussed.

School/HT Updates

- The Scottish Government has provided £160,000 for the 3 secondary schools in Clackmannanshire to employ councillors that would work in school with children and through the holidays with families. It has been found that often any issues with children stem from family.
- MCR Pathways - Lornshill will have it's own co-ordinator. 45 young people in the school will have their own mentor. Lower age groups will work in groups with a mentor.
- The Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) has been extended to 2022. The school will be using part of it's PEF to install ProWise boards (as demonstrated by Mr Black at Meeting)
- Uniform Shop - hoping to set this up in the school as part of the Inclusion/Cost of School Day Agenda. The school has already invested around £5,000 in spare uniform and will look in future for donations of old/used uniforms that are still usable. Still in process of finding a way to take away the stigma of going to the uniform shop.
- The launch of Progress Monitoring and Tracking has been delayed due to last minute changes to make improvements.

Treasurer's Update

- The cheques from Clacks Council for 2017/18 or 2018/2019 have now been received.
- Account balance is £1974.72
- The accounts will be audited next week then the application for this year's council payment can be made.

2018/2019 Performance Review – Results / Priorities / Key Dates Results

- Exam performance was as expected with some areas matching previous best results
- Nat 5 Maths results showed a dip but also had most A passes ever.
- Performance was above Virtual Comparator School in Nat 5 Literacy
- Below VC School in Nat 5 Maths
- Results showed an improvement in S4 compared to recorded results from same cohort of children when in P7.
- 93-96% of S4,5,6 leavers go on to positive destinations. National figure is 94%.
- Session 2018-2019 Attendance was 91.4%. National Average 93%. So far this year attendance is down 400 days mainly due to the number of term-time holidays that have been taken.
- 78% achieved a Nat 5
- 38% achieved 5 or more Nat 5s
- 8% of S4 achieved 1 Higher
- Similar 5 Higher % maintained on 10% less pupils.
- Pass Rate:- Nat 5s- 86.2%, Highers- 90.5%, Adv Highers - 97.1%

Priorities - 2018-2021

- Attainment - maximise pupil attainment through effective use of 'Progress' and individual pupil attainment plans. With Progress parents will gain access to initial working levels and over time will see judgements build up. Judgements will be made within levels 1-4 with RED (sometimes demonstrates) , AMBER (demonstrates most of the time) and GREEN (always demonstrates). TB hoping to set up smaller group of Staff and Parents to discuss parental expectations of Progress.
- Learner Pathways and Impact on Learners - Working alongside professors from University of Stirling to look at curricular model in school.

Key Dates/Events

- S1-6 Tutor evening - approx. 500 parents/carers attended
- P7 Open Evening - Wed 2nd Oct - 5.45pm Welcome, 6-7.30pm Tour
- SQA ASN - Deadline this Friday for initial concerns eg. Extra time/scribe in exams
- Clackmannanshire Council ASN Open Day - Saturday 5th October - 10am-12pm, Lornshill Academy. All welcome
- S1,3,6, Photographs - Tuesday 8th October
- End of Term - Fri 11th October

AOB

- The School of Environment are collecting crisp packets for recycling.
- HMc has spoken to the school's Active Travel Co-ordinator, Jodie, who will come along to a PC meeting and give some feedback as to what she does and how the school community can become involved.
- WH raised comment about the difficulties surrounding making Placing Requests and questioned if it would be possible for the school to find a way to ease the process for parents. TB reminded PC that Placing Requests are dealt with solely by Clacks Council. The school doesn't have any say in the process or any decisions made. Questions around this topic should be raised with Clacks Council not the school.
- WH raised a question about Home Learning and the school using Show My Homework App. TB informed PC that each faculty has reviewed their home learning and are still trying to get a balance as to how Home Learning will be purposeful and how it will engage Parents. There were mixed opinions as to how well the Show My Learning App works.

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 14th November 2019 .

HMc thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting .