

Leith Academy Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 24 April 2018

In attendance	Initials	In attendance	Initials
Michael Irving (Head Teacher)	MI	Laura Brown (Chair)	LB
Colin Brown (Vice Chair)	CB	Fiona Fitzgerald (Treasurer)	FF
Katrina Sellar	KS	Roger Evans	RE
Grant Bullock	GB	Cathy Sheehy	CS
Xanthe Bird	XB	Hilary Marsh	HM
Jake Pugh (Pupil Council)	JP	Nele Finsterbush	NF
Marion Donaldson	MD	Margaret Fielding	MF
Apologies		Minutes	
Hilary Brown	HB	Victoria Mitchell (Clerk)	VM
Lucy Enfield	LE		

Item		Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions LB opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made.	
2.	Apologies Noted Above	
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising The Minutes from the meeting on 29 th January 2018 were accepted as an accurate record.	
4.	Pupil Council They have been very busy with the council re the following. Behaviour drive – Advertising on posters and verbally through the school’s tannoy system. Key adult (Tutor Teacher) handed out surveys. Still waiting for these to come back. Council inspection – It went very well. The 2 key questions the PC and the council picked out were - How to guide your own learning. More discussion required with teachers about problems or issues	

	<p>outside class.</p> <p>3-4 Student places now available for PC as S6 are now leaving. Want to try and recruit younger students S1 and S2 specifically.</p>							
5.	<p>Finances</p> <p>29th January balance was at £1,421.01. Added funds for wine and water and the tombola. Now stands at £1284.41 as payment for Prom and clerk fees has now been deducted.</p> <p>It was requested and agreed upon that any donation requests are discussed and agreed on out with the meeting.</p>							
6.	<p>Fundraising.</p> <p>Bike fundraising to be discussed at next meeting in June.</p> <p>Will need to arrange PC table for Evening of Celebration to raise funds.</p> <p>Discussion on what to do to raise money for school trips etc.</p> <p>Marathon water stations are a good way to raise money.</p>							
7.	<p>Head Teacher's Update</p> <p>We have had a busy year since January, exams begin on Monday so we have been heavily focussed on preparations for this.</p> <p>Staffing – we continue to work through staffing with appointments in;</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>-1 x Physics</td> <td>Chris Caldish</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-1 x PE</td> <td>Keiran Fearn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-1 x CDT</td> <td>recruiting but give context re Kenny and probationer</td> </tr> </table> <p>Mr Ferrie has taken a post at Musselburgh as a House Head / Guidance following his acting last year.</p> <p>Mr Sneddon PE took a temp post at Forrester as part of their PEF Team.</p> <p>Live N Learn Sessions – pupils conducted themselves well and the feedback was very positive from the youngsters. Hopefully they echoed that to home as it was an investment. Session was delivered to Parents also as part of the course choice evening.</p> <p>Course choice evenings and supports have been well in place to try and support young people into their chosen pathway. This is not always straight forward for 'every' pupil as there are so many combinations for Mr Stewart to consider, but we are hopeful it meets the needs of our learners in S3-6.</p> <p>Easter Revision – this was a great success, we made it free and worked hard at encouraging young people to attend....previous high was 130...this year 226 benefited from staff giving up some holiday time to support our aim of 'Success in Learning for All'</p>	-1 x Physics	Chris Caldish	-1 x PE	Keiran Fearn	-1 x CDT	recruiting but give context re Kenny and probationer	
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Vision Values Aims –we have come to a gathered view which we will begin to officially roll out through posters, letter heads, main street and so on

Pru Goals – Dame Kelly Holmes with us for the PruGoals cycle challenge. This is an inspiring program where young people commit to train for a X mile cycle in London. Already the messages of Persevere are coming through

Edinburgh International Festival – following a competitive application process, Leith Academy has been selected as the official Residency School for the next 2-3 years of the Edinburgh Festival. We attended the launch which was a spectacular, global event. Our pupils will work with creators, producers, designers which will be a great experience and will develop their skills.

Attendance- Our attendance picture is improving thanks to the work of all involved, from taking a register to being on the working group. Of 23 Schools we were 19th towards the end of last session, the latest figures have us at 11th and we have real aspirations to hit the top 10. We know many young people have barriers, but the work being done to break them down is having an impact.

SQA - We have had a big focus on helping the pupils get prepared for their upcoming exams or internal assessments. After school session, the Easter program, Live N Learn, SQA Twitter tips, updates in the bulletin – all hopefully will help.

S4,5 finish on Thursday at 3.16pm.

S6 last day is on Friday.

We have worked hard at trying to provide our pupils with every chance to increase and improve on their outcomes through our belief in 'Success in Learning for All'.

We have worked hard at trying to remove barriers to learning or achieving, through our PEF work and the work of our teams of Teachers. Hopefully the pupils use the leave as a chance to further practice and prepare for the assessments.

PEF – see attached sheet. Impact we feel is going to be very positive, but it is slightly early to tell at present. We will know more in August.

HMI – the inspection as a process was a professionally valuable one. Gary and his team of around 14 reflected how supportive, polite, helpful all staff and pupils were for the 4 days they were in Leith. The focus groups...including the one with Laura! Went well. The letter is due to be ready in the coming days, which I will then send by email to all Parents. Areas of strength have been identified as Inclusion, Equality and Well

	Being, with some areas to work on, the main one being the Attainment and Achievement of all young people – this was an area we were well aware of before the inspection as it looks at patterns over 5years. We will continue to work with Gary and the team to monitor some of initiatives we have started that they are pleased with.	
8.	A.O.B. Send out information if possible to P7 parents inviting them to the Parent Council meetings for when their children begin S1. At the AGM meeting we will discuss Parent Council positions and vote on any changes.	
9.	Date for next meeting AGM Wednesday 6th June 2018 7pm	