

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda for the AGM of Lenzie Academy Parent Council Thursday 13 September 2018

- 1 Chair's Opening Remarks**
- 2 Approval of previous minutes of AGM.**
- 3 Report by Head Teacher**
 1. Pupils
 2. Staffing
 3. School Refurbishment
 4. SQA Results
 5. School Improvement Plan
- 4 Chairpersons' Report (CG)**
- 5 Election of New Members**
- 6 FOLA 125**
- 7 AOB**

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

The minutes of Lenzie Academy Parent Council held on Thursday 13th September 2018

Present:

Alasdair Fraser (Chair)
Sarah Giffen
Claire Miller
Moira Reoch
Phil Reoch
Anne Denton
David Denton
Hazel Williamson

In Attendance:

Mr Paterson (Head Teacher)
Siobhan Blair (Clerk)

Apologies:

Gary Logue (Depute Chair), Cllr's Ackland, Renwick & Thornton, Fiona Kirkland, Gordon MacDonald & Kathryn Clarke

2 Chair's Opening Remarks

Mr Fraser opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Parent Forum & Re-election of members.

3 Minutes from meeting 31st May accepted as read and seconded.

4 Report by Head Teacher

Welcome

- Mr Paterson noted a very positive start to the term
- Uniform standards very good
- Pupil conduct has been very encouraging
- New S1 group have settled in very well
- S6 Numbers very small this year, due to S5 successes

Start of New Session

- Extra-Curricular Clubs and Activities booklet distributed, all clubs up and running and details available on the website
- S1 guidance welcome evening was held on 6th September, covering guidance and SFP and Guidance structure, social media guidance & Show my Homework

New Staff

- **English** – Kevin Owens (NQT) EC Club Football and Library assistance
- **Maths** – Fraser Mackenzie (Permanent) EC Rugby, Philip Green (NQT) EC Football, Chess Club and SFP
- **Modern Languages** – Gill McLean (P/T)
- **Wellbeing** – Cheryl Wilson (Permanent) EC Breakfast Club, learning & Teaching in HUB and is also part of the wellbeing cluster.
- **History** – Katherine Wade (NQT) EC Dance Club, Library assistance
- **Modern Studies** – Scott Mathers (NQT) EC Football and BBC News
- **Biology** – Science Club, Library Group, S&P
- **Chemistry** – Kathryn Spence (NQT), Science Club
- **Music** – Kyle Irwin (NQT) Guitar/Ukulele Club, Jazz Band
- **Art** – Amy Jones (NQT) Art Club, Breakfast Club

- **Bus Ed** – Jude Canning (NQT) EC Games Club & Fitness Club, Molly Parsons (NQT) EC Girls Rugby
- **PE** – David Aubrey (NQT) Football, Badminton, Staff Fitness (pending)

SQA Results

- 5 year rolling average figures discussed –
S4 Nat 5 5+, a fall from 71% to 68% but this masks a better performance at the top end re 5/6 Nat 5 at A/B (40xS4's achieved 6'As).
Most schools have experienced a fall this year due to longer exams and new exams in some subjects e.g. practical woodwork and hospitality and weighting weighting being taken away from internal assignments.
- S5 5H+ 40% (+6%)
Mr Paterson really pleased with the performance of the S5 cohort. There had been issues with the year group with PT's noticing a poor 'work ethic' but this was due to a small minority of young people tarnishing the reputation of the group. Mr Paterson expected the pupils to do well due to the curriculum structure & added time for H grades.
- 6H passes 24%
Very few who sat 6H did not pass them.
- 3H+ 59% (+4%), 1H+ 78% (+3%)
Overall positive trend for 5+, 3+ & 1+. Continuing to increase despite year on year variations.
- Mr Paterson very pleased with results –
9 pupils – 3A's
1 pupil – 4A Band 1
8 pupils – 2A's & 1B/C

SIP 2018-19

- Improving attainment, especially in Numeracy and Literacy. Explained moderation and differentiation strategies, development of M/T Systems, especially in BGE e.g. new Seemis & idea of skills tracking. Discussed the implementation of QI machine and new H/AH courses, October assessment block etc.
- Closing the attainment gap between most and least disadvantaged – Mr Paterson asked for ideas for PEF spending. Current spending covers the following –
Counsellor (2 days)
Funding help for trips e.g. S1 Residential
Literacy Boxes
Spare PE Kit/Dance Kits
Mr Paterson explained departmental input and the use of meta-cognition & effective feedback.
- Improvements in children and young people's HWB. Continued development of RRSA – move to silver. Explained Character Education, Aristotelian virtue ethics- Intellectual (curiosity/critical thinking), civic (service/volunteering), performance(resilience/creativity) and moral (integrity/gratitude/courage) virtues.
- Improvement in employability skills and continued positive destinations – L.A.C.E explained and examples given. Implementation of new vocational courses in Retailing, Bakery, Practical Metal Work. Explained CES and WPS & partnerships with stakeholders.

Pupil Leadership Team 2018-19

Boys

Matthew Bilcliffe
Fraser Meek
Grant Tedeschi
Jack Tierney

Girls

Freya Bradley
Katy Coats
Sophie Hirshall
Louise McCracken

4. **Chairs Report**

Chair Alasdair Fraser introduced the following purposes of the Parent Council and the role they play in the school–

- Outline of the Parent Council purpose in a supporting role to represent pupils and parents for the greater good of the school.
- To provide access to learning materials, guidance, framework, ideas and methods used to educate the pupils.
- Debate curricular issues and provide a chance for the head teacher to explain changes and discuss objectives.
- Building issues discussed, and opportunity to put proposals forward to EDC for building work and improvements.
- Pupil Equity Fund spending considered – AF requested consideration at future meetings for future spending.
- Representation at EDC schools Forum, PC Chairs, HT's and Head of Education attend to discuss ED school matters. The next meeting will cover parental engagement.

