



Lornshill Academy Parent Council Meeting

Thursday 14th November 2019

Present:

Helen McNaught (HMcN), Linsey Ferguson (LF), Laura Shaw, (LS), Will Hensman (WH), Kirsty Swanson (KS), Christine McGregor (CMcG), Gaynor Westland (GW), Karen McCabe (KM), Caroline Muir (CM), Sue Mullen (SM)
Tom Black (TB), Gemma O'Donnell (GO'D), Daniel Scruton (DS),

Apologies

Pamela Cowan, Fiona Hughes, Karen Cassidy, Audrey Pirie

Welcome

HMc opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Mrs O'Donnell and Mr Scruton were present to give updates on the School of the Environment activities and Parental Engagement.

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

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

PC Updates

- The MCR Pathways Mentoring programme has been introduced in the school involving parents and young people in S1-6.
- The S6 prom committee has asked for donations of baking for their stall at the Christmas concert on 11th December
- HMcN has offered to meet with the Prom Committee to chat about fundraising ideas and opportunities and where the PC could help.
- The speed caution signs outside the school are broken. WH has reported it to the Council.
- The Progress Monitoring and Tracking app is up and running. There have been some issues as noted on the School App.

School/HT Updates

Progress Monitoring and Tracking App

- The school is working with the Progress supplier to make changes to the present colour systems on the app. There is a clash between BGE/Senior Phase colours.
- A framework for levels needs to be established so parents can better understand the level their children are working at.
- TB showed a video that Bruce Taylor (PE) has made to explain the BGE/Senior Phase levels and colours.
- The school want Progress to be an insight as to what is happening in a young person's education on a daily basis.

Staffing

- Foster Douglas (Design and Technology) is leaving on Friday 15th November. It is hoped to appoint a replacement soon.

- Mairi Buchan (Business Ed) will be absent until February.
- Home Economics Vacancy. It is hoped to create a Principal Teacher post in order to make the post 'more attractive'.

Treasurer's Update

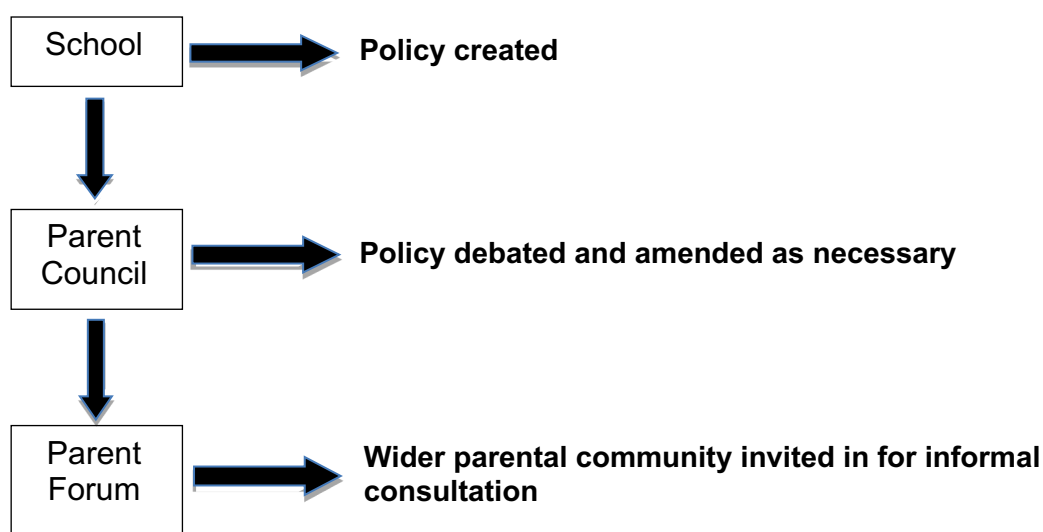
- £2449.72 balance.
- Still waiting on wish list.

Mrs O'Donnell – School of Environment Update

- Lornshill is now a Carbon Literate school – 1st school in Scotland.
- S2 School of Environment has recently achieved Eco Schools Green Flag
- The Eco Committee was asked by 'Keep Scotland Beautiful to produce a video to promote Carbon Literate Classrooms. Mrs O'Donnell showed the video.
- 3 pupils from Eco Committee have been asked to give a presentation at the Scottish Parliament in the New Year.
- Eco Committee aims for the next 2 years includes the development of a school garden, developing links to local businesses and encouraging parental involvement to improve school (more on school app and website)

Mr Scruton – Parental Engagement

- HMc and WH have recently met with Mr Scruton and Mr Murray (DHT) to discuss ideas as to what Parental Engagement at Lornshill looks like.
- Some successes so far are:
 - Positive phone call initiative
 - Parents Evenings in communal areas
 - Online booking system for Parents Nights
 - Lornshill On the Road – study skills for parents in the community
 - 'Sharing success' coffee morning in Social Studies.
- Focus areas for Parental Engagement at Lornshill Academy include:
 - **Home Learning Policy** – meeting with faculty heads to iron out inconsistencies in Home Learning and will consult with PC and wider community.
 - **Increasing Parental Involvement in decision making** – the following structure will be adopted



- **Communication** – what good practice can we build on? Where can we do better?
 - Parents at the meeting were invited to give comments on the various methods of communication in use at present by the school.
 - Results of this exercise will be used to review communication to and from school.

AOB

- KS asked about the proposal to appoint a School Counsellor. This has not happened yet but will be appointed centrally through Council rather than through school.
- WH asked for update on Uniform Swap.
Moving forward with stocking up and have had quite a few donations. There have also been donations of suits/prom dresses.

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 16th January 2020.

HMc thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.