



James Gillespie's
High School
Parent Council

James Gillespie's High School Parent Council

Wednesday 31 January 2024

7-9 pm

Library, JGHS





Agenda

- Apologies and minutes of AGM
- Brief report on activities from the Parent Council
- Update on Active Schools – Eliot Ambrose
- School Improvement Plans – Neil McCallum
- Curriculum and coursing – Deirdre O'Brien
- Headteacher updates – Neil McCallum
- Open Q&A



Parent Council Office Bearers 2023-24

- Acting co-Chair – Tiziana Basciani
- Acting Vice-Chair – Liz Hilton
- Treasurer – Kirstin Leighton
- Acting Co-Secretary – Christiane Kerlen
- Acting Co-Secretary – Padraic Kinsella
- Refreshments – Aileen Nimmo
- Acting Comms Officer – Kate Pinault
- Acting co-Chair – Hilary Snaith

**THANK
YOU**



JGHS Parent Council activities

- On 23 January 2024 Education, Children and Families Committee discussed proposed cuts of £8.2m to education budget budget cuts.
- JGHS PC was a signatory on deputation sent to council in advance of meeting laying out opposition to motion.
- ECFC did not agree to the proposed cuts, and recommended that other ways are found for CEC to present a balanced budget.
- Parents should continue to engage with relevant councillors to ensure that education budgets are protected when overall budgets are discussed by full CEC.



JGHS Parent Council activities

- PC has also discussed a number of issues with the school
 - Ways to promote equitable and collaborative communication between parents and the school
 - Improving communications with pupils about events and opportunities happening in school
 - School experience surveys
 - Impact of rising rolls on school spaces, including the need for effective study space for S6s
 - School action to address vaping
 - Use of mobile phones in classrooms



JGHS Trust

- Report from Vikki Plant, PC representative on Trust committee
- Meeting in autumn 2023:
 - Jean Knox officially retired after 15 years - her role is being shared between other members – Vikki will be secretary
 - Trust has agreed to fund mobile basketball equipment for Darroch; A+ project (Zaki El Salahi will present at next PC meeting); cost for supporting pupils to attend the S1 residential ring-fenced from the current 20% spending limit.
 - Trust accounts were examined by independent accountants and all in order.



JGHS Parent Council finances

- Many thanks to Kirstin Leighton, PC Treasurer
- Have not received CEC donation for 2023/24
- JGHS PC balance as of 26 January 2024: **£407.57**
- Main transactions
 - Refreshment stalls £113.00
- Fundraising for the Small Sums Fund – watch out for Fundraising February!
- Plan to add PC donation for refreshments to ticket prices at ticketed events



Next meetings Parent Council

- Tuesday 19 March 2024 – online
- Wednesday 5 June 2024 – in person, JGHS library



More information

- More detail about Parent Council activities, news and reports are on our website:
 - <http://www.jghsparentcouncil.org>
- Contact us by email:
 - jghscouncilcomms@gmail.com