



Gryffe Parent Council  
Gryffe High School  
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12 March 2008

Mr John Rooney  
Director of Education and Leisure Services  
HQ South Building  
Cotton Street  
Paisley  
Renfrewshire  
PA1 1LE

By post - advance copy by email

Dear Mr Rooney

### **Gryffe High School - Budget Cuts**

It is with great concern that the Gryffe High School Parent Council have learnt of Renfrewshire Council's intention to impose stringent budget cuts on schools across Renfrewshire. It is clear that the budget cut imposed on Gryffe High School will result in the significant loss of teaching staff and resources. We would urge the Council to think again and not to implement budget cuts which will unavoidably result in the decline of attainment and achievement by pupils at Renfrewshire's schools.

All the parties with a stake in education at Gryffe - the pupils, the staff, the parents, the community, Renfrewshire Council and the Scottish Government - have rightly been proud of the progress the school has made in improving attainment and achievement. Many initiatives, such as the Curriculum for Excellence and Raising Attainment for Boys, which have seen increased resources provided to the school, have been successful. As a Parent Council we were delighted to see the school's achievements recognised externally when the Sunday Times selected Gryffe as its Scottish School of the Year, but we know that awards only tell part of the story. The real satisfaction comes from seeing a committed staff working in a supportive environment to deliver a first class education to the pupils of Gryffe.

Renfrewshire Council will recognise the important part played in allocating sufficient resources to enable these achievements to be realised. Renfrewshire Council will therefore also recognise that to cut the school's budget, which will inevitably result in a cut in teacher numbers and a worsening of the pupil/teacher ratio, will be a backward step. It is clear that education will be adversely affected, and that many important aspects of the school's life will deteriorate. The provision of supported study, recognised as making a huge contribution to individual pupil's attainment, will be affected. Some subjects will disappear from the curriculum because they will not

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be able to be staffed. Support for learning and behavioural support will suffer. We do not believe that Renfrewshire Council wants to see this decline in the education service happen. As a Parent Council, we certainly don't.

I look forward to your confirmation that Renfrewshire Council recognise the importance of providing sufficient teachers to deliver a high standard of education, and that Renfrewshire Council will reconsider its decision to impose such drastic cuts on Gryffe High School.

I am copying this letter to our councillors. We will be making a copy of this letter and your response available to all parents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham Murnane". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

Graham Murnane

Chair, Gryffe High School Parent Council

cc: Councillor Allan Noon (by email)  
Councillor Carol Puthucheary (by email)