

GRANTLEIGH



To the Grantleigh Parents Association

THE GPAC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For the year 2017

Compiled and presented by Kevin Brooks
15 February 2017

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INTRODUCTION:

The year of 2017 was an extremely challenging year for the GPA. The year started with very poor attendance at the AGM. A total of 19 attendees were recorded, which compromised 8 existing GPA members and 8 staff members. This situation subsequently resulted in critical portfolios being unable to be filled. One such portfolio that put immense strain on the committee was that of Secretary. Like any voluntary organization, the GPA is no different and without volunteering parents the committee fails to function and operate effectively and efficiently. The existence of this committee then becomes threatened as members are unable to see progress for their time and effort.

The year of 2018 requires a different level of commitment by parents to start building the committee in the new Curro owned environment. It will require active participation by parents to contribute to the overall success of the school. Under these extremely challenging circumstances I would like to convey my sincere appreciation for each portfolio and committee member who remained committed for the entire year. I am forever grateful for your continued support throughout the year. I experienced your sacrifices, passion and time for this school as I worked closely with you throughout the year. As a committee we fail to understand the reluctance of parents to serve on the committee and more work is needed in this space if we are going to make progress as a parent body. The past year again highlighted the need for a higher number of parent representation to improve consistent engagement and delivery of initiatives and ideas. With majority of committee members committed to full time occupation the need to spread workload remains a key challenge.

The GPA remains committed to support the further development of Grantleigh within Zululand. The past year again saw significant infrastructure growth. I however I want to emphasize the importance of passion and actively living the love for our school and a willingness to serve.

In my role as GPA chairman I was very fortunate to be invited to several sports, culture and academic awards ceremonies during the year. I always departed from the school with a very warm and proud feeling in my heart. I would like to congratulate Andrew and his team of 2017 on a job well done. I would like to welcome all the new staff members to Grantleigh and trust 2018 will deliver even greater success and memorable experiences.

As a Grantleigh family we are privileged to experience the schools 21st birthday celebration this year. I encourage all families to embrace this year, similar to the 20th celebrations of last year.

Lastly, I would just like to take the opportunity to thank my wife and son for supporting me throughout the year and allowing me to sacrifice family time to serve the school and parents.

THE COMMITTEE:

The GPA held its AGM on the 8th of February 2017 at Grantleigh. Parents were duly notified and invited to attend the meeting and to submit nominations of parents for election to the GPAC, which resulted in the newly elected committee as follows. The committee membership for 2017 was a significant reduction from 2016.

Unfortunately, there were insufficient nominations received to fill all the portfolios.

Kevin Brooks	-	(Chairman)
Chris Beukman	-	(Vice-Chairman)
Vacant	-	(Secretary)
Collette Singery	-	(Treasurer)
Morris Fox	-	(Fund Raising)
Anton Bothma	-	(Sport)
PJ Hassard	-	(Sport, co-opted)
Debbie Van Wyk	-	(Culture)
Richard Stone	-	(Mountain Bike Race co-ordinator)
Chris Beukman	-	(Academics)
Henk van Niekerk	-	(Communication and Marketing)

Resignations, from the 2017 committee were received from: Anton Bothma, Morris Fox and Debbie van Wyk.

The GPAC held five (5) official meetings in 2017. It was not always possible to meet monthly but the committee remained committed to resolve issues in the absence of meetings. The committee however did deliver according to the constitution that requires a minimum of 1 meeting per term. Under challenging work and GPA commitments the committee continued to deliver on key responsibilities. The time has arrived for parents to review the necessity and identity of this committee.

VISION OF THE GPA FOR 2018:

“To increase committee members, improve the structures within the committee, consistent communication to parents and increase the number of social and fun events”.

The delivery of the above will be the starting point for the new committee which will have their first meeting on 22 February 2018. A parent social venue on the school premises is also a priority for 2018 with initial work already having commenced. I welcome all parents input into this new initiative.

GPA CONSTITUTION:

There were no changes made to the constitution in 2017.

EVENTS:

Currently the following events are planned for 2018, these will be finalized and communicated as they are finalized:

- Senor Chef Fundraiser – Term 2
- My School Card – increased marketing and participation
- Parents social event – Term 1
- 21st Birthday celebrations

PORTFOLIOS AND PROJECTS:

1. FUND RAISING

1.1 My School Card

The GPAC did not launch any initiatives to encourage new registrations in 2017 however, income generated from My School Card for the financial year totaled **R51 159.41**. This form of passive income has the potential to increase. We need every parent and extended family member to have a My School Card with Grantleigh as the beneficiary. Details of this are communicated on every newsletter.

