



Minutes of Lockerbie Academy Parent Council virtual meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 2020 at 6.30pm. J Mackie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Present:**
- | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------------|
| M Armstrong | B Asher | C Bartschi Johnston |
| K Currie | A Grierson | A Corrie |
| G Devlin | Gwyneth | A Hodgson |
| H Nicholson | J Mackie | C Muirhead |
| C Simpson | F Stewart | CLlr S Thompson |

Apologies: No apologies received

2. **Rector's Report**

B Asher advised that the past weeks have been disheartening at times trying to calculate the various models to accommodate staff and pupils. Secondary Head Teachers held a meeting with the Director of Education that afternoon and every school in the region will adopt the model where pupils will attend school 2 days one week and 3 days the following. The 2 groups will be split by their house groups S1 – 6, allowing pupils of the same family to attend school on the same day and aid working parents. It is possible that not all subjects will be covered. Teaching in class will be blended with online learning.

The Local Authority Health and Safety team will be on site on Monday 15 June before staff and pupils return. Cleaners will be working during school hours to ensure door handles and railings are wiped regularly but there is no regulations to wear masks or gloves. This might be different on public or contracted transport and will be determined by the bus companies. With 2 metre social distancing, buses will only have a 20% capacity.

A Grierson asked how Microsoft Teams is working and K Currie advised that pupils have an 80% uptake on replying to tick box surveys but much lower if they have to comment. In total 82 laptops have been distributed to families including hubs and sim cards from the supply within the school and also purchases from the Pupil Equity Fund and the Welfare Fund. Pupil Support are receiving messages from parents that their children are finding online working challenging and sometimes impossible. When pupils return to school in August, not all laptops could be returned to the school depending on their use and may be relied on by behaviour support pupils. The school has requested another 20 from the Local Authority.

F Stewart observed that pupils are nominating school captains, house captains etc. What is happening with head boy and girl applications? B Asher recognised historical titles but in line with the LGBT charter, the school should be moving away from gender roles. Pupils were consulted beforehand and any pupils representing the school should be selected on merit. K Currie advised that all academies were surveyed and the majority have moved away from head boy and girl towards captains or similar. There are 12 candidates for the posts of 2 captains and 2 vice captains and interviews will take place on 24 June at 10 -12pm. A parent council representative is usually involved in the selection process - A Grierson offered to help.

H Nicolson asked if pupils would be recognised for their achievements over the school year as other schools are posting out certificates. B Asher advised this is in hand.

J Mackie asked what the parent council can do to support the school, financially our fundraising has been very limited with £1562 and £368 in the parent council bank accounts. B Asher advised he would take the financial offer back to Senior Management Team. Wifi is now operating in the school and rather than ordering laptops, ipads may be more appropriate depending on access to software. John Swinney announced that £30 million would be made available for laptops in schools however the overall contribution per school could be small.

Cllr Thompson gave an update on the 2 Syracuse Scholars for 20/21. The university are very keen to see the scholars in the USA and there is a contingency plan owing to the lockdown and visas. The students could experience part of their time at the Syracuse campus in London.

3. Annandale Sportive

M Armstrong reported that British Cycling will commence sportives from 1st August. They will give 1 month's notice should the dates be changed which sounds very positive that the event will go ahead in September.

4. AOCB

F Stewart advised that members of the parent council have donated personally to the plea from Angie Murray towards soup ingredients.

The next parent council virtual meeting is 24 June at 6.30pm.