



Parent Council / PTA 2021-22 Report

Executive Summary

- * Regular Parent Council meetings were held throughout the year. All meetings were virtual.
- * A total of 229 parents/carers responded to the Well Being Report with 90% of them stating that their child enjoys being at Largs Academy.
- * A total of 514 pupils responded to the Pupil's Learning and Teaching Survey and that 76% of the pupils stated that they enjoyed learning at the school some or all of the time and that 86% responded that they are happy with the quality of the teaching some or all of the time.
- * Very few bids were received in the 2021-22 school year. However, financial support was provided for: the Bouncy Land fun and social activity; Mental Health and Wellbeing course; S6 leavers pen and catering; Athletic vests to be used for pupils presenting the school.
- * The Parent Council bank account had a balance of £2290.88 (21/07/2022); the PTA bank account had a balance of £5,697.14 (18/02/2022); the 50:50 Club had a balance of £4588.50 (12/05/2022).

Report

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the Parent Council has been able to meet on a regular basis although, for another year, these have all been virtual, on-line meetings rather than face-to-face meetings at the school.

Engagement between the Parent Council, the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team at Largs Academy has been good throughout the year. It is worth noting that this engagement has been continuous and not just limited to the formal Parent Council meetings. The Parent Council is grateful to the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team for their continued support.

One of the main functions of the Parent Council is to facilitate communication and interaction between parents/carers and the school. The aim of this is that it will work to improve the learning, teaching and community experiences of pupils. Communicating what is working well is as important as communicating any concerns that pupils and parents/carers may have.

The well being of pupils is of paramount importance and the Parent Council was pleased to see that the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team have been proactively engaging with parents/carers through the Well Being Report. A total of 229 parents/carers responded with 90% of them stating that their child enjoys being at Largs Academy. However, only 50% responded that they considered that the school takes their views into account when making changes. The Parent Council asks that parents/carers continue to engage with the Parent Council and/or directly with the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team to share their views and opinions.

The Parent Council, the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team appreciate that face-to-face engagement between parents/carers and the school has also been challenging during the 2021-2022 school year. The Parents Booking System (for Parent/Carer Meetings) received mixed reviews and was, unfortunately, affected by some technical difficulties that were outside the control of Largs Academy. The Parent's Learning and Teaching Survey (which received 103 responses) suggested "regular, meaningful feedback about how my child is learning" could be an area for improvement.



The topic of Parent/Carer meetings has been discussed at the Parent Council meetings and it is hoped that they can be delivered in the next school year in such a way so as to meet the needs of both parents/carers and the teaching staff. The school is planning to implement more in-person opportunities between parent/carers and staff.

The Pupil's Learning and Teaching Survey had 514 responses and showed that 76% of the pupils enjoyed learning at the school some or all of the time and with 86% responding that they are happy with the quality of the teaching some or all of the time. With regard to homework, 62% of the pupils responded that it helped them improve their understanding of the work done in school some or all of the time. The full results of this survey were shared and discussed with the Parent Council and we look forward to further discussions on how the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team at Largs Academy plan to build upon these very positive results.

A priority for the team at Largs Academy, is supporting pupils on making the transition from school to the "world of work". To facilitate this the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team have established a working-group consisting of members of the teaching staff to focus on Pupil Skills Development. As well as developing skills the working-group would like to raise awareness of young people's existing skills and their applications. The Parent Council fully support this initiative.

The Parent Council is looking forward to engaging with the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team throughout the upcoming school year and to representing the pupils of Largs Academy and their parents and carers.

Finally, the Parent Council would like to recognise and thank the pupils of Largs Academy who attend and support the Parent Council meetings by taking taking the minutes of our meetings. In addition, the Parent Council would like to thank Anne Anderson who has been the Treasurer but who has now stepped down. Thank you.

Finances – Parent Council/PTA 2021-2022

Overall, very few bids were received in the 2021-22 school year. However, the following bids that were raised were supported by the Parent Council:

- 29/11/2021 - Largs Art Department (request from 2019) - £500.00
- 08/06/2022 - Bouncy Castel Event (fun and social activity) - £550.00
- 20/06/2022 – S6 Leavers Event - £540.99
- 20/06/2022 – Athletic Vests - £300.00
- 22/06/2022 - Mental Health Course NA College - £700.00

There are three bank accounts currently being managed by the Parent Council: The PTA account, the 50:50 Club account and the Parent Council account. The 50:50 Club has now stopped being run although the account is still open. This has been communicated but there are still active accounts transferring money into the 50:50 Club account on a regular basis. The desire is to close the 50:50 Club account and to transfer the funds to the PTA account.

The latest details regarding the bank accounts are as follows: The Parent Council bank account had a balance of £2290.88 (21/07/2022); the PTA bank account had a balance of £5,697.14 (18/02/2022); the 50:50 Club had a balance of £4588.50 (12/05/2022).

Andrew Milner (Vice-Chair)

On Behalf of the Largs Academy Parent Council 18/08/2022