

Braes High Parent Council Chair's Report 2018/19

2018/19 was a busy year with all the usual Parent Council activities. These included engagement with the school on various topics and attending Falkirk Council Education Services meetings about proposed budget cuts.

Our engagement with the school included,

- engagement with Pupil Council, listening to their views and offering advice on their projects.
- a funding partnership formed with Pupil Council to allow them to identify their own developments for the school.
- engaging with school about the range of Family Learning activities on offer to parents/carers
- consulting on the developing range of qualifications on offer within the senior phase.
- consulting on how to ensure pastoral care following the removal of form period as part of council-wide budget savings
- contributing to developments in how the school celebrates the success of young people, with positive email referrals becoming more detailed for parents/carers.
- contributed towards the school becoming a UNICEF Gold Level Rights Respecting School
- engaging with the school on the best way in which to approach the council-wide budget situation
- contributing to the revision of the school's anti-bullying policy
- discussing and contributing to the school's response to pupil surveys on learning and teaching
- Helping to form the key priorities for the School Improvement Plan for session 2018/19

Throughout the year I also attended a number of Falkirk Area Parent Forum meetings at which there were a variety of interesting presentations from external agencies.

Towards the end of the year I, along with other Parent Council Chairs, was invited to attend the Falkirk Inaugural Learning Festival at Forth Valley College. Sir John Jones was an inspiring keynote speaker.

I am sure that the year ahead will be just as busy as ideas are taken forward, such as the virtual teaching of Advanced Higher History and new ideas are proposed.

It has been a pleasure to serve the Parent Council as Chair over the last year and work with the positive and forward thinking staff with the aim of striving to make Braes an excellent school.

Elspeth McCallum
Chair, Braes High Parent Council 2018-19