



Giralang Primary School
ADVENTURE IN LEARNING, CARING AND ACHIEVING



23 February 2018

**SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY – PARENTS AND CITIZENS MEMBER
VOTING OPENS MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2018**

Dear parents and carers of the Giralang Primary School community

Giralang Primary School has a vacancy for a Parent and Citizens member position on the School Board. The position is available for a period of 2 years, commencing 1 April 2018.

We have received four nominations for the positions. A short promotional piece and photo of the four nominees is attached for your information.

Voting will open at 11am Monday 26 February 2018 and closes 11am Monday 5 March 2018.

To vote, please collect a ballot paper and envelope from the Front Office of Giralang Primary School. Fill it out according to the instructions and place it in the locked box located at the Front Office.

The appointment will be made by the Returning Officer on approximately 26 March 2018 and the appointment will commence on 1 April 2018.

This letter also appears on the Giralang Primary School website.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 6205 5861.

Kind regards
Anna Klose
Assistant Returning Officer

Please find below, in order of first name, a short promotional piece and photo of the four nominees:

ANDREW HOLLANDS



My name is Andrew Hollands I'm 32 years young, born and bred in Giralang.

I am the youngest of 3 siblings and we all went through Giralang Primary and then to Kaleen High. My brother and I both won the Citizenship Award for Year 6 and I was part of the SRC whilst at Giralang Primary. My son has started Preschool at Giralang Primary this year and his siblings will join him in the years to come.

I am a qualified Chef and a hospitality business owner in the local area. I have a passion for education and training with a sustainable approach. I strongly believe in the 'Paddock to Plate' method and inspiring the younger generations to love food and the environment that surrounds us all.

I am passionate about my community and I believe I would be a tremendous asset to the Giralang Primary School Board Parents and Citizens Member.

Yours Truly
Andrew Hollands

KATHRYN COUTER

Hello, my name is Kathryn Couter, otherwise known as mum of Lily in year 4. I've been a parent at the school for 9 years thus far, with my eldest child now at high school.

Professionally, I am a teacher at another primary school in the ACT and quality education is something I feel very passionate about.

I have always been an active parent member at our beautiful school including in the P&C, having previously served as the Secretary for 2 years and the co-ordinator of bookclub for 5 years. I enjoy meeting new families at our school, organising Teacher Appreciation Day each year and organising or baking for the Cake Stall at the fair or on Election days.

I hope to be elected onto the school board to help ensure a continuing high standard of education, positive learning environments and up to date resources for teachers and students, all of which provide the foundations for success for every person at Giralang.



RYAN WILSON



Greetings Giralang Primary School community! For those who don't know me, I am the Dad of Jonah, in year 3 and Isobel, who completed year 6 last year and is now at Kaleen High School. My wife Megan Hemming and I have been actively involved in the school since Isobel started pre-school at Giralang in 2010.

I was chair of the Giralang Primary School board during 2015-2016 and would be thrilled to have the opportunity again to support our great school and its continued growth under the new strategic plan. I commend all those who were involved in developing the plan for creating a clear vision for the next five years and a strong focus on english, maths and relationships and connectedness.

As a member of the board I would focus, as I have in the past, on fostering and embedding the positive culture we have of continuous learning and innovation and good governance practices. The board plays a critical role in helping the school's executive and teachers, through its guidance and support as well as focusing financial decisions to boost learning and personal growth. One focus during my previous stint on the board was on investments in infrastructure, including IT.

My previous board experience would help me play a valuable role if I were elected to the Giralang Primary School board. As well as that previous appointment I was a member of the CSIROCare daycare centre board from 2006 to 2010, including two years as chair.

Also on a more personal note, I would be thrilled to work with Belinda, the school executive team and other board members. We have a great group of people leading our school.

TOM CAMILLERI

Hi my name is Tom Camilleri, I thank you all for this opportunity to nominate for the Giralang Primary school board.

I am a father of three children, with 2 currently attending Giralang primary school. I will be a parent at GPS for the next 10 years (all up that will be 14 years associated with this school).



A little about myself, I have been passionate about public education my entire adult life and have dedicated my time to ensuring that all students can be successful.

I have been a primary school teacher for over a decade, with a particular interest in students with special needs and students from a disadvantaged background. I have been involved in introducing and evaluating a number of new programs into schools that have been aimed at improving not only the literacy and numeracy outcomes for students but also improving social and emotional learning.

For a change of pace this year I have taken leave from my permanent teaching job so that I can pursue a Master of Education (Educational Wellbeing) course and coincidentally I have just begun work on a unit called *Contemporary Educational Leadership*. I will be able to use these skills and the knowledge I have acquired (as both an educator and through higher tertiary study) to work closely with the school leadership team to continue to deliver the high standard of education we have come to expect at GPS.

Another pleasing aspect of taking some time off from my regular job is that it has also given me the opportunity to work at GPS in a relief capacity. I have enjoyed the time I have worked here immensely, getting to know all the students and staff and I look forward to continuing this throughout the year. I wish all nominees the best of the luck. Thank you.