

Participatory Budgeting – Update for East Kilbride Area Committee May 2024			
Service Area	Education	Lead Officer	Maureen Farr
Stage 1 : Pre Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are we asking the public for their view on (what service is it / description etc)? • How much funding are we asking about? • Who are we asking, • How are we doing this ? • When are we doing this ? • When will we report back ? 			
Progress update since last Area Committee Case Study: <p>Following the consultation and voting process as reported at a previous Area Committee meeting, schools have progressed with their spend to ensure the minimum 5% is spent in full by the end of March 2024.</p> <p>We are pleased to share Strathaven Academy’s participatory budgeting work as an example of good practice (Appendix 1) within the East Kilbride area. To gather ideas for the vote, a Participatory Budgeting (PB) group was established with 11 pupils across all year groups, 4 staff and 4 parents. This group generated 3 choices.</p> <p>The group was very much focused on supporting families affected by poverty with issues around the Cost of the School Day. Choices for spend included Chromebooks for use outwith school, resources for the school breakfast club and gardening resources</p> <p>The member of staff responsible for the PB remit ensured the message was shared widely through a PowerPoint presentation at Tutor Groups, QR codes shared on Twitter and through the school App were targeted to families as well as pupils.</p> <p>Over 500 pupils voted during the PB process along with over 100 other stakeholders comprising staff and parents. There were only 3 other schools in the whole of South Lanarkshire who had a higher number of pupils vote for their PB projects (Holy Cross, Stonelaw and Trinity). It is clear that a great deal of work has been done to encourage as many young people as possible to exercise their right to vote in this process.</p> <p>The Chrome from Home initiative won the vote with people realising that the lack of IT equipment at home is a real barrier to learning and a cause of anxiety for young people who want to ‘hand in’ homework in the same way as others in their class. More information on the project can be seen in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Next Steps: PB is now fully embedded in SLC schools through the Pupil Equity Funding. Schools continue to allocate a minimum of 5% of their Pupil Equity Funding to be subject to PB year on year.</p> <p>Optional PB training is planned for August for schools who have new PB Leads or need a refresh.</p>			
Stage 2 : Post Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcome of the PB activity • What happens next ? • Further reporting requirements (eg required Committee approval) 			
<p>Following the voting, Education Resources will provide Area Committees with the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary Report of each school’s PB outcome (available late October/early November 2024) and Local Authority and Area analysis report of this - Case studies of school activity, which has had particular impact/success (ongoing throughout the year) 			

Education Resources will continue to support schools with implementation of this and monitor and track the impact of this activity. Findings will inform any future PB activity within Education Resources.

Regular PB Updates and the highlighting of good practice will be communicated to schools via the Equity Hub and through our @SLCEquity Twitter handle.