5. **Election & Re-election**

- Chair, Alasdair Fraser re-elected.
- Depute Chair, Gary Logue re-elected.
- All current PC members re-elected and seconded.
- New PC member Hazel Williamson elected.

6. **FOLA 125**

FOLA Treasurer Phil Riach overview of annual accounts (**see attached document**)

- Pupil's thanked for their Contribution, gifts on accounts explained.
- Success of ladies' night discussed, with over £1,000 raised.
- Confirmed members of FOLA 500 Club – 80, prize money has increased from £49 to £55. Thanks given to members who have re-gifted their prizemoney into the fund.
- Accounts prepared but unaudited due to late notice of meeting
- Mr Riach suggested new auditor, a maths teacher from Glasgow. No objections from PC.
- Drive for new members needed, suggestion of communicating meetings through groupcall, social media and website.
- Issue with the TSB Treasurers account explained, suggestion to change bank but Phil explained that this would draw attention to former members who still pay their subs automatically.
- Huge thanks given to the amazing behind the scenes contribution provided by Janet Cross.
- Next Meeting – 25th September in LA Wellbeing Suite

7. **AOB**

- No points to discuss

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 25th October

Schedule of future meetings -
Thurs Nov 22nd
Thurs Jan 17th
Thurs Feb 21st
Thurs Mar 21st
Thurs May 9th

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL
Agenda for meeting to be Held on **Thursday 25th October 2018**
7.00pm, Conference Room

1. Welcome & apologies
2. Minutes from previous meeting and AGM
3. Head Teacher Report (DHT Mr Farquhar)
4. Insight review of New Curriculum results
5. Parental Engagement review
6. FOLA 125
7. AOB

Date of next meetings

Thurs Nov 22nd

Thurs Jan 17th

Thurs Feb 21st

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

The minutes of Lenzie Academy Parent Council held on Thursday 25th October 2018

Present:

Gayetri Ramachandran
Claire Miller
Anne Denton
Kathryn Clark
Moira Reoch
Rod Harrison
Steven Lamb
Gill Drain
Sarah Giffen
Fiona Kirkland
Alasdair Fraser (Chair)

In Attendance:

Jennifer McNab (Guidance)
Niel Farquhar (DHT)
Siobhan Blair (Clerk)
Cllr Rod Ackland
Cllr Sandra Thornton

Apologies:

Gary Logue (Depute Chair), Siobhan White, Hazel Williamson, Brian Paterson

1 Chair's Opening Remarks

Mr Fraser opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Parent Forum & Mr Farquhar presenting the Head Teachers Report on behalf of Mr Paterson.

On behalf of the parent council, Mr Fraser offered sincerest condolences to the family of Kornelia Burak following their tragic loss.

2 Minutes from meeting 13th September accepted as read and seconded.

3 Report by Head Teacher presented by Mr Farquhar

- 1. SQA Results / Insight.**
- 2. School Refurbishments.**
- 3. School Trips.**
- 4. School Captains.**
- 5. School events.**

SQA Results / Insight

- Review of S5 results across 2016, 2017 and 2018 using Insight programme. Statistics discussed and observation of significant improvement of the top 20% category in 2018, reinforcing the success of the 6 higher model.
- Explanation for this provided to all parents/carers along with a breakdown of the attainment data. Concerns raised by Mrs Drain and Mrs Miller regarding the 6 higher model and discussed with wider PC members. SLT and PC happy with the current framework and Mr Fraser confirmed that the PC would support the system going forward and continue to voice parental concerns where appropriate.

School refurbishments

- **New roof** – ongoing but should be completed by the end of the month.
- **4G pitch** – contractor appointed and initial designs provided for the school. HT met with R. Imrie (PT PE), A. Park (rugby coordinator) and C. Gemmill (rugby coach) to discuss initial designs and we have made some suggestions to EDC. We will be meeting with the appointed contractor in due course. EDC have advised that due to the cost and complexity of the project that planning permission will need to be sought.
- **Back entrance** – HT has outlined provisional plans with representatives from EDC to facilitate more social space that will be required as the school roll rises. This will also secure the building more than is the case at the moment.
- **Guidance base** – plans put in to EDC in August and we await further feedback on a possible start date for the works.

School trips

- **S1 Residential** – taking place at the moment and is going very well.
- **German Exchange** – the 30th anniversary of our exchange programme took place in late September and early October and was again very successful.

School Captains

- After an excellent set of interviews Freya Bradley and Grant Tedeschi were appointed to the position of school captains for 2018-19.

