Date:	**Monday 14th September 2026**
Location:	**Lenzie Academy**
Time:	**6:15pm-7:45pm**
Subject:	**Parent Council Meeting - AGM**

In attendance:

Staff: Rona Wallace HT, Elaine Gardner DHT, Lorraine Donnelly DHT

Parents: Anastasia Welchel (P1), Susan Williamson (P3), Heather McGettrick (P1, P3, P7), Jo Donnelly (Clerk) (P1, P5, P7), Lyndsey Saunders (Chair) (P5), Katie Rafferty (P2), Karen Jarvie (P5, P6), Laura McCrae (P4), Diana Dundas (P5, P6), Montana Aeberhardt (P1), Esther Lajide

Apologies – Meera Lafferty (P3), Nicola Scott (P2, P7), Peace Ibeh (P3), Shirley-Anne Brightman (P4)

1. Welcome

Lyndsey (Chair) welcomed returning and new members and thanked all for attending and for responding to the request for Parent Council volunteers and members.

2. Chair Report

Lyndsey outlined the role of the Parent Council and its active contribution to the school. Meetings are well attended, and the Parent Council continues to maintain a positive working relationship with the school.

Parent Councils are the formal representative body for parents and carers of children attending the school. Their structure and focus can vary between schools to reflect local needs. Our focus is to support the school and the PTA (which operates separately).

Parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in their child's education and learning, play an active part in school life, and share their views on school education and work in partnership with the school. They are also encouraged to volunteer or put themselves forward as Parent Council representatives.

The main aims of the Parent Council are to:

- support the school in its work with pupils;
- represent the views of parents and carers (noting that it is not a complaints body and does not deal with individual issues).
- promote communication between the school, parents, pupils, nursery education providers and the wider community;
- report to the Parent Forum;
- contribute to the appointment of senior promoted staff; and
- recognise that, at Lenzie Meadow, fundraising for the benefit of pupils is led by the PTA, albeit the Parent Council is here to support them (e.g. matters such as PVG management).

Parent Council meetings are open to all parents and carers - participation welcomed.

The Chair noted that Chair and Vice Chair roles usually operate on a two-year term. Nicola Scott was appointed Vice Chair last year and has one year remaining. Lyndsey has served as Chair for four years, and there has not yet been any interest in the Chair or Vice Chair roles for the coming term.

The Chair asked whether anyone wished to put themselves forward for the Chair role. There were no nominations, and Lyndsey confirmed she is willing to continue for another term.

Noted that Joanna Donnelly had offered to continue as Clerk. There were no other nominations for the role.

Year group representatives are re-elected annually. There are six Parent Council meetings each school year, including the AGM. The Chair or Vice Chair represents the Parent Council at key EDC and national meetings, and the Parent Council is consulted on matters such as the School Improvement Plan, Standards and Quality Report, parents' evenings, report cards and PEF funding.

<u>Examples of Parent Council involvement in recent years include:</u>

Introduction of navy polo shirts, supporting parking and road safety discussions, contributing to the School Improvement Plan, creating parent/carer FAQs, developing the Cost of the School Day position statement and related initiatives, contributing to the anti-bullying policy and mobile phone policy, supporting the PTA with PVG applications for parents helping to run school events, increasing Parent Council visibility through attendance at school events and improved communications, including posters and flyers.

3. Office Bearer Elections

Committee members and year group representatives are appointed at the AGM. Nominations were sought in advance by asking for volunteers. Up to two representatives can be appointed per year group. There are currently three volunteers for Primary 1 and two, three or four volunteers for Primary 3. Rather than hold a vote, the Chair proposed co-opting any additional parents as representatives, in line with the constitution, to encourage continued parental involvement.

In line with the constitution, the Parent Council can be formed for the current academic year provided there are at least five parent members or representatives.

The Chair outlined the year groups that volunteers had indicated they were willing to represent.

The proposed year group representatives were outlined, including any areas where there may be overlap or a need to agree next steps. Some year groups may have only one representative, depending on volunteer numbers.

