

Trust Student Council meeting notes – 7th July at 4.30 p.m. via Teams

Summary of main points and actions

Question	Answer
Are there any ways you can think of how you can support the new Trust Student Councillors in September?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comments received.
What has changed at your school since the recent relaxing of rules on 17th May?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubbles have expanded. • Mask rules have relaxed. • School trips. • Good changes to Behaviour Policy. • More movement allowed around school sites.
The Trust is starting to work on a Carbon Neutral Policy for the future. What should be our priorities for reducing carbon? For example, electric charging points around the sites for cars, triple glazed windows? - How should students be involved in this?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric car charging points. • LED lights. • Triple glazing. • Growing our own fruit and veg. • Promoting cycling/walking to school more. • Holding another environmental day. • Buying local products/produce to reduce carbon footprint.
Proposal - Who in your view has earned a leadership badge for their student council work this year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 badges to the Student Leadership Co-ordinators in each school who will then decide who to award them to (knowing first-hand who has made a significant contribution).
Looe Valley Trail Project representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlie – Saltash Community School. • Zane – Saltash Community School. Reserve Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reece – Looe Community Academy. • Ben – Looe Community Academy.
Action – Mr Buckley to meet with Mrs Stoneham regarding the possibility of the Liskeard Councillors representing the school for the following year due to connection problems during this year.	

Present:

Mr Buckley, CEO
 Mrs Yelland, PA to the CEO
 Mrs Ball, Headteacher at Landulph
 Mrs Pipe, Headteacher at Dobwalls
 Mr Lovell, Headteacher at Trewidland
 Mrs Gallie, Teacher at Saltash
 Mrs Stoneham, Joint Head of Drama at Liskeard

Zane (Saltash), Rebecca (Saltash), Alex (Looe), Alexia (Liskeard), Poppy (Trewidland), Berin (Looe), Catelin (Saltash), Jacob (Saltash), Olivia (Saltash), Ellis (Dobwalls), Amy (Saltash), Anastasia (Saltash), Christopher (Saltash), Lilliana (Landulph), Lola (Landulph), Charlie (Saltash), Jade (Saltash), Lowena (Trewidland).

Meeting started at 16.30.

Outline of meeting

Mr Buckley welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked the councillors for attending. He advised that the notes are circulated to the Heads, Governors and Trustees. They can also be accessed on the SMART Trust website. Mr Buckley reiterated the rules and advised that as these are public meetings, they are being recorded and are designed to find positive solutions. If there are any concerns, these should be taken directly to a teacher at the school.

Are the notes from the meeting accurate and are we all happy to agree them?

No comments received.

Any questions about them?

No questions received.

Looe Valley Trails project

Ms Field shared a presentation regarding the Looe Valley Trails project and how the students can get involved in the project.

Ms Field invited the group to ask questions:

Can all modes of transport be allowed to use these routes?

Ms Field explained that any mode of transport can be used where you are propelled forward using your own energy (also including horse riders). It is important to them not to exclude any users. It would also include e-bikes.

Will Saltash and surrounding areas be included in the project?

Ms Field advised they are targeting important routes to begin with, but there are other plans in progress in terms of the wider SE Cornwall programme, there will be opportunities to grow this project further if this stage is successful.

Mr Buckley thanks Ms Field for attending the meeting.

Ms Field left the meeting.

Candidates to represent SMART Schools at the Looe Valley Trails project

Mr Buckley gave the Councillors an opportunity to read candidate A and candidate B's applications. The Councillors then took a vote and both candidates were voted to represent the Trust Schools each with a clear majority.

Mr Buckley explained that two names were also put forward from Looe Community Academy and asked the Councillors to vote on whether they were content for these students to be the reserve team?

The reserve team was also voted in with a clear majority.

Agreed Councillors:

Charlie – Saltash Community School.

Zane – Saltash Community School.

Reserve Team:

Reece – Looe Community Academy.

Ben – Looe Community Academy.

Q1 - Are there any ways you can think of how you can support the new Trust Student Councillors in September? *Chaired by Jade W.*

No comments received.

Mr Buckley explained that this was a very challenging question and we will consider some ideas and come back to the group.

