

MINUTE OF MEETING OF LAIRDSLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

LOCATION: VIA MS TEAMS

DATE: TUESDAY 19th OCTOBER 2021

TIME: 5.30PM

MATTERS ARISING / MINUTE OF LAST MEETING

Minute of last meeting was agreed.

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

SCHOOL LIFE

The curriculum evening presentations for all year groups have now been shared as Youtube links on our website (<http://www.lairdland.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/learning/curriculum-presentation-videos>).

As per EDC guidance, parent evening phone calls took place at the end of Sept/beginning of October and proved, on the whole, to be a success. Although overall uptake was good, there was a higher uptake from parents in the lower school. The staff enjoyed the opportunity for dialogue with parents and the phone calls were well received.

We are currently trialling the Seesaw App with all classes now set up to use it. Uptake within the parent body has been good, with only a few families still to sign up. At the moment, whilst staff familiarise themselves with the application, the extent to which it is being used varies across classes. However, going forward, an agreement will be reached among staff to allow uniformity across the board.

Our assembly programme is linked to Global Goals and class contributions have been great.

School lunches – EDC is currently experiencing supply issues and whilst we cannot always provide our full menu, we endeavour to let parents know in advance what we will be able to supply the following day. We will always strive to provide at least one hot meal per day in addition to soup and sandwiches. This is likely to be an ongoing issue. From Jan 2022, P5s will receive free school meals and as demand increases, we may see a corresponding increase in supply issues.

ISSUES RELATING TO COVID

We have experienced a number of positive cases within the school and where there have been 2 or more cases in the same class we have implemented EDC's outbreak protocol. We look at each situation to try and minimise the impact on the children. We have also had a high number of staff absences since the start of term but have always tried to maintain a continuity of learning for the children.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A summary of feedback from our questionnaire to parents (June 2021) has been prepared by FD and this demonstrates how the results feed in to the SIP. It was noted that although Outdoor Learning is not in the SIP, we will be focussing heavily on that (Learning through Landscapes coming in to school to do staff training next week)

NR asked if Mindfulness was still a focus. FD confirmed that whilst it is still embedded in the curriculum and used within strategies, there are no daily mindfulness sessions at present (it was felt that there were too many distractions with staggered breaks and lunches etc and some parents had voiced concerns that there was links to meditation). After Christmas there will be a mindfulness programme.

HOMEWORK SURVEY

As per September's minute - a homework survey will go out to parents/carers this week to try and gain feedback/views on homework, the results of which will then be collated and fed back.

CHAIRS REPORT

PARENT COUNCIL –DISCUSSION ON REVISED CONSTITUTION

Attention was drawn to section 3 which details the membership, attendance and appointment process. There can be up to 12 parent members (ideally from a mix of year groups across the school), a member from the Lairdland PTA and a maximum of 3 representatives from the teaching and support staff. Every year people can nominate themselves, or be nominated, but there must be an annual process whereby the Parent Council stands down and is re-appointed.

Formal agreement was given from the Parent Council on the revised constitution.

MEETING ARRANGMENTS REVIEW

There was a unanimous agreement to continue with meetings via Teams and it was agreed that the next 2 meetings would continue to be held at 5.30pm with another review of this start time at the meeting in January.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT 2021/22

Options have been limited to date as a result of managing staff absences and the fact that parents can't be involved face to face. FD confirmed that the plan is still to link in parents to the various committees via Teams.

During the two weeks of COP26 each class will have a focus (for example, litter picks) but there will be structured activities over the 2 weeks. There has been a wealth of resources available to staff.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

FD mentioned that last week, work commenced on the Kirkintilloch Community Sports Ground. We will be in regular contact with the building contractors to try to minimise any impact/disruption. We are hoping to have access to some of the facilities when it is open.

MEETING DATES FOR 2021/22

7th December @ 5.30pm

25th January @ 5.30pm (there will be another discussion to see if the revised arrangements suit)

22nd March

3rd May

14th June