Primary 1 – Amy Mavroudis and Montana Aebergardt/Heather McGettrick

Primary 2 – Katie Rafferty and Nicola Scott

Primary 3 – Meera Lafferty/Susan Williamson/ Peace Ibeh/Esther Lajide

Primary 4 – Laura McCrae and Shirley-Anne Brightman

Primary 5 –Karen Jarvie-Thomson

Primary 6 – Diana Dundas

Primary 7 – Nicola Scott /Joanna Donnelly/Heather McGettrick

The Chair confirmed that email addresses had been received and asked members, if comfortable, to provide a contact telephone number. These will be shared with the school office and used to set up a new Parent Council WhatsApp group for members.

The Chair also noted that several parent representatives are standing down this year after many years of supporting the Parent Council. She thanked them for their support and contribution and asked for this to be recorded in the minutes.

4. Head Teacher's Report

Mrs Wallace noted that is it important to see new members and develop relationships in the school community and highlighting that it is important that the size of the school doesn't put people off from getting involved. She noted that this is her third year as Head Teacher and highlighted the importance of having the support of the Parent Council in cultivating the ethos of Lenzie Meadow via various activities (e.g. phone policy, anti-bullying policy, as discussed by Lyndsey).

Mrs Wallace set out objectives/key issues for this year:

(a) Clear up of school grounds – In the previous meeting we discussed a school clear up of the grounds, noting that this would be welcomed. The Agenda for Sustainability is critical within the School and this year we are working towards the new curriculum, which is expected to come into force next year. Mrs Wallace noted that there is some flexibility with the curriculum this year ahead of the change. The Curriculum for Excellence previously mapped out the experience from P1-7. This term all classes are doing focused learning on the Agenda for Sustainability. This involves looking at an environmental topic.

The School is also considering how to develop the upstairs shared class balcony spaces which are not currently used for learning. Teachers have been asked to give ideas (i.e. wellbeing, sustainability) and have been provided with a budget for each pair of classes to develop the balcony space. The ideas need to have longevity (e.g. growing plants). As part of sustainability, the School is also looking at developing the school grounds by tidying them up and growing plants/vegetables in the garden. There was some discussion regarding a greenhouse however there has previously been some issues with vandalism at the weekends therefore it is a balance of considering how money is best spent. Mrs Wallace noted that a fundraiser will be run each year to raise money for the school grounds. A pot of money was provided by the PTA 2 years ago which was spent on playground equipment, however it is necessary to review and

refresh play items (e.g. balls, hoops, etc) each year to address attrition of such items. Children do take care of things - they are just being used and worn out. Mrs Wallace has asked the children what to do with the clocktower area, noting how much they love the woodland. Many have asked for a digging area. Further discussion with the children to be held. The 'Hole of Doom' is currently awaiting decking. The annual fundraiser will look at what is needed within the school grounds, where we can grow plants, and cover a small budget for balcony areas to have a growing space. This will teach children about sustainability.

Mrs Wallace also noted that the whole school are within the eco committee this year with specific pupil representatives, which highlights the real focus on sustainability.

(b) Mobile phone policy – This will need to be reviewed again this year due to Scottish Government proposals.

(c) PVG plan/School Trips – Mrs Wallace highlighted that we need to build a group of parents who can assist with events for the PTA but also for school events. Mrs Wallace thinks there may no longer be a charge for converting PTA PVGs to School PVGs, based on the most recent information stating that is PVGs for parents for the School are free. It was discussed that we need to have people who can actively help at events. The issue of school trips was then discussed. Mrs Wallace noted that feedback would be sought from the children regarding trips/Meadowfest. It was explained to new PC members that the School had until last year organised school trips however due to changes to PVG rules, it was not possible to secure enough parental PVGs for the school to proceed with trips. As an alternative, Meadowfest was organised by the School (a 3 day fun festival) which was funded between the PTA and parental contributions.

