

July 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

Election of Parent Governors – July 2018

I am writing to invite you to take part in the election of two Parent Governor to the School's Governing Body.

Three (3) parents have applied for the vacancies (see attached list of candidates and personal statements).

Each parent or carer, who has a child or children at the school, is entitled to two votes and you should cast your votes for your two preferred candidates.

The two parents who receive the highest number of votes will win the election. In the event of a tie lots will be drawn.

The school governors play an important part in the life of the school and can have a real influence on the education of your child so please do use your vote.

Please return the form to the Ballot Box at Student Reception by noon on Wednesday 18 July 2018).

Yours sincerely

Claire Tasker

Headteacher (Returning Officer)

2 Attachments:

(1) Candidates' Personal Statements

(2) Voting Slip

PERSONAL STATEMENTS (3 candidates):

(1) Sarah Evans:

I am a firm believer in the difference that good governance can make to a school. I have a child in Y7 at High Storrs, and a child in Y4 at Hunter's Bar Junior, where I have been governor for four years. I understand the duties of the parent governor and the challenges in education at the moment. I have, in a previous life, been a secondary school teacher, and as such can empathise with the workload and expectations facing everyone that works in and around schools. I know from first-hand experience that a governing body has the power to improve the lives of the children at a school, and the duty to ensure that due process is followed in all aspects of school life.

I know that education is a life long journey, and my own has been a diverse one. I was schooled in Singapore before coming to Sheffield for university. The city took hold, and I have been here ever since, only recently returning to higher education to undertake a PhD. I think that my outlook on schools is a pragmatic one, and I know the importance of evidence based research in learning but also the need for humanity and empathy when understanding how children tick. High Storrs is a diverse and changing school, and I would endeavour to be a supportive and engaged governor, unafraid to ask questions, but also prepared to listen. I have the patience and work ethic to read the policies and go to the training which will enable me to ask the right questions, and work well with others to have constructive conversations about teaching and learning. I am fully committed to inclusion for all children, and my particular interest is in how we work together as a community to ensure that ALL children achieve their potential, and come out of secondary school as rounded human beings who can not only strive for academic success but also show resilience, have a conversation, express opinions, help others, and feel fulfilled.

(2) Simon Price:

Four years ago, I was elected to serve as a parent governor at High Storrs. With one child at the school (then in Y8) and another coming up from Greystones, I wanted to better understand how the school was run and, as a governor, to provide support and challenge as a "critical friend". Our boys (now in Y12 and Y10) have had many happy years at High Storrs, and I am proud to have been able to contribute to its progress in that time.

In addition to my role as parent governor, I'm also a link governor for science and for Lyceum house, and currently serve as vice-chair of governors; in these roles I frequently represent the governors at school visits and other events. I was also a member of the recruitment panels for our headteacher and several members of the senior leadership team.

In my day job, I run a solar energy technology consulting company in Sheffield. Although I have no formal experience in education, I am a trained science communicator with an MSc in Science Communication, and am a passionate advocate for science for all.

I would be honoured to have the opportunity to serve the governors, staff and students at High Storrs for another four years.

Continued.../

(3) Verity Clarke:

I'm the mum of two boys, one moving into yr10 and one who'll be starting yr7 in September.

I have a long history with High Storrs which started as a visiting dance teacher in the 1990s. 20 years on, I commissioned a filmmaker to work with High Storrs students to create a film called 'Creative Confidence - making the case for the arts' (find it on YouTube – they did a brilliant job). From my first encounter I have been blown away by the passion and commitment of High Storrs' staff and the maturity and confidence of its pupils. High Storrs was my first choice for my children, so much so that we moved across the city to make sure they could attend. High Storrs is a unique and special school in this city and I'd be honoured to play a part in maintaining its success and continuing to improve its educational offer as a parent governor.

My professional life has been dedicated to improving the life chances of children and young people, helping them to develop the skills and attributes they need to thrive in a fast changing world. Since 2005, I've supported over 400 schools in Yorkshire & Humber through national programmes designed to develop staff skills and students' learning, across all subjects, through creative experiences. I'm currently a Cultural Education Manager for IVE (formerly CapeUK), a social enterprise and charity that supports the development of creativity to improve learning, employability and productivity. My role is to support schools, arts and cultural organisations, local authorities and other providers in South Yorkshire to evaluate, plan, develop and increase their arts and cultural offer to children and young people.

Whilst my background is in the arts, it's not my sole focus. Ultimately, I want all children at High Storrs to have access to a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum that celebrates and nurtures every child's talents, whether they be on a football pitch, in a maths lesson or sat at a piano.

High Storrs School - Election of Parent Governors – July 2018

Voter Number 1 – Nominate your two preferred candidates by placing X's against two of the names

1. Sarah Evans	
2. Simon Price	
3. Verity Clarke	

Voter Number 1

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Voter Number 2 – Nominate your two preferred candidates by placing X's against two of the names

1. Sarah Evans	
2. Simon Price	
3. Verity Clarke	

Voter Number 2

To make sure the election is fair, please sign the slip below and pin it to the outside of the envelope containing your voting form. This slip is removed before we open the envelope. If both parents have voted, both should sign the slip. Your envelope should be returned to the Ballot Box at Student Reception by **noon on Wednesday 18 July 2018.**



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ELECTION OF TWO PARENTAL REPRESENTATIVES TO HIGH STORRS GOVERNORS – JULY 2018

Date: _____

Name of Parent(s): _____

Name of Pupil: _____ Form: _____

Signature of Parent(s): _____
