



## Largs Academy Parent Council Meeting Wednesday, 14 December 2022, 5.30pm, on Microsoft Teams

### Minutes

#### Present:

Cara McKee (Chair), Andrew Milner (Vice-Chair), John Doherty (Head-Teacher), Barry Wilson (Depute Head), John Blair, Shaukat Aron (Treasurer), Nathan Marshall (Secretary)

1. Apologies:  
Analene Swan, Michelle Murray<sup>1</sup>, Tracey Turnbull & Linda Beveridge
2. Minutes of previous meeting: Wednesday, 2 November 2022  
Proposed by: Andy Milner  
Seconded By: Shaukat Aron
3. Event - Christmas Fayre (J Doherty/C McKee)  
Over £2,000 raised for the school, tables weren't charged for this year, so more money could be made at future events. Feedback was that it was a good event and people would like a longer fayre next year. John is planning for the last Saturday in November between 12 noon and 3pm. Plans for a summer sponsored walk with a BBQ and possibly a few stalls. Cara suggested a Car Boot Sale and John noted that Garnock Community Campus had had a drive in cinema, but Largs Campus carpark would not work for that.
4. Head Teacher's update (J Doherty)
  - a. Term 2 update / Term 3  
S4 had parents' evening today and BGE reports will be coming out soon. Senior pupils will get a second parent evening over the February in-service day.

Barry Wilson is now on a two day a week secondment to help other schools bring in the online options which have allowed 23 Largs Academy pupils sit classes that are not able to be taught by dedicated teachers this year. As Barry is now in Largs Academy for just three days a week. Interviews will be held tomorrow for the other two days of his role.

Ashley Oliver is leaving her maternity leave role early to get a permanent job at another school.

Paul Gregory is the new technician.

A new physics teacher is getting appointed on Friday replacing Paul Usher. John, Barry, and Clair Manzoni are the interviewers.

Christmas Concert is on Monday, 19 December 2022 from 7.30pm and tickets are £5 on the door. Strictly is on Wednesday, 21 December 2022 from 4pm - tickets on the door.

Last day is a 2.30pm finish on Friday, 23 December 2022. Low attendance right now.

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<sup>1</sup> Michelle is stepping down as a member of the Parent Council.

b. Skills Framework (B Wilson)

The new Skills Framework has been built starting with the 2021-22 S6 pupils, who had questions. They were concerned about the things they needed to learn in school other than the academic. While many of these skills were already being taught in school, it was not across the board, and the language being used was not always the same. In consultation with staff and pupils across the school the skills framework has been developed and condensed it into a meaningful and easy to understand framework, communicated with simple graphics.

This will be shared by the end of this academic year.

c. Duke of Edinburgh update (J Doherty)

DofE have 48 pupils enrolled and 7 parent volunteers. The ratios work out for the night camp now so it can be taken further.

d. Prelims

Prelims are currently going on for Higher/Advanced Higher and continued during the strike day. Nat 5 prelims will take place in January and have been timetabled to take account of strikes.

e. Strike action

Strikes are taking place by different unions. Sometimes these are on different days and in those cases some young people have been able to attend school. Letters (via email) have gone out to parents from North Ayrshire Council regarding the strikes, and the school has issued reminders.

5. Questions to the school.

a. Cost of ingredients for Home Economics.

As the school budget is so limited pupils are asked to bring in a few ingredients, however there are the basic ingredients already there. No pupil will be left out if they don't have the ingredients necessary, and the things pupils bring in allow more tasty and interesting things to be made. Some schools charge annually but Largs Academy will not go down this route. In light of concerns around the cost of the school day, there are things in place to ensure no pupil should be left out during trips etc.

b. Accessing files from home.

Files cannot be accessed from the H:Drive but pupils cannot access that from home but staff are now going to be encouraged to teach pupils how to save into the Glow OneDrive instead. OneDrive files can be accessed from both.

c. UCAS form personal statement.

Pupils have been told different information by different teachers. This may be because more teachers are now acting as referees and so giving advice, but John will get teachers up-to-date with the rules, which are set out on the UCAS website.

6. Treasurer update.

a. S Aron still awaiting online access to Parent Council accounts.

He has the paperwork from the bank and the online account should be setup soon. Hopefully.

b. C McKee waiting for S Aron to have access before transferring funds from PTA accounts.

7. Bids - No current bids

8. **Groupcall Contacts**  
Feedback from Connect & NAC - Groupcall recognise having more than one parent as the main parent as an inclusion issue and it is now possible in the latest version of SEEMIS (School Management Information System), which NAC are working on updating to. In the meantime, we have workarounds as discussed at the previous meeting.
9. **Date of Next Meeting - Thursday, 19 January 2023 - 6.00pm on Microsoft Teams.**