(d) Parking and School access – The School are looking at options to deal with ongoing parking issues.

Discussion was held concerning footpaths around the school, noting particularly the lack of access from the moss pathway. It was also noted that if people need to drive to the school, where should they go? The main concern is safety for children running through the carpark. Query raised as to what solutions are available for the Council to consider for access to the school. On the back path turning rights there are overgrown bushes making access very tight. Mrs Wallace did escalate this last year however some belong in neighbouring gardens.

It was noted that blue badge holders are not always able to use designated spaces because non-blue badge holders are using them. A query was raised as to whether the children could do road safety signs or a video. It was also highlighted that the tone of communication from a small minority concerning parking was in some cases, unacceptable.

Internal Use

(e) Support for Learners' Needs – The School wants Parent Council support with the agenda of learners' needs and additional support and helping the parent body understand what that looks like. It is important to meet learners' needs and raise awareness.

(f) Communication – Last year Headteachers were put into a number of working groups. One group focused on parental partnerships, following which a report was prepared which sets out what is appropriate communication from parents within the School and what is not acceptable. This was passed by the Council and will be put out to the parent body. Mrs Wallace noted that the parent body are very welcome to communicate their views and the School will work with them, however it needs to be appropriate communication.

(g) Last year's successes – This year the SLT have prepared a SWAY which will be sent out to families. This outlines the School, values, their work as a rights respecting school, work undertaken on PEF for setting up learning spaces, bird box for raising attainment, whole school spelling (which has had a huge positive impact according to data). The SWAY illustrates the School's improvement over the last year. The website is also being stripped and updated and will include this Sway.

(h) Improvement plan – Mrs Wallace discussed the concept of the 'Meadow Way'. This covers how we do things at Lenzie Meadow (e.g. learning about spelling, types of books to read, meta skills, sustainability agenda), including behaviour and aspects of learning. All of the classrooms now include photographs showing which teachers are in each class every day. Universal spaces are being introduced around the school. Every class has ear defends, learning kit, kit bands, wobble cushions, slanted boards, and the School are looking at who needs a laptop. Staff undertake 35 hours professional development every year and the Council are asking for every practitioner to undertake a dyslexia module. Staff are also being trained on Emotionworks. Last year the School created the Nest to undertake targeted support, which every class accesses once a fortnight. The use of the Nest will continue in year 2 and targeted wellbeing groups will also continue.

(i) Metaskills – Mrs Wallace discussed the development of Metaskills (being skills identified for the work force for the future – communicating, collaboration, application, etc). These skills are being taught to the children in context. Whilst the School is waiting to see what the new curriculum will look like, it is understood that it will be more skills focussed therefore we need to drive a skills-based approach. The School is also looking at personal learning planning with the children. A query was raised as to how this may affect the assessment framework, with it being noted that this would be looked at in the future.

(j) Emotionworks – Mrs Donnelly set out details of the Emotionworks programme noting that, if we don't have happy healthy children, we will not have children

who learn. It's a programme that helps children to develop their emotional literacy and wellbeing and regulation. It is a structured framework which uses cogs to allow children to explore different aspects of emotions – words, triggers, behaviours, body sensations, intensity, etc. The cogs all join together and there are a different number of cogs for different age stages. This allows children to communicate and recognise their feelings and how to positively manage them. It is intended that from October-December the School will be introducing the framework to children. Thereafter from January to June, they will take each cog and dig into it and learn all about it through various activities. This will be used for health and wellbeing but can also be used for literacy by setting out words for emotions and their meanings. This will be built into all curriculum areas. It is intended that communications will be put out to families on this so that there is a shared language available and it was also suggested that it could be put on Teams.

5. AOCB

A query was raised about breakfast provision in the future. Mrs Wallace noted that this is at Council level rather than school level at the moment.

In terms of moving forward with ground improvement, the School will look at looking at weeding, drainage in the short term and Mrs Wallace will confirm what we are permitted to undertake.

Next Meeting: Monday 26th October – venue TBC

Internal Use