School events

- **UCAS** – We processed eight applications for high tariff early entry courses this year. This is slightly down on previous years but the year group is much smaller. The pupils have applied for – Oxford (4), Cambridge (1), Medicine (2), Vet Medicine (2), Dentistry (1).
- **Scottish Learning Festival** – See letter attached. Our school was chosen by these organisations from all schools involved to present at the learning festival so this is a great honour for our pupils and they performed admirably.
- **Life After School** – our annual workshops for post-school destinations (university, college, employment, apprenticeships) took place on 26 September and many organisations attended. The young people involved evaluated the programme very positively.
- **European Sports Day** – this now annual event for S1 pupils took place on 26 September and was linked to our House system re points awarded for your house. The S1 pupils really enjoyed the day and had great fun.
- **House Assemblies** – the first House assemblies of the year took place on 1 October. We introduce our new S1 pupils to their house and act as a reminder to all other year groups of the importance we attach to the house system. We let the house captains and prefect teams for each house explain what their role is and also how they can help their house to win points.
- **S1 Open Evening** – This took place on Thursday 4 October and was a huge success. It was a very busy night and all departments put on excellent demonstrations of work from pupils and by pupils. The parental evaluations were exceptionally positive on what they thought of the event.
- **S2 Stock Market Challenge** – The Maths department lead this event for second years on the 9th and 10th of October and this involves half the year one day and the other half on the second day. The pupils have to work as a team and develop their mathematical skills as well as their ability to predict how external events can impact on the price of stocks and shares. This is a super event and the young people really enjoy the day.
- **LipSync Battle** – this now annual event took place on Thursday 11 October and was once again a real success.

4. Insight Review of New Curriculum Results

This matter was discussed at length in the Head Teacher report.

5. Parental Engagement Review

- EDC meeting took place where parental engagement was discussed, Mr Fraser was not in attendance.
- Broader engagement plans to be discussed at the next meeting.

6. FOLA 125

- FOLA attended P7 welcome evening to promote engagement with new S1 parents for the 2019-2020 session.
- £970 awarded for cross curricular subjects for the purchase of VR Goggles and smart phones.
- Ladies night to be held on 7th December at Lenzie Golf Club, 50 tickets will be available for purchase.
- Proposed Race night for 1st March at Lenzie Rugby Club, still in early planning stages and venue and date may be subject to change.
- Changes to wording on school website from FOLA to PTA still being arranged to make it clearer for visiting parents.

7. AOB

- Concerns raised by parents over the new regulations regarding senior pupils being allowed absence to attend university open days. Parents requested clarification on what the guidelines were on this. Mr Farquhar fielded questions and explained that the requests were being dealt with on a one to one basis by Ms Robertson and said he would speak to her to gain further clarification on this.
- Parents asked Mr Farquhar if there would be any commemoration of Kornelia in the school, he confirmed that her closest friends and staff would discuss this further but that it was unlikely that a whole school event would be considered, due to how this may affect the wider school cohort.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 22nd November

Schedule of future meetings -
Thurs Jan 17th
Thurs Feb 21st
Thurs Mar 21st
Thurs May 9th

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda for meeting to be Held on **Thursday 22th November 2018**
7.00pm, Conference Room

- 1 Welcome & apologies
- 2 Minutes from previous meeting
- 3 Head Teacher Report
- 4 Additional Support Needs review
- 5 Parental Engagement review
- 6 FOLA 125
- 7 AOB
 - Changes to N5 exam presentation policy

Date of next meeting:

Thurs Jan 17th
Thurs Feb 21st
Thurs Mar 21st
Thurs May 9th

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

The minutes of Lenzie Academy Parent Council held on Thursday 22nd November 2018

Present:

Claire Miller
Anne Denton
Kathryn Clark
Moira Reoch
Rod Harrison
Sarah Giffen
Siobhan White
Fiona Kirkland
Alasdair Fraser (Chair)

In Attendance:

Brian Paterson (Head Teacher)
Jennifer McNab (Guidance)
Siobhan Blair (Clerk)

Apologies:

Gary Logue (Depute Chair)

1 Chair's Welcome

Mr Fraser opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Parent Forum.

On behalf of the parent council, Mr Fraser offered sincerest condolences to the family of Abigail Hall following their tragic loss and praised the staff and pupils at LA for the compassion and strength they have shown in coping with recent events.

2 Minutes from meeting 25th October accepted as read and seconded.

3 Report by Head Teacher

- 1. Recent events.**
- 2. School refurbishment update.**
- 3. EDC attainment review.**
- 4. S5/6 assessment block.**
- 5. Charity events.**
- 6. DYW events.**
- 7. School updates/events.**

Recent events

The events of the past few weeks have taken a significant toll on many of our young people and also on a number of our staff. We are very thankful to EDC for giving us the dedicated support of our Educational Psychologist and for paying for an extra day for our school counsellor. The school is gradually getting back to normal and I have said to our pupils and staff that I am immensely proud of how they have coped with the events of recent weeks and how they have supported each other through what has been a very difficult time. We intend to consult with our pupils about how we commemorate the young people who have passed away and one possible way is to create a 'Contemplation' space in the quadrangle. It may be that the Parent Council directs FOLA to facilitate some fundraising in this regard e.g. some crowdfunding to enable the school to provide a well thought out and properly built area. It would be my intention to work with our

pupils and the DT department to design an area and thereafter cost it and build an area where our young people can go to remember and reflect.

