

School Board Elections – Autumn 2003

Executive of the Council

10 February 2004

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Executive of the outcome of the School Board Elections which were held in autumn 2003.

2 Main report

Support for Boards

- 2.1 The School Board Unit is committed to forging a close partnership with boards and encourages the formation of boards at those schools which do not have boards. Prior to each main election, the School Board Unit organises an Information Evening for parents who are thinking about becoming board members.

3 Parental Vacancies

- 3.1 Of the 133 schools involved in the election process, 121 were to replace members who had completed their term of office on 30 November 2003. Of these 121, 28 were also involved in a casual vacancy by-election whereby a member has resigned before their term of office ended on 30 November 2005 and 7 schools without boards were also involved. Elections also took place at 5 newly established schools - Castleview, Craighour Park, Craighroyston and Forthview Primaries and Rowanfield School.

4 Outcome of Election

- 4.1 62 schools received the correct number of nominations for the vacancies to be filled and remain in existence, no formal election having being required.
- 4.2 43 schools received insufficient nominations and must co-opt parent members before 1 March or face disestablishment. These boards remain in existence at the present time.

- 4.3 22 schools required to hold formal postal elections, having received a greater number of nominations than there were places available. In Autumn 1999, 26 schools were involved in formal elections. 4 schools were involved in formal elections in both 2001 and 2003 – Balgreen, Bruntsfield, Duddingston and Trinity Primaries.
- 4.4 6 schools which did not have boards received insufficient nominations and therefore will not be established or re-established at the present time.
- 4.5 A new board has been formed at Broomhouse Primary School and 3 boards have been disestablished - Hunter's Tryst, Lismore and Sighthill Primaries.

5 Number of Boards

- 5.1 The current position is that there are 127 school boards out of a possible 133 schools which can form boards i.e. 95%. In April 1996, at Local Government Reorganisation, there were 102 out of possible 139 boards i.e. 73%. The number is sub-divided as follows:

January 2004

- 23 Secondary (100%)
- 95 Primary (97%)
- 9 Special (75%)

127

April 1996

- 23 Secondary (100%)
- 73 Primary (71%)
- 6 Special (46%)

102

6 Schools without Boards

- 6.1 The 6 schools which do not have boards are as follows:

Primaries: Hermitage Park, Leith Walk and St Margaret's

Specials: Cairnpark, Canonmills and Prospect Bank

As parents of pupils at special schools are from city catchments rather than local catchments areas, it is more difficult for them to attend board meetings.

7 Financial Implications

7.1 Nil

8 Recommendations

8.1 Executive is asked to note the content of this report.

Roy Jobson
Director of Education

Appendices	Nil
Contact/Tel	Graham Douglas – 0131 469 3131
Wards affected	All
Background Papers	Nil