

Lesmahagow High School Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 19th Feb 2019, 7pm

Attendees: Elspeth Martin (Chair), Lorna Laird (minutes), Donna Kelly, Marie Cox, Richard McGowan, Graham Parry, Angela Norris, Alan Crooks, Mark Horsham (Local Councillor),

Apologies: Karen Hynd, Moira Fell, Wendy Russell, Tia Gallacher, Dave Legg, Barbara Lee

EM welcomed everyone to the Parent Council meeting

1. Approval of minutes

Approval by RMcG and seconded by DK

2. Partnership Working

It was raised that there is an opportunity to address area representation at the Parent Council; this would include Bent, Coalburn and Woodpark.

HT suggested a workshop to brainstorm "What is Partnership Working". For example attendance at sharing events.

Action

- 30 minute session to be allocated at next meeting
- Joint letter to Primary School outlining the roles of Parent Council and how all can contribute.

3. Cost of a School Day

Document was reviewed and there was discussion that costs affecting the school day are trips and the end of year prom. HT advised that support is available for curriculum-based trips.

4. Fundraising Opportunities

There was discussion on fund raising activity to support and perhaps considering community input such as Football match. It was suggested that funds may be available from Lesmahagow Development Trust for activities such as Duke of Edinburgh, this has previously been restricted.

Action

- Suggestions for fund raising to be brought to next meeting (All)
- MH to look at options on grant support for Music tuition and/or instruments
- MH suggested that there may be options with other charitable bodies such as Veteran/Armed Forces, will explore and feedback
- MH to explore options with Lesmahagow Development Trust and Windfarm grants

- KH to enquire about a date for Tesco bag packing.

5. Curriculum 2020 – School Improvement Priorities

The consultation is now closed and next steps are analysis. Reviewing Pupil, Parent, Staff and Partner input is underway to identify themes and possible changes. The purpose is to enable access for learning to all young people. The process of timetabling has already started, there is not significant change in the short term and a review needs to take place as to what can be managed and working with the teachers to get structure right. Participation in consultation included 100 parents and 406 pupils.

Action

- GP to share findings

6. Head Teacher Update

The faculty changes have been communicated which involved the creation of “Expressive Arts” faculty, which includes Music, Art and Drama and “Technology” which includes Technical, Business and ICT. Bruce Biggart will lead Technology and Kirsty Blackwood will lead Expressive Arts.

SLC dance competition 20th February, will update on progress.

7. TIE Campaign Update

No further update.

Action

HT to advise of confirmed dates and then Parent Council attendees will be confirmed

8. SQA Results 2018

HT provided a summary of attainment for 2018 examinations and in brackets is the virtual comparator;

- S4 National 4 – pupils who achieved three or more – 88.18% (88.0%)
- S4 National 4 – pupils who achieved five or more – 72.73% (77.36%)
- S4 National 5 – pupils who achieved three or more – 52.73% (63.55%)
- S4 National 5 – pupils who achieved five or more – 36.36% (45.0%)
- S5 National 5 – pupils who achieved three or more – 77.17% (not including previous attainment in S4) (84.13%)
- S5 National 5 – pupils who achieved five or more – 59.78% (not including previous attainment in S4) (69.89%)
- S5 Higher – pupils who achieved three or more – 38.04% (46.96%)
- S5 Higher – pupils who achieved five or more – 16.3% (22.07%)

- S6 Higher – pupils who achieved one or more – 92.11% (88.43%)
- S6 High – pupils who achieved three or more – 77.63% (71.71%)
- Advanced Higher – pupils who achieved one or more – 30.26% (37.5%)
- School achievements
 - S4 4 pupils achieved 6A's National 5
 - S5 6 pupils achieved 5 A grades at Higher
 - 2 pupils achieved 6 highers (one achieving 6 A's)

Leaver data was discussed with good results. In 2016/2017, 92.5% of leavers left for a positive destination. In 2017/2018, 94.1% of leavers left for a positive destination.

9. AOB

-School buses parked at 2.40pm outside Milton Primary with engines running has caused some concerns with parents. Action GP to address and escalate if appropriate to SPT

-MH raised issue with litter in Lesmahagow, he has received a number of complaints from residents and local businesses. This was supported by HT who advised that he had received complaints. It was proposed that a litter picking day for pupils would be a positive message to the community.

Action

- MH to check numbers of bins and source high visibility vests

-Staff to consider options and available timings.

10. Points for discussion at next meeting.

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

- Partnership Working
- Curriculum 2020 – School Improvement Priorities Results
- Litter picking

Remaining PC meetings this session:

Wednesday 27/3/19 Monday 13/5/19