School refurbishment

There are a number of areas to report back on:

- The re-roofing continues and this has had some significant adverse effects upon the school e.g. significant leaks in our administration wing that has impacted upon our office staff's ability to do their jobs properly. We have had no final date as to when this work will be completed. It is my understanding that the roofing company will also close off the existing air vents in the social area as there are significant condensation problems every time there is cold overnight weather leading to significant dripping where young people eat their lunch. This happened at the beginning of November and again this morning.
- The side doors have had the magnets fixed so that there is secure exit and entry from the school.
- We have been given assurances that the council will deal with the back entrance by extending the paneling and windows to incorporate the PE changing areas within the main school building and thus reduce the traffic upon the inner doors at the back entrance. New replacement doors should be fitted on each side. We have not been given any idea of dates and timescales for this work.
- The planters at the side of the building have been attended to and we hope that this will be partially covered to provide seating for the pupils.
- The council have agreed to replace the assembly hall floor and the stage due to the damage caused by water ingress earlier in the year. The nature of this work will be extensive and so will not begin until the Spring Break in April and will continue for approximately four weeks.
- Work on the guidance base has not progressed due to absence of staff within EDC so we have no clear idea when this work will be started.
- The 4G pitch has yet to commence. It is my understanding that a contractor has been appointed and we were given initial designs to review. I met with R. Imrie (PT PE), A. Park (PT History and rugby coordinator) and Colin Gemmill (rugby coach) and we have feedback to EDC our suggestions.
- There remains some small works that required to be carried out e.g. at the front doors and also a window at the far end of the building which is broken which has resulted in pigeon infestation.

EDC Attainment Review

The annual attainment review took place earlier today. Officers from EDC discussed the 2018 SQA results for the school as well as a range of other matters. The meeting was hugely positive and the team were very complimentary about the school's attainment profile as well as many of the other developments that the school is engaged in.

S5/6 Assessment block

With the removal of units to higher grade courses we have devised an S5/6 assessment block which took place in October. All departments provide an assessment of some sort in their double period slot and this allows us to have an overview of where our young people area across all the subjects that they are studying. It is our view that this approach has worked well this year and the information derived from the assessments feeds into the S5/6 monitoring and tracking data that is issued to all parents/carers. From this data we have identified a number of young people who should attend supported study that we have on offer across all departments. We have sent letters to the parents/carers of those affected to encourage attendance and also made them aware of LA launch which allows pupils to work together after school on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3.30 – 4.30pm. In addition, we have also identified a number of young people who we feel would benefit from a mentor and letters have been issued to parents/carers to let them know about this. The mentoring programme should begin over the next couple of weeks.

Charity Events

In recent weeks we have facilitated a number of charity events:

- Children in Need week took place last week with the usual array of events going on across the week e.g. staff v pupils rugby; staff v pupils football; staff v pupils benchball; photos with Pudsey; sponge the captains/teachers; dress down day; staff coffee morning and a talent show on Friday. The exact total is not finalised yet but should be in excess of £3500.00
- We had a MacMillan Coffee morning a few weeks ago raising in excess of £200.
- We had a bake sale for 'Let's Grow Together' and raised £110.15.

Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Events

A number of DYW events have taken place in recent weeks:

- On 13/11 we had 'Dog Digital' Day with our S3 pupils in Design Technology. This is the second year of this event and it was again very successful with young people engaged in work related to careers in graphic design and the media. The pupils worked in teams to come up with a solution to one of three challenges – challenges commissioned by Vodafone; the Football Association and the BBC with each having a digital media theme. The challenges included promoting women's football using virtual reality or augmented reality to allow remote communities to shop online. It was an excellent day and pupil feedback was 100% positive.
- We had RAF talks with selected S4-6 pupils on 22/11.
- We had engineering talks by representatives of Arcadis to selected S4-6 pupils on 15/11.
- Some S4 pupils from Business Education visited the AG Barr factory in Cumbernauld to learn about the different aspects of the business on 15/11.
- We had our annual Senior Phase Curriculum Pathways event on 13/11 where in excess of 20 employers, charity organisations, universities and colleges come in to the school to discuss with our S4-6 pupils possible post-school destinations for them.
- Dr Melrose came into the school to give talks to prospective medics, dentists and vets on 9/11.
- Ross Greer (MSP) visited the Modern Studies Department on 5/11 to talk about his work as an MSP.

School events/updates

- S1 Residential on 22/10 to 26/10 was a really successful event and we will do this again next year but probably later in the session.
- Our annual remembrance assemblies took place on 9/11.
- Our annual Art Exhibition took place on 13/11 and yet again displayed some of the outstanding work of our pupils in both Art and Design and in Photography.
- Our S1-4 dance Showcase took place on the morning of 14/11 and was well attended.
- The Blood Transfusion Service visited the school in 12/11 and extracted blood from many of our S6 pupils. The team were highly complimentary about our young people and their conduct during their visit.
- The school is getting visitors from other schools to come and learn about what we are doing e.g. representatives from Turnbull HS visited our Biology department to learn about our Skills for Work Health Sector course and in the coming weeks teachers from Balfour HS will visit our PE department to learn about some of the work that they do.
- On Friday of this week we will be having our annual S1 Bounce back day where all S1 pupils will be off timetable for the day and do a range of activities to reinforce the need to be independent and resilient young people.
- On the same day we will be meeting with Dr Corry and Professor Livingstone from Glasgow University to discuss 'Character Education'. This will involve a meeting with the HT and thereafter meetings with a group of key staff and a focus group of pupils from across year groups.

4. Additional Support Needs Review

Morag Elliot attended the ASN working group presentation for EDC, the following matters were discussed-

- Planning is underway for a new school in Waterside merging Campsie View and Merkland for children with ASN.
- Need for a new Enhanced Learning Resource (ELR) area discussed.
- As yet, no additional staffing offered by EDC.
- New school dedicated to those most in need therefore more ASN pupils to be dispersed to mainstream schools. This will be determined by the 3 stage pyramid of needs.
- Challenges to be discussed in consultation with all schools involved.
- Access to resources is adequate but teaching needs will need to be addressed.

- There are a lot of uncertainties at this stage and the school will feedback as things progress.

