

## Glasgow PTA <glasgowms.pta@gmail.com>

## Glasgow Middle School PTA Response to the Principal Selection Update

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Fairfax County Leaders in Education,

Our mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. Since receiving the "Glasgow Principal Selection Update" the evening of June 18th (attached), the Glasgow PTA has received an incredible number of emails and phone calls from Glasgow families and faculty expressing a range of emotions from confusion to disgust. The failure to select a principal to formally lead Glasgow families and faculty through an unprecedented 2020-2021 school year has clearly shocked the community and violated any trust the Glasgow community may have had in the principal selection process.

As you know, Glasgow is one of the largest middle schools in the state of Virginia and is fortunate to have the finest faculty and teachers our kids could hope for. It is difficult to understand how the principal search did not yield "the desired outcome," particularly when it is well known one of the applicants was recognized as the 2019-2020 Region 2 Outstanding School-Based Leader. It is also very difficult to interpret what is meant by the "right match" for Glasgow. The Glasgow PTA does not believe students, families, or faculty should remain patient and/or sidelined while a nationwide search is undertaken to fill this key role. To be clear, the Glasgow PTA will not support any decision that jeopardizes stability for our Glasgow community, and we view this situation as a significant threat to stability.

We request the Office of the Superintendent host three virtual town hall meetings not later than July 7th; one each for English, Spanish, and Arabic speaking families. The purpose of these town hall meetings will afford the principal selection decision making body the ability to: (1) discuss the principal selection process and (2) provide the specific rationale that drove the determination to prolong the search and expand it nationwide. Equally important, these meetings will afford the Glasgow community the opportunity to express concerns related to the lack of transparency in the principal selection process, as well as convey apprehensions that this decision will have far reaching impacts to the Glasgow faculty and kids.

We appreciate a sense of urgency with this matter. Glasgow Middle School PTA

Gina Pizziconi-Cupples, Ph.D.

President, Parent Teachers Association (PTA®) Glasgow Middle School http://www.glasgowpta.org/

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