



Welcome - Terry McDaid, Chairman

Welcome to our fourth edition of the GBA News and my first issue as Chairman. I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the work of the GBA which was showcased at our recent Annual General Meeting.

The GBA AGM was held on the 8th March and Ian Noad, our outgoing Chairman, outlined the considerable work undertaken by GBA delegates who engaged with Derek Baker, Permanent Secretary Dept of Education, and Gavin Boyd, CEO of Education Authority, voicing your concerns on finance, industrial relations and Area Planning.

Members of the GBA represented our member schools on Management Side of the Teachers' Negotiating Committee, The General Teaching Council, the LMS Steering Group, the Court of Ulster University, the Review of Educational Welfare Service,

Managing Teacher Attendance and the Teachers' Pension Scheme Advisory Board. This was in addition to representing GBA at every level of Area Planning.

Our Chief Executive Officer, Nuala O'Neill, has on our behalf submitted GBA position papers in response to consultation on issues such as schools' budgets, the proposed minibus guidance and SEN enrolment. Nuala is in regular contact with her counterparts in the EA, Controlled Schools Support Council, CCMS, NICIE and CnaG.

Member Schools continue to demonstrate year after year the excellence in academic and social achievement of their pupils.

The GBA remains committed to supporting our member schools in the formidable challenges that lie ahead.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the leadership and guidance of our outgoing Chairman, Ian Noad. We are indebted to Ian for his accomplished guidance to the GBA through a period of unprecedented challenge and change.

GBA Executive

Following the AGM a new officer team has been appointed for the 2018-19 term:

Chair	Terry McDaid
Vice- Chair	Ian Noad
Vice- Chair	Sir Gerry Loughran
Treasurer	Theresa Campbell

At the recent AGM, the GBA welcomed newly elected members onto the Executive.

Professor John Gillespie, Dalriada School, Ballymoney
Margrit Grey, Friends' School, Lisburn
Lorraine Lavery, St Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore
John Reid, St Dominic's Grammar School, Belfast

€29 Million PEACE IV Shared Education Programme

Launched

The GBA recently attended the official launch of CASE, Collaboration and Sharing in Education, a €29 million fund which is being taken forward by the Education Authority in partnership with the Irish education funding body, Léargas.

The CASE project, which will run until 2022, is intended to enable 280 schools and 135,000 pupils to take part in shared education through local partnerships on a cross-sectoral and cross-border basis.

The project is aimed at both primary and post-primary schools with limited or no experience in shared education programmes. According to the EA, the emphasis will be on "sustainable curricular based sharing, delivering internally by partnership staff, and developing a culture of collaboration, supporting school improvement for all young people within communities."

Funding has been provided through the EU's PEACE IV programme, with match funding provided by the Department for Education and the Department for Education and Skills in the Republic of Ireland.

To date, over 89 local partnerships involving over 200 schools with a funding commitment of close to €1 million has been approved.

The Education Authority will be writing to schools to encourage applications for the next phase of funding. In the meantime, if you would like further information please contact Nuala O'Neill (e) nuala@gbani.org

Area Planning Update

The Education Authority is due to publish the second Annual Action Plan 2018-19 in April. This follows the publication of [Providing Pathways – Strategic Area Plan for Schools 2017–2020](#) as well as the Annual Action Plan for 2017-18 at the same time last year.

The GBA has been in contact with all member schools who are named in the 2018-19 plan.

Work is underway to develop the Annual Action Plan for 2019-20, if your school is considering a development proposal please get in touch.

GBA Area Planning Contacts

Area Planning	Name	Email
Area Planning Steering Group	Nuala O'Neill	Nuala@gbani.org
Area Planning Working Group	Finbarr McCallion	fmccallion@hotmail.com
Area Planning Local Group – Locality 1		
Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Fermanagh & Omagh Mid Ulster	Ronnie Hassard	jrhassard@hotmail.com
Area Planning Local Group Locality 2 Antrim & Newtownabbey Causeway Coast & Glens Derry & Strabane Mid and East Antrim	Ronnie Hassard	jrhassard@hotmail.com
Area Planning Local Group Locality 3 Newry, Mourne & Down Ards & North Down Lisburn & Castlereagh Belfast	Geraldine Pettigrew	mtgpettigrew@gmail.com



GBA Executive Meetings

The last GBA Executive meeting was held in Thornhill College on 28th February. The Executive welcomed representatives from schools within the area. Items discussed at the meeting included Area Based Planning; Teacher's Negotiating Committee; school finance; LMS Steering group; the reconstitution of Boards of Governors; minibus regulations; General Data Protection Regulations and the EA C2K project board.

The next GBA Executive meeting will be held in Methodist College, Belfast on 18th April. If you would like any items to be added to the agenda for discussion at the meeting please contact Aidan (e) Administrator@gbani.org

Consultations

The Education Authority have published a [Proposed Framework of the Provision for Children in the Early Years with Special Educational Needs \(SEN\)](#).

The consultation closes on the 24th May 2018.

Advertise a Teaching/Non-Teaching Vacancy

As you may be aware the GBA can host teaching and non-teaching vacancies on its website www.gbani.org and the information is also shared on our twitter account. This service is free of charge for all member schools. Details of vacancies should be sent to administrator@gbani.org, please allow one working day for the vacancy to be updated.

Website and Twitter

Please visit our website on the following link <http://www.gbani.org/>
Follow us on Twitter @gbani_jobs – Look out for regular updates on Job listings and upcoming events.

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