5. **Parental Engagement Review**

Mr Paterson and Mr Fraser discussed the review and how it applies to LA, the following points were made -

- The recommendations that were made for learning at home for parents and their children is more aimed at nursery and primary level and does not really apply to secondary stage learning.
- Parental questionnaire to analyse the effectiveness of the form considered.
- S4 recommendations too general Mr Fraser suggested filtering areas that apply only to LA to devise a tailored plan of action.

6. **FOLA 125**

- FOLA 500 Club celebrating highest membership numbers to date.
- FOLA in attendance at S3 parents evening.
- Ladies night to be held on 7th December at Lenzie Golf Club, tickets still on sale.
- The school website has now been updated to include a 'PTA' tab under the 'Parent's Info' heading. Online applications for FOLA now available on the FOLA 125 website, which can be accessed via the 'contact us' tab on the school website.

7. **AOB**

Changes to N5 Exam Presentation Policy

- Old SG format of foundation, general and credit ensured that all pupils were able to achieve an award level for their chosen subject.
- New N5-N4 framework allowed for N5 with a fallback to N4 via continuous unit assessments.
- Letter from the leader of the SQA Bill Maxwell confirmed that the N4 exception is to be taken away.
- This means that the decision on a young person's level of study is the responsibility of the parent.
- Concerns raised as to whether parents would be able to make the right choice and follow the recommendations made by the PT's of each subject.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday Jan 17th

Schedule of future meetings -
Thurs Feb 21st
Thurs Mar 21st
Thurs May 9th

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda for meeting to be Held on **Thursday 17th January 2019**
7.00pm, Conference Room

1. Welcome & apologies
2. Minutes from previous meeting
3. Head Teacher Report
4. Parental consultation.
5. New Relationships, Health and Sex Education guidelines
6. FOLA 125
7. AOB

Date of next meeting:

Thurs Feb 21st

Thurs Mar 21st

Thurs May 9th

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

The minutes of Lenzie Academy Parent Council held on
Thursday 17nd January 2019

Present:

Claire Miller
Anne Denton
Kathryn Clark
Moira Reoch
Rod Harrison
Sarah Giffen
Siobhan White
Fiona Kirkland
Cllr Sandra Thornton
Alasdair Fraser (Chair)

In Attendance:

Brian Paterson (Head Teacher)
Jennifer McNab (Guidance)

Apologies:

Gary Logue (Depute Chair)
Siobhan Blair (Clerk)

1. Chair's Welcome

Mr Fraser opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Parent Council.

2. Minutes from meeting 22th November accepted as read and seconded.

3. Report by Head Teacher

- 1 School refurbishment update.**
- 2 Campus Cop**
- 3 Christmas events**
- 4 Character education**
- 5 UCAS.**
- 6 Prelims**
- 7 PEF.**
- 8 School updates/events.**

School refurbishment

There are a number of areas to report back on:

- The re-roofing continues and there is still no final date as to when this work will be completed.
- The air vents in the social area were meant to be replaced last weekend, but this did not happen – no idea on completion date.
- Preliminary technical assessments done on the rugby pitch for the 4G pitch, but no indication of a contractor or when work will start.
- Side door magnets repair has taken place.
- Work to replace the small window in computing has taken place.

- There is a plan to create a new ASN base near Support for pupils. This could be achieved by some internal modification and removal of female toilets – need to check regs for toilets per head. If this is not possible, then there will be costing for moving the Pe changein area and reconfiguring the two existing changing rooms into an ASN base. There is no indication of start or completion dates.
- No movement with regard to re-modelling the guidance base
- No movement with regard to re-configuring the back entrance to the school.
- No movement with regard to removing old shrubbery at front and replacing with tarmac.
- A meeting with EDC is planned on the 5th Feb to discuss these matters so hopefully more concrete details will be available for the next PC meeting.

Campus cop

LA has been allocated a new Campus cop – PC Stewart Kerrigan. BP met with PC Kerrigan last week and looks forward to working closely with him over the coming months. The new model implemented by Police Scotland looks more akin to the system that worked previously where officers worked closely with the schools.

Christmas Events

The various events held on the run up to Xmas were all successful. The Xmas concert was wonderful and all three dances were well attended and the pupils all enjoyed themselves with no incidents. The annual S1 Panto was well attended and enjoyed by the pupils

Character Education

The visit by Dr Corry and Professor Livingstone from Glasgow University to discuss ‘Character Education’ was very positive and both were impressed with the work going on in the school. They met with BP and a group of teachers and pupils, and will return next year to see the developments generated from the current work.

UCAS

This year we have a small S6 cohort of about 129 pupils. In total we processed 106 UCAS applications including 8 early entries (4 Oxford, 1 Cambridge, 2 Vet Med, 2 Medicine, 1 Dentistry)

Prelims

The S4-6 prelims began on Thurs 10th Jan and run on till Wed 23rd Jan. So far no problems, through the school will continue to offer supported study and offer more subject-specific support via Tuesday elective periods. The school will also offer mentoring for those pupils who appear to be struggling in more than one subject area.

PEF

As part of the school’s work to ‘close the attainment gap’ they are working with a company called Osiris to develop and implement ‘metacognition’ across the school. Research has shown that when pupils are familiar with metacognitive strategies it enables deeper and more meaningful learning, so this will be introduced in 2019, continuing for 2-3 years to assess efficacy.

