

Liberton High School Parent Council - 8th September 2025

Chair: Derek McNeil

Minutes: Jeni Rowe

Attendees: Derek McNeil, Jeni Rowe (JR), Alison Humphreys (AH), Jocelyn Hammer, Lesley Nicol, Jenny Thomasi, Ravi Parasuraman, Rhoda Barclay, Alta Mene, John Paul Purcell, Francesco Busetta, Charles Amoah, Eunice Essahi, Gila Holliman, Habab Suba, Fatima Dafalla, Patience Cibakon, Farida Naisanga, Fores Alzain, Robert Abel, Jakariya Ali, Abhinav Ravikiran, Kaitlyn Murray, Cedar Udabor, Darcy McCallum

Apologies: Lynsey Kilgour (LK), Megan Crawford, Alex Ramage

Chair Introduction (Derek McNeil)

Derek noted he was filling in for Lynsey as she was unable to make the meeting and had provided her apologies.

Derek noted that the AGM, which would have been at this meeting, would be pushed to the next meeting as Lynsey was not in attendance.

Previous minutes were approved

Meet the Pupils

Members of the Pupil Leadership team (Cedar Udabor, Kaitlyn Murray, Darcy McCallum, Abhinav Ravikiran & Jakariya Ali) came to talk about how the pupil leadership team works and listed the following points.

- Consists of Prefects (approx. 40 no.), School Captain, Vice-Captain, House Captains and a new role of Sports Captains had been introduced this year.
- They meet once a month to discuss how to improve the school and house competitions.
- They then present the house competitions to the year groups.
- They are involved in 4 groups – equalities, health and wellbeing supports, learning and teaching, and local community links and events.

PC Chair Update (Derek McNeil)

General

- Supported with P7 open evening and transition evening
- Gave feedback on school drive closure times
- Q&A Session with City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) and Balfour Beatty (BB) (March 2025)
- Provided funding towards Praise Postcards/class rewards last year (approx. £450)

• 4 members of the PC attended a site visit for the new campus during the summer holidays • Alex Ramage has now left the school and would need to be co-opted back on if he wishes to remain in the PC. Lynsey to check with Alex.	LK to check with Alex
Finances The PC has two bank accounts: • One for parental engagement, which receives the money from CEC (approx. £950) each year for the purpose of promoting the PC, and any PC admin – current balance £3,777.27. • Lynsey has completed and returned the form to CEC for funding for this year. • Second bank account is for fundraising, which has any money previously raised by the PC. This is now the RBS account set up recently to replace the BoS account – current balance £4,888.44. • This is the PCs money to spend as the PC wishes and Jeni and Lynsey can both able to action online banking for this account. • Both Bank of Scotland (LHSA) accounts are now closed, and funds transferred to the RBS account. • There is also an old account with the TSB (balance of £177) which still needs to be closed. Lynsey has posted a letter to the bank with the PC minutes to try and close this and is waiting for a response. The bank is now starting to charge fees, so this account needs to be closed asap.	LK to continue to chase TSB
Praise Postcards, Vouchers and Sweets The PC has offered to pay for the praise postcards (£186), vouchers (£330) and sweets (£110) for the up-and-coming academic year. Total £626. The PC noted that if the school needed any more funds to advise them and the PC were willing to provide additional support.	AH to provide costs of any additional support
Parent Council meeting supplies It was agreed that the PC should provide biscuits, tea and coffee for the PC meetings. Jeni needs to sign a cheque for Lynsey to buy supplies.	JR and LK to organise
Inviting Councillors to meetings Councillor Lezley Cameron has requested dates for the PC meetings. Lynsey has asked if she wants anything added to the agenda that she gives the secretary/school notice. Dates for all the PC meetings to be sent out to all councillors Parent Council Meeting Dates for Next Term • Wednesday 22/10/25 (AGM)	AH to send out dates to councillors