1.2 The Grantleigh Mountain Bike Challenge

Event was held on the 13th August 2017, and took the format of a fun run as part of the 20th birthday celebrations.

The details for 2018 will need to be finalized by the new committee but will also form part of the 21st birthday celebrations of the school.

Richard a personal big thank you for your willingness to lead the committee for this event.

1.3 Raffle ticket for MTB (20th birthday celebration)

Firstly, a big thank you to the parents for the support of sales. An amount of R15 180 was raised which covered the fun run prize money, raffle cash prize and the balance of R12 680 donated to the school to contribute towards the entertainment costs for the Saturday evening.

2. MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATION

More frequent communication from the GPA to parents on a monthly basis through the existing school newsletter needs to be improved in 2018. The importance of this portfolio cannot be over emphasized.

3. SPORT

The motto followed by this portfolio throughout the year was as follows:

“As GPA, it is our mandate to add value to the lives of the students at Grantleigh. More specifically, as a Sports Committee we have the duty to add value to our sports men and women”. Under the leadership of Anton and then later in the year PJ Hassard the close working relationship with Shaun Kommer continued. The

sponsorships secured in 2016 were realized in 2017 as we witnessed our sports teams taking to the field in their new sport sponsored “kit”. Just again to confirm the 2017 sponsorship values.

Prep School – R 63 475

Family Trust Spar Group - Preparatory School Title Sponsor for the next 5 years.

College – R72 800

Ritchie Family Motor Holdings Group - College Title Sponsor.

Alpha Security - Grantleigh Cricket 1st XI for 2017 and are keen to do that longer term.

Amazing Glaze - Grantleigh Netball 1st Team.

My sincere appreciation on behalf of all Grantleigh parents to these businesses for their support and contribution to make sure our teams look professional on the sports fields.

4. **CULTURE**

We expect to start work on this portfolio in earnest with the successful 2018 committee member.

5. **ACADEMICS**

The school continued with previous historical matriculant results. The high level of commitment by the staff bears testimony to the outstanding 2017 results. The school maintained a 100% pass rate.

6. **SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE** (Quintin van Onselen)

Thanks Quintin for all your behind the scenes arrangements to “make things happen”. Thanks for taking the responsibility to finally resolve the leaking water fountain. Thanks to your efforts we also delivered the water fountains at the college area. I have no doubt that under your leadership the development of the parents clubhouse and braai area will become a reality.

2017 GPA DONATIONS:

Community Chest

The GPAC launched an initiative a few years ago to assist less privileged learners financially to attend either sporting or cultural events, on which they otherwise would have missed out on. A total amount of R9600,00 was contributed to students in 2017.

FINANCIALS:

Thanks Colette for the professional manner in which the financial matters were conducted in 2017. We commit to continue with our financial transparency in 2018.

The GPA account opening balance 1 January 2017 was **R122 949.78**

The GPA account closing balance on 31 December 2017 was **R87 482.95**

This is a negative movement of R 35 466.83

Full details on how funds were distributed can be obtained in the Treasurers report which will be presented during this meeting. A few to note where pupils benefitted directly are:

1. Matric farewell Lighting and music R 6 840.00
2. Water Filters at Loeries Nest R 4 780.00

Discussions commenced with the Executive Head Mr Norris and the Trustees of the Grantleigh Trust on how the remaining Trust fund will be utilized. This is a matter that will require further discussion and engagement during 2018 with the committee and the Trustees.

Assets

Nothing to report

CONCLUSION:

I would like to thank all the portfolio members for your support and work done to serve the school in 2017. I sincerely trust for those who can, will consider serving on this committee in 2018. We all need to participate actively in the upbringing and education of our children through the structures put in place by the school and education system. The GPA committee members alone is unable to deliver this. Additional membership is required and I appeal to all parents to serve. I am excited and positive about 2018 and wish the members nominated to serve a very successful year. To achieve this we will need your support, guidance, suggestions and involvement.

We are proud of what we are, we love our Grantleigh family and we are committed to serve and support the school with passion.

To God be the Glory!



Kevin Brooks
GPAC Chairman: 2017