School Events

- Young Musician of the Year took place on 29/11/18 and was hugely successful. There were 18 entries in total across vocal and instrument categories, and the winners were Mollie Ward (vocal) and Ross Donaldson (Instrumental – French Horn).
- Two former pupils were recent recipients of the Diana Award Scotland 2018. In total only 12 pupils across the country received this award, so it is extremely impressive to have LA so well-represented in this area.
- Various other events took place in Nov/ Dec – LA did well at the top of The Bench Chemistry competition, and there were more DYW visits from Fleming Buildings Ltd (29/11), Army presentations (29/11) and a visit to CMS Windows (5/12).

- The annual GymFest took place on 4/12, and there were various Geography field trips in December too.
- The Modern Studies Dept had visits from Ross Greem MSP and Rona Mackay MSP, to discuss the nature of their jobs and the world of politics with pupils.

7 AOB

Mr Fraser highlighted the issue with parking around the school and had engaged with the EDC relevant department to get clarity on presence of wardens in the LA area.

Cllr Thornton brought up the issue of a recent bout of vandalism, and felt that this reflected badly on the school. Parents suggested that they did not feel that this was reflective of the school in particular, but more of an isolated incidence of vandalism. The councillor also brought up an incidence of bullying which had not been reported to the school, and was assured of a robust response when the incident is reported formally.

Date of Next Meeting: Thurs Feb 21st

**Schedule of future meetings - Thurs Mar 21st
Thurs May 9th**

LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Agenda for meeting to be Held on **Thursday 28th March 2019**
7.00pm, Conference Room

- 1** Welcome & apologies
- 2** Minutes from previous meeting
- 3** Head Teacher Report
- 4** Update from Parent Council Forum (AF)
- 5** FOLA 125
- 6** AOB
 - Redevelopment of Boclair Academy
 - Parental behaviour at Parent-Teacher meetings

Date of final LAPC meeting:

Thurs May 9th



LENZIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

The minutes of Lenzie Academy Parent Council held on Thursday 28 March 2019

Present:

Kathryn Clark
Anne Denton
Claire Miller
Moira Reoch
Rod Harrison
Fiona Kirkland
Sarah Giffen
Siobhan White
Gayetri Bhaskar Alasdair
Fraser (Chair)

In Attendance:

Brian Paterson (Head Teacher) Jennifer
McNab (Guidance)

Apologies:

Gary Logue (Depute Chair)
Cllr. Thornton

- 1 **Chair's Welcome**
Mr Fraser opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Parent Council. In light of the recent information that Boclair Academy was going to receive a £30 million rebuild from EDC, Mr Fraser and the other members of the Parent Council asked the Head Teacher to review the issues facing Lenzie Academy. As Lenzie Academy will now be the only 'old build' secondary school in the region, and at a significant disadvantage in comparison with the other schools, the Parent Council posed a series of questions regarding current status of the school infrastructure, location and access.

- 2 **Minutes from meeting 21st February accepted as read and seconded.**

- 3 **Head Teacher's Response**



PC Question: What is the context for the Boclair Academy rebuild?

Whilst the decision to build a new school for Boclair Academy is a welcome one it would lead to a situation whereby seven out of eight secondary schools in East Dunbartonshire are new builds with Lenzie Academy remaining as the only 'old' school. This means the school has been overlooked twice:

1. When the decision to build six new secondary schools was taken there was money to build eight new schools of a slightly less high specification but a decision was made to concentrate on six with two schools not being re-built — Boclair Academy and Lenzie Academy.
2. The decision to provide a new school for Boclair Academy means Lenzie Academy has been overlooked for a new build school for a second time.

There is an issue of inequity for the community of Lenzie that needs to be addressed by East Dunbartonshire Council. This inequity does not just extend to the quality of the learning and teaching environment for young people in a new school environment and all the benefits that brings but also to a range of financial concerns that will face Lenzie Academy that are not a concern to other secondary schools within the authority (See Appendix A)

There are many concerns surrounding the suitability of the existing Lenzie Academy as well as issues related to the condition of the building and these are outlined below.

PC Question: What do you see as the main issues associated with the current location of Lenzie Academy?

The school resides in the middle of a residential area with two main roads straddling the school — Kirkintilloch Road and Boghead Road. This leads to a number of concerns:

- The school is near shops in Moss Road, Kirkintilloch Road and Boghead Road. This leads to many pupils using the shops and this can have some adverse consequences for community relationships. It is also difficult to ensure our pupils eat healthily as many opt for cheap fast food from local shops.
- In the last three years' we have had three pupils hit by cars in road traffic accidents around the school at either the beginning or end of the school day.
- On a regular basis, we receive phone calls from concerned motorists who have been involved in 'near' accidents caused by pupils spilling out onto busy roads at lunchtime or the end of the school day.



- There are significant traffic concerns at the beginning and end of the school day that constitute a health and safety concern due to the volume of traffic caused by parents/carers dropping off their children in the morning and/or picking them up at the end of the day. The school does not have a planned drop off area and this leads to inappropriate decision making by some motorists that can be dangerous. The fact that



the school has two primary schools in close proximity can cause further concerns i.e. Lenzie Meadow Primary is at the end of Myrtle Avenue whilst Holy Family Primary is just off Boghead Road.

- The school's location in the middle of a residential area means that we could not acquire planning permission for floodlighting on the 3G pitch. This is a significant loss to the Lenzie community to use as a community resource in the evenings and means that our pupils are disadvantaged from October — March every year as we cannot play home fixtures so every game is an away game which means the pupils miss more learning and teaching than other pupils in other schools. The proximity of residential housing is such that there are ongoing issues related to balls going over fences and into residential gardens. This situation is a source of some community disharmony with the residents of Myrtle Avenue and Larch Avenue who are most directly affected.

