

## LVPS Parent Council Minutes

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019

<b>Attendees</b>	Jackie Mill Carol Smith Lorna Clyne Vicki Stocks Emma Gall Gordon Gilchrist Michelle Denning Linda Wong Julie Syme	
<b>Apologies</b>		
		<b>Action By</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	Vicki welcomed everyone to the meeting and handed over to JM for the Head Teacher Report.	
<b>Head Teacher Report</b>	<p>JM handed out the West Lothian Council Ethos Survey and highlighted several areas for discussion. Both the school and the authority have had a positive response. It was noted that 3 of the poorest results match up with self evaluation.</p> <p>It was noted that in addressing bullying with children and parents, the school scored higher than the authority average.</p> <p>There was discussion around playtime supervision and it was noted that bullying behaviour is potentially more likely to occur during this time. JM confirmed that there are 2 supervisors at breakfast time and 4 at break and lunchtime and they are easily identifiable by their orange vests. JM also confirmed that there P6 are trained as peer mediators and currently there are 8 at present. JM added that the numbers are good and there is the right kind of support available to children. JM further added that they are working with children to encourage social skills and build resilience.</p> <p>It was noted that in working on feedback for children to improve the school had purchased writing tools for different writing genres. JM advised that there is work ongoing to provide a structured programme for staff and children for feedback, include self and peer feedback, adding it needs to be very specific for children to know what to improve on.</p> <p>It was noted that in opportunities to improve having a say, there was work ongoing for training evaluation and this involved the house captains.</p> <p>In terms of parents views, there was a good response rate, twice</p>	JM

	<p>as much as the authority, however JM was disappointed that the response rate was lower than the authority's. It was noted that the response was in between and therefore assume it is not too bad.</p> <p>JM explained that they look at how to stretch the children and they have recently gone to Inveralmond and paid for a French teacher for P5-7 to help them more.</p> <p>In terms of being well informed, there was some discussion about what more can be done, noting that the school are already working hard on this and there has to be a careful balance in protect teaching time with sharing learning. It was noted that sending jotters home did not work well as lots did not come back. The first curriculum cafe appeared to be a success and it was hoped another would be held in the future. It was also noted that the windows into learning is shared on the school blog and reports are also sent home at the end of the school year, which cover a broad range across the year.</p> <p>There was some discussion about the question itself on the survey and whether it was perhaps being read and subsequently answered wrong, which was therefore not giving a truly reflective picture. It was suggested that this may be something to cover in the forthcoming PATPAL session.</p> <p>JM asked if the group read the school newsletter and all confirmed yes but it was noted that the children may not read it. JM advised that she would like to encourage P7s to help write the newsletter, and use a newspaper format and also have updates from the office, head teacher and classes, noting that it would be a good opportunity for the children to be involved in. All agreed this would be a good idea.</p>	
<b>Treasurer Update</b>	GG advised that the Halloween disco cost £244.69 and the profit made was £531.41, and that this was more than last year (£513).	
<b>Chairperson's Report</b>	<p>VS confirmed everything was sold at the Halloween disco. VS advised that it had been suggested that there should be a minimum number of parent helpers, particularly regarding the later disco. VS advised that more control is needed for the snacks. VS also advised that the sign in/out sheet was helpful however it should be split into classes and it was suggested that it might be helpful to sell tickets in advance, to speed up the process.</p> <p>VS updated the group on progress for the Christmas Fayre. VS advised that plans were going well and stall holders were booked and 5 tables had been paid for.</p>	

	<p>There was discussion about the set up of the hall and JM agreed to check times for access to the hall.</p> <p>VS updated the group on items for the raffle, stock to sell and Santa gifts.</p> <p>There was discussion about the set up of the photo booth planned for this year and it was agreed the medic room could be used.</p> <p>It was agreed that there needs to be more promotion to get some home baking and wine for the fayre.</p> <p>There was discussion about the floats and expenses required.</p> <p>There was discussion about the raffle tickets and it was agreed that teachers needed to check all raffle tickets had been handed out in class.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>VS/EG</p> <p>JM</p>
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p>MD raised the issue of the 20mph limit lights no longer working which had been reported however the parts are not available. MD advised she has raised this with the local councillor.</p> <p>It was noted that the road outside the school was much busier now with building traffic and it seems not everyone is adhering to the speed limit.</p> <p>JM advised that work has begun on building the care home and she had a meeting with the site manager who advised he will keep JM informed of progress and disruption, noting that key stages of the build will include tree felling, foundations to be laid, concrete and timber frame installation.</p> <p>There was discussion about access to the site and the removal of the car park, causing additional difficulties at drop off and pick up times.</p> <p>JM explained it would be a good opportunity once the care home has been built for inter-generational work.</p> <p>There was discussion about the school catchment area and it was noted that the plan for the extension at the back of the school would begin next summer. It was noted that the current cap on classes is:-</p> <p>P1: 25 children  P2-3: 30 children  P4-7: 33 children</p> <p>The current number of children in the school is 196.</p>	

	<p>There was some discussion on the use of the back garden and it was noted that this would be used more in better weather but that it was important to have the right staffing. It was suggested that radios for staff would be useful. It was noted that different children need different things during playtime and some like the noise of the playground and like to run about whilst others prefer a more calm setting where they can have some quiet time. It was also noted that consideration was being given to setting up a reading hut in the triangle. JM agreed to seek ideas from teachers on the best use of the back garden. It was also noted that help could be sought from the council and donations from parents may also be welcome.</p> <p>It was noted that P7 parents would also like to ask the parent council for a donation for yearbooks and it was confirmed that a letter would be required for formally request this, noting that the yearbooks would need to be paid for before the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that the gambling licence had been paid for.</p>	JM
<b>Forthcoming Key Events</b>	Christmas Fayre 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	
<b>Next Meeting Dates</b>	<p>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020</p> <p>Please raise any agenda items to the Parent Council via email</p> <p><a href="mailto:LVPSParents@gmail.com">LVPSParents@gmail.com</a></p>	