

Liberton High School Parent Council Meeting- 21st January 2026

Chair: Lynsey Kilgour

Clerk: Megan Crawford

Attendees: Alison Humphreys, Fiona Baillie, Lynsey Kilgour, Jeni Rowe, Lesley Nicol, Derek McNeil, Chris Johnston, Rhoda Barclay

Apologies: Jocelyn Hammer

Approval of Minutes

Lynsey Kilgour

**Actions
required**

Agenda

- **Welcome/apologies**
- **Approval of last meeting minutes (22nd Oct and distributed on 27th Oct)**
- **Student input**
- **Head teacher report**
- **Reminder of parental engagement meeting next week**
- **Finances -**
- **A plea for someone to look into the frozen TSB account**
- **council income update**
- **E-mail from Light Up Learning and see if anyone is interested is getting in touch with them**
- **AOCB**

Student input- Abhinav Ravikiran

- Culture Day- 2023 was very successful
- Hasn't been as celebrated and felt more tokenistic the past few years. So this year we are making a big deal of it!
- The week beginning 9th February.
Monday- a big canvas to decorate
Tuesday- a celebrity quiz on the Tuesday
Wednesday- students running their own workshops in the assembly hall
Thursday (main day)- with a variety of events and different stalls from outside parties in the assembly hall and parents can come to join in with this in the later afternoon.
- 40 student volunteers, spanning all year groups.
- Will be in the Family Fortnightly Update.

Head Teacher Report (Alison Humphreys)

Staffing Update

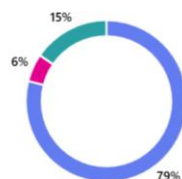
- Nicole Newbiggin (currently at Newbattle High School), who is joining is as our fixed term Teacher of History from February break, to cover Ms Reilly's maternity leave.
- Rory Swann (currently at Queensferry High School), who is joining us as our Fixed Term Pupil Support Leader (Tay House) to cover Ms Jacobs' maternity leave.

Instagram Consultation for Families

1. If the school were to have an Instagram page, would you want to follow it for photos, news and updates on your Instagram feed.....?

[More details](#)

• Yes	113
• No	8
• I don't have Instagram and don't plan to get it	22



Feedback

I really appreciate the extra meetings to meet teachers and find out more about how it all works - the pathways meeting was particularly useful.

The school app would be useful, but things need to be posted on it. This is especially good for dates.

Some schools have a specific update per child for the week/daily, ie on time and focused work completed and homework due. I personally feel this would be really beneficial as I have no idea what homework is due or how my child has engaged each day at school apparently it was meant to get rolled out last year but heard nothing.

Instagram not essential for me as I receive emails. I think it's a good idea to move off X/twitter given all the issues with it.

You could make more use of the school app to store the updates as well as emailing them. They are less public that way. You're putting a lot of info in the public domain by using Instagram.

I try to avoid Social Media as much as possible, but I will think that most of the families are using Facebook. I appreciate to receive an update by Email and contents are very informative.

The fortnightly update is great, thank you

FACEBOOK?

School email and app is the safest way to communicate.

Please see my answer in details, I am reluctant to say yes although it will be monitored by school.

1- Mental health concerns:

Exposure to edited and idealised images can contribute to body image issues, anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem.

2- Cyberbullying & harassment:

Like all social media, kids can be exposed to mean comments, bullying, or toxic interactions with strangers.

3- Inappropriate content:

Despite filters, teens can still see content they shouldn't, especially through recommendations or DMs.

4- Online grooming and deepfakes:

Social media makes kids more reachable and can be exploited by people with bad intentions.

Email is fine. Your text messsges are great. Perhaps whatsapp. But no need for anything else. 2-3 places max. Thank you

I think it's a great idea as most people have Instagram including most of the kids so would also probably be more interesting to them and they may engage more with updates / info etc. nowadays emails are filled with spam etc and can't be lost. I've only just seen this email today and didn't know there had been one previously.

The website is useful for contact info and the up to date calendar as these things get buried in emails.

ok

The Family Fortnightly update is enough and there is no need further social media accounts to be added as this will duplicate work for staff and can cause confusion for parents if the information shared is not identical.

Would love to see data collection automated and away from paper forms for things like authorisation, flu jags, trips etc. more use of the parent pay platform or teams

I have concerns about cyber-safety. The more information about kids and their school environment is visible, the more opportunities for blackmailers to target our young people. I know that sounds alarmist, but I am speaking as someone with close friends who lost their child to suicide following sextortion. Information about young people's school life should not be visible online.

Absolutely no need to add toxic Instagram to the school environment. Please keep everything on the website and that is enough. If this plan goes ahead I will protest to Scottish Education Authorities.

Well done for canceling twitter/x but please do not open Instagram. Just website and newsletter is enough. Instagram is very bad for teenagers. Thank you for your hard work

Anything at all that is actually private to parents and not on social media. But I don't really think there's a need for more school wide Comms. The newsletter is good	
I appreciate the communication school makes throughout the academic year. I only wish that direct email communication with students' teachers or head teacher at least be allowed.	
Fairly happy with communication as it is, perhaps a specific year up date every 3rd month or something as it can be easy to miss in fortnightly update if just skimming through and think it not relevant to your year group, and the maybe miss something. Would like to see some more from Xmas and spring concerts as we are not allowed photos and someone is taking photos for school but we never see anything from it, or a compilation of clips would be nice. I would follow Instagram as I'm in that platform but don't think it's really necessary.	
• Could we make a private page on Instagram? With separate pages for particular trips or evenings. New Campus Update • Fortnightly meetings with Vince Spicer • Monthly progress meetings with CEC/Balfour Beatty/Arcadis (first Thursday of each month) • 2nd March – Balfour Beatty and CEC coming to Parent Council (we are inviting the primary parent councils too!). • Friday afternoon tours for parents available. All they need is your shoe size!	
Chair (Lynsey Kilgour) • Reminder of parental engagement meeting next week on Wednesday at 6 pm with Donna Murray. • Finances- AH been giving a draft of what needs to be Printer. • A plea for someone to look into the frozen TSB account- JR happy to do this. Form to be sent off. • Council income update- this will be open earlier next year. • E-mail form Light Up Learning and see if anyone is interested is getting in touch with them. Calum MacKay is the link for this. LK to ask for more information.	LK to send JR form for TSB account and who to send it off to. AH to ask CM for more information on Light Up Learning. LK to message them back.
AOCB	

• Prelims- Can the pupil take a photo of the prelim? Usually not allowed as it means it has gone out the public domain and means that it is no longer a viable assessment. • Parents do not receive the students' formal assessment results. The tracking will show where the student is currently sitting. • Students should check their exams starting times on the timetable the school issue them, not the SQA website. • S6 Prom on 13th July 2026. • Can changes to the school calendar be highlighted so that parents are aware what has been changed? • Finance meeting with Alison, Ange and Jeni- PEF funding £120,500 this year. Planning for funding over the year e.g. Construction pathway, roofing pathway, Gold and Gray, DSM. Department faculty budgets for the year, how that is set up and run. • Safety to school- the route down Mount Vernon. Vince has come back to say that it has been funded by a central road safety, prior to August. • Concerns around vermin heading into the surrounding houses and community when the old school building is destroyed. Can you fumigate the building? Let's be proactive rather than reactive. • Glass walkways- how high are they? How tough is the glass? LN and FB to query on their Friday visit.	
Next Meeting: Monday 2nd March 2026	