PC Question: How is the position and layout of the school affecting access for staff and pupils?

- The school's location and design causes significant access issues to and from the school with subsequent concerns:
 - •The narrow entrance on Myrtle Avenue causes access difficulties for vehicular traffic
 - e.g. the bio-mass woodchip delivery truck; coaches taking pupils on school trips; regular delivery traffic and the meals on wheels buses. The pressure on the road from these heavy vehicles cuts up the tarmac badly. They also enter and exit using the same entrance as our main pupil entrance.
 - A number of parents/carers ignore regular communication regarding no entry to the school at the beginning and end of the day and ignore the painted signals for 'authorised' vehicles only. This leads to traffic problems 'within' the school at the beginning and end of the school day.
 - Many employees within the school who park from the Larch Avenue entrance often cannot gain access due to parents/carers dropping pupils off at Larch Avenue in the morning and/or picking them up at the end of the school day.
 - The Larch Road/Avenue entrance is dangerous at the beginning and end of the day as it is also a major entrance for pupils who are arriving at the school on foot. It also has a very tight corner and this is problematic for cars and general traffic on a busy road in the morning.
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- The designated staff car park is far too small to accommodate the number of cars that use it so staff have to park in what used to be a playground area. This area is also used by lorries entering through the back entrance. The quality of the tarmac is not sufficiently robust to deal with the weight being put upon it and this there are significant number of potholes. These holes are filled in by the roads department every so often but then reemerge after a few weeks/months. This constitutes a health and safety concern for pupils and staff.



PC Question: How is the layout and structure of the school affecting its use? Is the school suitable and satisfactory for teaching?

- There are significant issues surrounding the suitability of the building for 21st learning and teaching:
- Many areas of the school are not Disability Discrimination Act (DA) compliant and never can be.
- To access the school library you need to go down five stairs and a narrow passageway. It is difficult to conceive of how the school library, which needs to be accessed by all departments within the school, could ever be DDA compliant. This means people in wheelchairs or with restricted movement cannot access this area.
- Upon entering the building from the Myrtle Avenue side any visitor is confronted by three stairs and thus there are DDA issues straightaway. If we move along the 'A' corridor there are a further two stairs at the end of this corridor. This means significant detours are required for any young person or adult who is a wheelchair user or has restricted movement. This leads to impacts adverse upon learning and teaching.
- Entry/exit to the assembly hall requires a detour for wheelchair users or those with restricted movement.

- There is an inbuilt architectural feature of the school near the rear entrance, referred to colloquially as the 'spit pit'. This design constitutes a dangerous health and safety concern and should not be a feature of any building where there are many young people working.
- In the middle of the original 1960's building there is an enclosed quadrangle space. This area can't be accessed by mechanical equipment and thus it is expensive, timeconsuming and dangerous to access the guttering to clean it out. This results in the gutters not being cleared and, in recent times, we have had fly infestation due to the prevalence of pigeon droppings in the area. This infestation has been in the area where Health Food Technology classes take place and thus it has been a significant concern.

- The assembly hall area has two classrooms to the side and a corridor aspect. The classrooms have to put up with significant noise from assemblies and PE activities and this is often disruptive to ongoing learning and teaching.
- The annual Health & Safety walks with the trade unions highlights a wide range of concerns around various aspects of the building. There are many reports submitted to the council explaining these problems, and what requires to be done to repair the various issues.
- Due to the evolutionary and incremental development of the Lenzie Academy site with new parts added over the years that there are just far too many emergency exit points to be supervised effectively. This means that young people exit using these doors and



invariably leave the doors opened and thus the security of the building is hugely problematic.

- The Wing, which was added to the school in 1997, has very narrow corridors and can only be accessed via a one-way system that the school has had to put in place. This leads to significant detours for pupils that negatively impact on the amount of time spent on learning in classes.
- In the Wing there are some departmental bases that are situated between two classrooms and thus to gain access to these teachers and/or pupils need to cut through classrooms to access the bases. This disrupts the ongoing learning and teaching.
- In PE access to the two gyms is through the two changing rooms. This is wholly problematic for staff and pupils. There is no possible alternative way to configure the design of this area without incurring significant cost.
- In PE there is no adequate space for a proper fitness suite and thus this is crammed into an area which is not really fit for purpose so the school is disadvantaged relative to new builds.
- • In the main building, we need to have two office areas and this can be problematic. To change the configuration of the building to make one office area would be expensive.
- In 2017-18 two reports highlighted significant concerns in relation to the Lenzie Academy campus. The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service wrote the first report, whilst the second report was a Commercial Property Risk Improvement Report from AIG. Both reports highlight significant mis-givings about many features of the building.
- Our facilities management staff do not have sufficient storage facilities to enable them to complete their designated duties in an efficient manner as they have to store under stairwells and this is deemed to be a significant fire risk.

PC Question: Which specific areas of the school cause most concern ?

Heating

Due to the evolutionary and incremental development of the school estate there are numerous different heating systems operating within the school. This leads to some areas of the school being too warm whilst other areas are too cold. This is the biggest cause of concern for teaching staff within the school, as exemplified by the sheer volume of FMSR forms over many years.



The Wing

The Wing was built 22 years ago and is now in a state of significant disrepair. There is a requirement for a new roof to replace the old one as there are many, many leaks happening on a regular basis leading to stop gap repairs being required. It is discouraging for young people to be taught in such unsatisfactory surroundings. There is an urgent need for a comprehensive windows replacement programme to be implemented. There are significant problems with leaks from the roof and the draughts emanating from gaps in the windows continues to be problematic and compounds the ongoing heating concerns within the building. These would be highly expensive to carry out.

