

EIS Clackmannanshire Local Association Meeting

29th March 2022

Online

1.1 Constitution of the Meeting:

Chair: D Hurley

Minute: T Barker

Present: T Barker, N Clark, K Farrell, D Hurley, G Joyce, A Moran

Apologies: W Cowan, M Dromgoole

1.2:1 Minute Accuracy

Proposed: K Farrell

Seconded: G Joyce

1.2:2 Matters Arising:

N/A

1.3 Secretary's Update:

- The current pay offer (2.3%) has been accepted although voting turnout was low.
Preparation is underway to launch a new 10% pay deal claim going forward; more details to follow.
- KF would like reps. to make enquiries locally as to the balance of online and face to face parents' meetings going ahead in schools, for monitoring/safety purposes.
- In relation to school recovery, some Covid mitigations should still be in place in schools. In particular, good ventilation is seen as vitally important and the LA will continue to press for ongoing measures and regular monitoring of air quality in schools, particularly classrooms/teaching areas. This is a high priority safety mitigation.

- LNCT agreements are still open to some misinterpretation by some HTs locally. The LA should continue to push for clearer joint communication (from LNCT to schools) to avoid this happening. In particular, there is ongoing concern regarding the workload involved in teaching face to face and providing online work for absent learners. Anecdotally, the level of absence among learners which is non-Covid related also seems to be on the increase locally, exacerbating these workload issues.

Despite assurances by senior managers at LNCT (MB/CQ/LS), that this is not a requirement of staff, this continues to be practice pursued in some secondary schools. Suggestions for tackling this issue include: pursuing this as 'teaching contact' time, revisiting of WTA by SNCs, increased use of flexibility time.

KF/AM to organise a branch meeting in Lornshill to encourage members to act collectively upon their concerns in this area.

GJ suggested that more regular joint LNCT circulars **to all members** would prove beneficial in improving the clarity of the information shared with schools.

- KF reminded committee members that WTA would be circulated soon to schools and should be on calendars for discussion. SNCs should begin preliminary negotiations soon.

The hours required to be included for compliance training should be agreed and included on this year's proforma, in advance of circulation, to ensure consistency.

- KF attended a recent Public Health Scotland meeting with the EIS where Covid safety measures and ongoing mitigations were discussed in detail. Further information can be found on the EIS national website.
- As per JTUC agreement, school reps. should continue to be involved in updating school risk assessments going forward. If there are any issues in this regard, contact KF to remedy.
- KF also attended CREC meeting and several local schools are involved in a pilot project to support refugee families. KF was able to share high quality EIS teaching/learning materials with the relevant personnel.

- General Secretary, Larry Flanagan's imminent retiral on 20th May was noted.
- The next National Council meeting will be an optional face to face or virtual meeting for Council members. The AGM is planned to take place in person this year too.

1.4 **Treasurer's Report:**

- Local EIS funds being invested in the national hedge fund have been delayed, as per national advice. This is due to volatile stock markets at present.
- Charitable donations agreed at the recent ABM will be made soon.
- Any receipts in relation to the LA should be submitted to GJ for processing as soon as possible.
- AGM accommodation has been provisionally booked by KF, GJ to reimburse.
- Any committee members interested in learning more about the role of Treasurer, should contact GJ directly for information/training with a view to succession planning.

1.5 **Learning Rep. Report:**

- DH is involved in delivering the PACT professional learning modules across the RIC in coming months. These are highly recommended and will help members to mitigate the impact of poverty on learners in a wide variety of ways.
- STEP (Scottish Teachers for Enhanced Practice) will be advertising PL seminars soon, with guest speakers David Cameron and Ken Muir.

1.6 **AOCB**

- NC raised ongoing concerns about budgets for Technology/Home Economics departments in local secondaries. KF to raise at LNCT tomorrow.
- NC raised concerns by members about the lack of progress in retaining probationer teachers and the potential impact on recruitment/class cover for next session.

- TB enquired about LNCT decisions regarding Microsoft packages in schools after the recent removal. Decision to reinstate was shared at the last LNCT meeting.
- GJ suggested Thursday meetings might be preferable for most committee members moving forward. Future meetings to be discussed and agreed at next meeting.
- DH raised concerns about the lack of editing/recirculation of LNCT minutes after agreed amendments for accuracy. DH to raise at LNCT.

1.7 **Date of Next Meeting:**

Tuesday 26th April 2022 4.15pm