



Largs Academy Parent Council Annual General Meeting Wednesday 8th September 2021

MINUTES

Present: Cara McKee, John Doherty, Nathan Marshall, Sharon Morrow, Helen Fox, Donna McNeill, Colin Frew, Andrew Milner, Laura Hunter, Samantha Proctor, Lynne Cameron-Finn, Analene Swan, Lorna Adams, Shaukat Aron, Linda Beveridge, Julie Teaz, Marianne _____, and John Blair (partial attendance).

1. Apologies: Tom Marshall, Ayshea Ramshall and Anne Anderson.
2. Minutes of previous AGM: 24th September 2020
Proposed by Sharon Morrow
Seconded by Donna McNeill
3. Confirmation of Re-Adoption of Parent Council Constitution (incorporating PTA)
Proposed by Cara McKee
Seconded by Andrew Milner
4. Office Bearers
Previous office bearers:
 - Chair – Cara McKee
 - Vice Chair – Sharon Morrow
 - Treasurer PC – Anne Anderson
 - Deputy Treasurer PTA – Lee McGuinness (Standing down)
 - Assistant Treasurer – Andrew Milner (Temp)
 - Mental Health Officer – Donna McNeill
 - Fundraising Lead – Sharie Plimley (Standing down)
 - Secretary – Logan Rae & Jayden Chand (Standing down)
 - Members – John Blair (Standing down), Laura Hunter & Duncan Connor
 - a. Deputy Treasurer vote – candidates Samantha Proctor, Lorna Adams & Andrew Milner. Samantha withdrew herself. Andrew stays as assistant treasurer and Lorna becomes deputy treasurer PTA.
Proposed by Sharon Morrow
Seconded by Samantha Proctor
 - b. Fundraising lead - Ayshea Ramshall unopposed
Proposed by Cara McKee
Seconded by Lorna Adams
 - c. Secretary - Nathan Marshall unopposed
Proposed by John Doherty
Seconded by Cara McKee

Current office bearers:

- Chair – Cara McKee
- Vice Chair – Sharon Morrow
- Treasurer PC – Anne Anderson
- Deputy Treasurer PTA – Lorna Adams
- Assistant Treasurer – Andrew Milner (Temp)
- Mental Health Officer – Donna McNeill
- Fundraising Lead – Aisha Ramshal
- Secretary – Nathan Marshall
- Members – Laura Hunter, Duncan Connor, Samantha Proctor, Lynne Cameron-Finn, Lynda Beverage, Shaukat Aron and Helen Fox

5. Annual Report (Sharon Morrow)

- Difficult year for young people, SLT and staff and PC engaged with school through formal meetings and informally.
- PC listened to concerns and challenges from the school, young people, and parents.
- Successful engaging with other organisations – family learning worker, The Living Room, school nurse etc.
- Significant time spent talking about Covid 19, particularly quality of learning for young people, school engagement, family feedback.
- Challenging discussions around assessment and mental health of our young people after being told there were no exams, but they had to sit assessments.
- PC committed to supporting quality learning at LA, supporting the school and engaging with young people, parents, and staff at school.
- Congratulations to the staff at the school for their work through the pandemic and the fantastic results of the young people.
- SMHW not funded anymore, will continue with MS Teams
- Kept informed by SLT about staffing, changes to guidance model

No questions were raised

6. Finances of PC

Continue to be divided into PC and PTA accounts

PC – £4251.87 Anne Anderson has received money owed from previous years for NAC. Two bids in last academic year: one for Treehouse for wellbeing and one for the school newsletter.

PTA – Jane continues to receive statements due to Covid. Lee unable to provide statement. This should be available at the next meeting.

7. Headteacher report (John Doherty)

- Welcome and congratulations to new members. Thanks to PC during a difficult two years.
- Good start back to school in August. Covid still causing the school challenges. Close contacts – small numbers still being sent home causing an impact on young people and staff.
- SLT covering classes frequently. Lots of absences in staff not necessarily with symptoms but awaiting results as well as day to day absences.
 - a. School improvement plan out on Friday to parents and Thursday to staff to select priority to work on.

Wellbeing priority to be evaluated this term through surveys, focus groups with young people, parents and staff. Strategic plan by next PC meeting in October. Three other priorities are curriculum, learning & teaching and relationships. This will inform 'Learning at Largs' and the skills being developed through the curriculum, high quality learning and teaching and

supporting positive relationships. Final priority is pupil leadership. David Sinclair leading this and will attend future PC. S6 leadership day last week launched school captains and pupil reps.

- b. SQA update - Calendared exam diet 26 April – 1 June 2022 with results on 9 August however Covid may cause further localised restrictions. SQA describe modifications for learning loss due to Covid. If exams are not permitted due to restriction, professional judgement used similarly to this year.