Q2 - What has changed at your school since the recent relaxing of rules on 17th May? *Chaired by Lilliana.*

Jade W explained that her classmates were pleased with the following:

- Less wearing of masks.
- Being able to mix with other Tutor Groups.
- The introduction of the Silent Classroom Policy.
- Being able to use specialised classrooms e.g. music rooms etc.

Charlie V reported that his peers provided positive feedback on the new behaviour policy, including the Silent Classroom policy. He commented that for his year group, being able to concentrate whilst preparing for GCSEs was very important.

Lola W advised that her classmates were pleased with the following:

- Removal of screens on desks so students can interact with each other more.
- Being in a whole school bubble rather than class bubbles.
- After school clubs starting again.

Ellis reported that the seating in the classrooms is now back to normal rather than rows.

Catelin advised that Saltash have also introduced 'reset' where if a student is disrupting a class, they are removed so the rest of the class can concentrate.

Anastasia agreed with Catelin's comments and explained that the school have introduced a one warning and 'reset' policy (similar to a day's detention). This helps the learning environment and she believes the school is trying its best to improve the situation.

Lilliana added the following from her classmates:

- Being able to play with pupils in other classes.
- School trips such as swimming, zero gravity.
- Teachers now do not have to wear masks in the classroom.
- Students were happy to be able to now visit other areas of the school.

Lexi reported:

- Liskeard can now fully move around the school.
- Go to specialised class rooms.
- The rules around mask wearing has relaxed which many students have found much easier (still worn in corridors and when mixing bubbles).
- Lunch areas have expanded.

Q3 - The Trust is starting to work on a Carbon Neutral Policy for the future. What should be our priorities for reducing carbon? For example, electric charging points around the sites for cars, triple glazed windows? - How should students be involved in this? Chaired by Charlie.

Jade W's class suggested:

- Electric car chargers.
- Promoting cycling to school.
- More cycle paths.
- Have a 'bike check' day.
- Have a larger bike shed on site.
- Triple glazed windows.

Jade also added her own suggestion of using local ingredients in the school canteens. She proposed the schools could start gardening clubs to grow fruit and vegetables to be used in school meals and this would reduce food miles and the carbon footprint.

Rebecca's class suggested:

- Be encouraged more to walk or cycle to school.
- Electric car chargers.
- More vegetarian options on the school menus.
- Purchase local products from local businesses.

Anastasia's class put forward:

- Have more nutritious food options on the school menus.
- Hold another environmental day.

Lola's school suggested:

- Electric car chargers, however they believed there are pros and cons to this (pros – being able to charge a car, cons – expensive to install and cost of servicing equipment).
- Solar panels.
- LED lighting.

Ellis reported that his school proposed the 'eco brick' initiative (each pupil could collect crisp packets in an empty 2 litre bottle, these are then sent to a charity that converts them in to bricks to use in building houses).

Proposal - Who in your view has earned a leadership badge for their student council work this year?

Option A – Those who have chaired a meeting (Chairs)

Option B – Chairs + those who offered opinions in at least 3 of the meetings?

Option C – All those who took part in 3 or more meetings?

Option D – Other?

Mr Buckley sets out the options and asked the Councillors if there was an 'option D' that should be considered?

Jade W proposed as who has made significant contributions consistently.

Mr Buckley suggested providing 4 badges to the Student Leadership Co-ordinators in each school who could then decide who to award them to knowing first-hand who has made a significant contribution.

This suggestion was agreed as option D.

The Councillors voted option D through an overwhelming majority.

Mr Buckley recommended that the three chairs (Lilliana, Jade and Charlie) should receive a badge as well as those who regularly give their opinion and the opinion of their peers.

Trust's Leadership Award

Mr Buckley awarded Ellis with the Trust's Leadership Award certificate for his outstanding leadership of his school's Student Council.

Congratulations to Ellis from the Councillors.

Mr Buckley thanked the group for their time and the work and contribution that they have given to their own Student Councils as well as the Trust Student Councils. The model used for the Trust Student Council meetings has been widely praised by many other working groups throughout the Trust.

Meeting finished at 17.19.

Next meeting will take place via Teams on 6th October 2021 at 4.30 p.m.