We have no CCTV cameras in the wing and this can be an issue if and when an incident occurs and we needed to review footage to help us with an investigation.

Corridors

The corridors in the wing are too narrow for the volume of traffic using them and thus there are health and safety concerns due to the sheer volume of pupil traffic. The situation is challenging now and will only get worse as the school roll continues to rise. The school roll will continue to rise over the next 4-5 years and will exceed 1300 within the next three years.

The corridors in the main building and in the two link corridors are in a poor state of repair due to the volume of pupil traffic using the building. To bring these up to a reasonable standard would require a comprehensive plastering job to be completed followed by a full paint job with high quality paint that is durable.

Social areas

The school does not have enough social space for the current pupil population. Currently there are three areas for pupils:

1. Diner — This can accommodate a maximum of 150 pupils.
2. Social area —This can accommodate a maximum of 550 pupils.
3. Bridge —This accommodates S6 and can hold approximately 150 pupils.

In total, we have social space for 850 pupils and a roll of approximately 1200 currently. This will rise to 1300 over the next three years so there is an urgent need to create and develop more social spaces for pupils and this will cost significant sums of money.

Science/Home Economics/Design Technology

It has been many years since these practical rooms in these subject areas have experienced any upgrade or modernisation. In Home Economics the kitchens are between 20-25 years old whilst in Science the labs were last upgraded in the late 1990s through to the early 2000s. The workshops in Design Technology are also well over 20 years old. In all three areas, there is a pressing need for a comprehensive upgrade and that would be expensive.



- Lack of accommodation options
 - There are many demands made upon the school for accommodation that it is very challenging to meet:
 - Alternative Assessment Arrangements - the school has no effective multi-use space and with growing number of young people requiring 'alternative assessment arrangements', the school has to use DHT offices, administration offices and departmental subject bases for these arrangements and this is far from ideal for the young people and the teaching and support staff who are inconvenienced.
 - ASN Base — recently EDC have been liaising with the school to try to find a suitable location for this base. To date we cannot find a suitable space to enable this to be facilitated.
 - Skills Development Scotland — this organisation is not satisfied with the available space that we have provided for them. They recognise that we have done everything we can to facilitate them but the area designated lacks the necessary privacy that they require for confidential interviews.
 - Contemplation room —the school has no dedicated prayer room or contemplation space for young people and we are a multi-faith school e.g. we have to use a 'Dance Studio' to facilitate our pupils from a Muslim faith background during Ramadam.
 - Break out spaces —the school has no break out spaces at all within the campus.
 - Staff showering areas —we have a number of staff who cycle to school but do not have access to a staff shower area.
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- Assembly hall —this space is used by PE, Drama and for year group assemblies and/or workshops. This requires the facilities management staff put regularly have to put out 250 chairs for an assembly and then pack these away to allow PE to use the space. The lack of a proper seating system means this is hugely time consuming for facilities management staff whereas in PPP school with modern systems this is much less onerous and less time consuming. As a consequence the school is less clean and tidy that it might otherwise be as facilities management staff spend a disproportionate amount of their time putting out and packing away chairs.

PC Question: As Head Teacher, what are your principal concerns about the school and how is Lenzie Academy placed in comparison with other schools in ED ?

The existing location, design and condition of Lenzie Academy is such that it is not economically advisable to continually try to spend money on 'make do and mend' approaches. In recent years, East Dunbartonshire has spent a considerable amount of money on this approach to improve the learning and teaching environment for pupils and staff and this is recognised and appreciated. These adaptations and changes, whilst very welcome, cannot

compensate for a school designed in the early 1960s that is not fit for purpose in the 21st century.

To ensure that the community of Lenzie is not disadvantaged relative to every other secondary school within East Dunbartonshire a new build for the school is essential.

The existing area that accommodates Lenzie Academy is huge, as the building is built over two levels only and this area could be sold at a premium rate to a housing developer, as it is a prime site in the centre of the town. Any new school should be built in an area taking up much less space in a location outside the centre of the town. It would be designed for learning and teaching in the 21st century. It would be located in an area where the traffic chaos, which currently exists, could be managed more effectively and where young people could enter and exit the campus in much more controlled and safer conditions.

Mr Fraser thanked Mr Paterson for his comprehensive review of the issues faced by Lenzie Academy, which answered the concerns of the Parent Council regarding the decision of EDC to focus on Boclair Academy rebuild. Mr Fraser suggested that the decision by EDC was not clear, and that he would address this by use of a Freedom of Information enquiry to the EDC asking for all documentation, minutes and reports relating to the proposed rebuild of Boclair Academy, decisions made to rebuild Boclair rather than offer refurbishment, and any information regarding proposed refurbishment or rebuilding of Lenzie Academy. This approach was agreed with other members of the Parent Council.



4 FOLA 125

Mrs Reoch reviewed the recent FOLA activity, and outlined the recent allocation of funding from FOLA to the Art Department to cover the cost of new cameras. In addition, further funding was allocated to the Health and Wellbeing centre. Finally, there was money set aside for the Remembrance Area.

5AOB

No further actions were discussed, and Mr Fraser called the last Parent Council of the academic year to a close. He then suggested a date for the AGM meeting of the 29th August, which will be required for the election of a new Parent Council Chair and Deputy Chair. Mr Fraser thanked all the members of the Parent Council for their attendance and input throughout the year.