2021 SQA exams results:

- 2108 passed Nat5
- 1260 passed Highers
- 202 passed Advanced Highers
- Those who leave at the end of S4 90% left with 5 Nat4 (Previously was 72%)
- In S4 last year 63% got 5 Nat5 (Down from previous year)
- In S4 last year 97% got at least 1 Nat5
- In S5 last year 32% got 5 Highers
- In S5 last year 75% got at least 1 Higher
- In S6 last year 1/3 got at least 1 Advanced Higher, up 10%
- S6 got a prom last week and got awarded for great results.

- c. Wellbeing update – Peer Education Project piloted across five schools last year. Train two staff and S5 and S6 to deliver wellbeing over a 5-week block in S1 PSE.

Training staff in Seasons for Growth (help for loss) school Ed. Psych training alongside David Sinclair & Kayla McGregor.

Advert for youth worker at LA full time working with wellbeing and non-attendance and supporting families as well as RRS school award

- d. Parents evenings – Parents evenings are planned for the year. They will hopefully be in person but if Covid does not allow them to happen in school they will happen in child's class MS Team. Parent night dates are as follows:

- S1 – 4 November 2021 with Mr Gibson or Mrs McTaggart
- S2 – 1 March 2022
- S3 – 25 November 2021
- S4 – 14 March 2022
- S5 – 17 November 2021
- S6 – 17 November 2021

- e. UCAS open evening next week. Mr Frew leading.

- f. Celebration of Success and Prize Giving – This will be held on 7 October 2021 and will be for pupils who have won an award only. This will be done in year groups and pictures will be sent home.

- g. Prelims – Prelims for higher and advanced higher will commence on 1 December 2021 and will finish on 20 December 2021. Prelims for Nat5 will begin on 13 January 2022 and will be finishing on 31 January 2022.

- h. School show being planned.

- i. The school has a new website which has been setup and run by the school technicians Stewart Reid and Mark Campbell. You can find the website at largacademy.com. Parent Council

minutes will be found there, and this section can be updated to include twitter handles. Pupil zone will contain wellbeing support including Treehouse which will be promoted during PSE.

- j. Covid 19 update – Close contacts to a positive Covid case in school will no longer need to isolate unless they are from the same household, have been intimate or have had an overnight stay. If someone in your household is waiting for a PCR test the whole household must isolate until the results. If one household member is positive but the others are negative those who are negative do not need to isolate.
 - k. Attendance – 2/10 pupils have been off with the cold since the start of the new school session. Work will not be sent home for those off with the cold. Attendance since summer has been:
 - Week 1 – 96%
 - Week 2 – 91%
 - Week 3 – 86%As Teachers are teaching in class, they cannot manage home learning as well, so teachers are to try to keep Teams up to date for pupils off with Covid. Young people can also email their teachers for work using their school email.
8. Mobile phones in schools – A new group has been created to update the policy on mobile phones in school. The members of the Parent Forum who have agreed to be involved in the process of updating the policy are Lynne Cameron-Finn, Lorna Adams, Laura Hunter, Julie Teaz and Cara McKee.
9. Questions to the school
- a. Eligibility for Seasons of Growth Intervention – John Doherty advised parent could contact him for guidance. 3 – 5 groups per year.
 - b. Rules with toilet usage during lessons – John Doherty said teacher to use their own judgment if a pupil needs the toilet or if they are wanting to waste time. If there is an issue parent is to contact the school.
 - c. Changing times between PE and next lesson – Colin Frew said pupils are meant to be given 10 minutes to change between their PE class and next lesson. The only time this does not happen is at the end of the day when pupils can leave in PE kit.
 - d. Regulated temperature between classrooms – John Doherty got in contact with FEZ regarding the school heating. There can't be a constant temperature throughout the whole school. Due to Covid the windows must stay open in every classroom for ventilation. Normally the breakout spaces are at a better temperature.
 - e. Multiple households getting emails – John Doherty has ensured that multiple email addresses can receive messages from the school for one child. Any issues then contact the school office and they can fix them.
 - f. Parents not getting any emails – If there are any parents not receiving any emails from the school, they should contact the school office as it is possibly just a typo in the email address.
10. PC hoped for events:
- Christmas bag pack at Morrisons? Cara McKee will ask Ayshea Ramshall to find out if this can go ahead this year

- Christmas event, possibly an Outdoors Christmas market or a refreshments stall at Christmas Concert which is planned for 21 December 2021. Cara McKee to inform Ayshea Ramshall. To revisit at the next meeting.

11. Bids

There are no current bids

12. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 20 October 2021 6.30pm (via Zoom)