



Largs Academy Parent Council Meeting Wednesday 8th March 2023, 6pm, on Teams

Minutes

Present: L Beveridge, A Raymond (new secretary), J Doherty, Mrs Beattie, J Doherty (Headteacher), J Blair, S Aron (Treasurer), C McKee (Chair), A Milner (Vice-chair), A Hill.

1. Apologies: T Turnbull (resigned), A Swan, G Docherty, J Wilson
2. Minutes of previous meeting: 19th January 2023 – A Milner proposed, J Blair seconded.
3. Head Teacher's update (J Doherty)
 - a. What's coming up – final tracking report for senior phase with final SQA estimate, will not impact appeal. Senior phase study leave upcoming Apr 24th to May 31st, timetable change for other years May 2nd, Easter school offering of virtual and workshop sessions and master classes before every exam to be sent out before holiday.
 - b. Strike action – strike action has been postponed following a pay offer that is being balloted
 - c. Options Process – in progress and going well, ahead of schedule. S3 options interviews currently taking place
 - d. Careers Fayre – was very successful, discussion on possible parental attendance in future.
 - e. Parent/Pupil & Staff Evaluation – parent survey 3 areas asked about. Positive results, positive work ethic, show my homework being discussed. Homework policy coming up, inclusion of financial management, work experience. Possibility of different year groups having different opinions, J Blair suggesting parent council as connection with school. Pupil data is not ready for meeting but mainly aligns with parental feedback.
4. Questions to the school.
 - a. School uniform (C McKee) – policing of school uniform such as plain black hooded tops. Black hooded tops are confirmed to be accepted uniforms. Infringements of school uniform policy will result in a message being sent home.
 - b. Drama (A Milner) – Drama not being offered in options as there is no teacher currently, school unable to advertise as yet. Drama teacher has been requested, this can be a hard subject to recruit for given previous experience
 - c. Parent's Evening (A Hill)- parents would like more in person parent's



- appointments. A Hill questioned why the school had chosen to run a parent's evening on an in service day. J Doherty acknowledged that this did not work well, and will not be done again. The school recognises that parents want more connection with the school and plan to run something monthly to bring parents in.
- d. Trips (C McKee for G Docherty) – have not been running as per pre Covid levels, would like to increase frequency. More should be available at end of term to encourage attendance. Budgeting can be an issue - should be in line with the price of the school day as per North Ayrshire policy.
 - e. Attendance at the end of term – confirmation from school requested about what is “working time” and what is not.
 - f. S6 attendance – question raised regarding prom being based on attendance. Attendance target for prom is being considered. National attendance has dropped, 85% attendance daily at LA. This has dropped since pre Covid
 - g. Prom (L Beveridge) – can S5 leavers attend? To be confirmed, and discussed at next meeting.
 - h. Prelims – is there data to support that moving prelims before or after Christmas positively impacts on results? Consultation on when prelims should be is currently out to staff
 - i. Options – question over the number of subjects S6s are to take, is this stopping their progress into life after school eg managing their own time.
5. Treasurer update (S Aron) – no movement on the account, balance remains at £2368.09.
 6. Bids - No current bids. Possibility to consider funding hoodies for the S6 – perhaps too late this year but could be a consideration for future years. Pupils are keen to complete a first aid qualification- this can be expensive. This gives them a level 6 qualification.
 7. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 19th April 2023 – 6pm in the school. Meeting will include UCAS updates – C Frew will join.