



Girvan Academy Parent Council

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GIRVAN
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Date: 27 June 2022

GIRVAN ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL (GAPC) **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

At the beginning of the school term we were still under COVID restrictions and consequently GAPC meetings remained online. This has had a positive impact on attendance enabling members with commitments at work/home to join meetings remotely. Moreover, it gives the opportunity for wider engagement from the parent forum to observe rather than become active participants. It is of note the Campus Police Officer, Dan Johnston has also joined meetings when his schedule has allowed. This is a welcome development for parents / carers to view external factors that may effect the school.

Going forward the general consensus amongst our members has been a request to move to a hybrid format for future GAPC meetings ie. online meeting for members to join remotely, whilst those able to attend in person could participate from the school. Zoom or Microsoft Teams are possibly more familiar online platforms, however this is for future discussion with the parent forum and will be publicised in due course.

Over the past year there were some areas of parent council business that proved too challenging during lockdown, namely 'fundraising', but this has not prevented work in other areas. In Sep 21 the Parent Council was approached by Girvan Community Council to promote an anti-litter poster competition. Girvan Academy accepted the invitation and succeeded in securing first, second and third places in the competition, with a further 2 gaining recognition as 'Commended'. A GAPC representative had the honour of attending the ceremony at the school as a guest when the five proud pupils received their awards.

As with previous years we have supported the Girvan Academy's Prize Giving event offering £170 towards trophies and prize money for 2021. We have again been approached by the school to assist funding for this year's event, which I am sure will be unanimously voted across. It is important to recognise the significant achievements of our pupils to promote the school's values - 'Responsibility, Respect, Ambition and Community'.

Another function of the GAPC is to be a conduit for parents / carers to express their views. Road safety has been recognised as an issue around the school. Specifically 'speeding' traffic' on Coalpotts Road has been highlighted by parents as a primary concern. This has been raised through Girvan Academy and the Councillors which has led to Ayrshire Road Alliance tackling the problem. Conversely the parent council has been re-

sponsible for promulgating information out to the parent forum such as updates on the exam diet, parent / pupil surveys, Health & Wellbeing amongst many other items.

In Jun 22 the GAPC was successful in securing funding for the Royal Highland Show which was open to all years and the Blackpool trip through grant applications. This has gone some way to alleviate the financial pressures of rising transport costs and particularly in this climate, will continue to be an important function of the parent council.

Most recently as COVID restrictions have lifted we have resumed our fundraising efforts taking part in the Glasgow Kiltwalk raising £700, and over £600 at the Lowland Gathering where parents and teachers ran a stall with Sheona Johnson's bike team in support.

The Annual General Meeting is due to take place in September 2022 (date to be confirmed). This is an opportunity to take on an active role within the parent council as the office bearers will step down and (new) incumbents will be voted in. Whether you are interested in volunteering or just interested to hear more, all parents / carers are welcome to join us!

Mrs Sharon Trotter

Chair
Girvan Academy Parent Council