- Monday 01/12/25 - Wednesday 21/01/26 - Monday 02/03/26 (invite primaries) - Wednesday 06/05/26	
<u>Head Teacher Report (Alison Humphreys)</u> Staffing Update: Welcome to 8 new colleagues: - Logan Turner (RMPS NQT) - Susan O'Sullivan (Teacher of Computing) - Stuart Morrison (Teacher of Social Subjects – Modern Studies Specialist) - Rebecca Milliken (Teacher of Social Subjects) - Amy Emmerson (Teacher of Chemistry) - Daniel Ferguson (Teacher of Physics) - Sorcha Hamer (Pupil Support Worker, Enhanced Support Provision) - George Monkhouse (Pupil Support Assistant) Current Recruitment - Still recruiting for maths posts after saying goodbye to Mr Segar Rogers on 22nd August. (2 no. posts - one temp and one permanent) - English post has also been posted this week - Pupil Support Leader for S5 and S6, after saying goodbye to PSL Mr Paul McGuinn on 22nd August. Until the new Pupil Support Leader is in post, all S5/S6 pupils will have the following Pupil Support Leaders/Guidance Teachers: - Dee House – Mrs Binnie-Tkacz - Forth House – Mr Calum Mackie - Tay House – Mrs Natasha Jacobs (Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri) and Mr Marc McGill (Wed) - This is exactly the same arrangements as we have for S1-S4	
Congratulations S5 and S6 Huge congratulations to Senior Phase pupils who undertook qualifications last session. The School are very proud of the achievements of the pupils, and of all of the hard work that they put in in order to achieve success. Highlights: 73 pupils (47%) from our new S5 gained 5 or more awards at level 5 (including National 5) qualifications (including 25 pupils	

gaining 7 qualifications at level 5, and a further 25 pupils gaining 6 qualifications at level 5). • 10 pupils from our new S6 gained 5 grade A passes at Higher level (level 6), with a further 19 pupils also gaining 5 Higher awards, across a range of grades. In addition, a further 8 pupils gained 4 Higher passes, and a number of pupils gained combinations of Highers, National Progression Awards and National 5 awards. Massive well done to all!	
Upgraded Website All key information about LHS can be found on the new school website. Why not take a look and read about our curriculum, support for pupils, and support for families. Liberton High School (www.libertonhighschool.org). • Every issue of our Family Fortnightly Updates can also be found there, in the parent and carers section. • The website is updated regularly. • New section on curriculum pathways	
New Campus Update • Current programme will mean completion in summer of 2026 with students starting the new academic year 26/27 in the new building • Current photos were shared • School is currently looking at decanting and clearing out old stuff and have ordered skips to remove this. • Parking is a potential issue which the school is currently discussing with the council. • Cost of build approx. £75 million	
Uniform • New t-shirts with logos (both black and white) are now available to buy from Borders embroidery. This is in addition to the polo t-shirts which are not as popular. • CEC is telling schools they can't insist on uniform from a specific source. LHS do not insist on branded school uniform and uniform in the school colours (B & W) is acceptable, and it does not need to be branded. • P6s get a special uniform which they choose. • Ties are no longer given out to first years, instead they receive a hoodie or jumper.	

AOCB Gate at Malbert Park • Request raised again regarding reconsideration of the closure of the path from Malbet Park when demolishing the old school building. • BB have said no this is not possible, and they will open the gate at Mount Vernon instead. • It was noted that this will affect many pupils and will cause a number of pupils to be late every day due to the extra distance they need to go when they are reliant on specific bus times. • The road along Mount Vernon is also not safe for a much larger number of children arriving from this direction and would be a safety issue. This would not be considered a “Safe Route to School” • Alison to contact Mark Symons at CEC to discuss Choices for S2 for S3 • Parents can review the updated website for information • There will also be parents’ evening events which can be attended Training for Parent rep at Senior Staff Interviews • Anyone wanting to do the training for staff interviews to contact Marie Lyons at Marie.Lyon@edinburgh.gov.uk to find out when the next training sessions are. • This will help if the school ever needs to appoint any senior staff if the training has already been completed.	AH to contact CEC
Next Meeting: 22/10/2025	