

ASH GREEN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting

6 February 2017, 6pm

Present: Barry Collins (BC), Jo Dye (JD), Steve Elliott (SE), Don Faulkner (DF), Jodie Fazackerley (JF), Bob Metcalfe (BM), Colin Reeves (CR), Mungo Sheppard (MS), Heather Stout (HS), Robb Sutherland (RS),

Apologies: Kelly Taylor (KT)

Absent: Sarah Kay (SK)

In attendance: Steve Mayfield (SM), Karen Lovelady (KL) Clerk

Bespoke training session on finance – M Ameen (MA)

Action

- ❖ 78.61% of school budget expenditure is payroll
- ❖ Monitoring pupil numbers is key to effective strategic planning – pupil numbers = funding (cap on 30 per class in KS1, no cap in KS2)
- ❖ Pupil premium is almost 13% of school funding
- ❖ New National Funding Formula from 2018/19, will need to monitor key factors when introduced (initial indication for AG is no change)
- ❖ Education cuts are starting to come through now with possible reduction of 8% by 2020
- ❖ Long term strategic planning is essential

Positives at AG

- ❖ Indications are Reception intake Sep '17 will be oversubscribed
- ❖ Just 3 provision is excellent – impact will be increased nursery numbers & progress data
- ❖ Good financial management has reduced deficit budget forecast
- ❖ Carry forward for 2017/18 increased
- ❖ Resources committee effective

Governors requested an update on split site funding.

Letter has been sent to Schools Forum who will be meeting on 13/02/17. Other split site schools have been contacted to promote joint working. If a negative response is received we will request for representation at the next meeting. MA will keep governors informed via Resources Committee.

MA thanked & left meeting 6.35pm

MA

1. Welcome & apologies

Apologies as above consent given. SK absence noted. Governor vacancy, skills analysis scrutinised for gaps: strategic planning; finance; data analysis; experience/succession. Governors suggested possible candidates; co-option forms to be forwarded & will be brought back to next FGB.

Agenda

2. Declaration of interest

None.

3. Minutes of last meeting 21/11/16

Approved as an accurate record.

Proposed: JD Seconded: CR

Unanimously agreed

4. Matters arising

- FGB Self-Assessment & Development Plan

Governors discussed the difficulty with evidencing when the measures keep changing but agree that the systems in place for monitoring are the most robust we have ever had. Pupil outcomes may not have improved to meet the national measure against non-disadvantaged pupils but we are doing better than 3 years ago. The school ethos is centred on children, family & community. Impact & celebration feedback from local secondary provision is that they welcome our children.

- Impact Statement

Completed & to be published on website.

Item 6 – Past pupil from 1925, A Hick (School Council) is leading on this & a future visit will be arranged. Inspirational past pupils', S Archer visit went very well. Links with the Addy go from

strength to strength.

All actions completed/addressed on agenda.

5. Committee minutes

- Resources Committee

Minibus drivers, LA Health & Safety Manager has agreed to carry out a review of existing policy; BM will feedback to Res comm. C Ingham has agreed assist with drivers if possible. The committee welcomed the verbal update on safeguarding from H Monaghan & agree his termly contribution to this committee is valuable. Annual Safeguarding governor session will be scheduled for FGB 24/04/17.

FGB agreed with the recommendation to accept quote from Clifford Cooper & Sons Ltd of £60,138 for upper site boiler replacement.

- Standards & Effectiveness Committee

Good meeting with strategic challenge on systems. Leadership have taken on board & developing effective triangulation of systems; monitoring to gain typicality. HS is working with J Bowers using positive male role models who work in the community.

Governors agree to new start time for Resources comm of 1pm.

6. HT report Inc SIP 2016/17 progress

Report is informative & positive. A lengthy discussion took place on staffing re: returns to work from mat leave & requests for reduced hours. Governors considered: impact on pupils & continuity; financial implications; pressure on current leadership structure. Governors asked leadership "if given a blank page for staffing what would you do?" - the ideal for impact & continuity for pupils is to have full time staff. Governors asked that requests for change to hours be granted if the staffing structure can accommodate without impact on pupil outcomes. Leadership to produce interim staffing plan for the remainder of 2016/17 & a plan for 2017/18.

SIP 2016/17 progress

Challenge

Key Issue 1

Q. EY external validation has this taken place?

A. Date for visit is set & work is ongoing.

Key Issue 2

Governors stressed the importance of starting to narrow the attainment gap in EY; EY is crucial to ongoing pupil impact/outcomes. Also the importance of engaging families.

Q. Boys writing, are you using strategies we have done in the past?

A. Yes but are formalising & sourcing text. Leadership have picked up & are planning improvement.

SIP Key Issue 3

Governors noted good development of middle managers.

Governors agree tasks are on track & staff are doing a good job of driving SIP forward.

7. Progress & Assessment

Leadership are aware that we need to show that overtime we are impacting positively on the gap between our and national data. We are tracking from KS to KS. In KS2 Y6 are a good cohort, targets are high & will be met. Staff have never been more abreast of the need to challenge disadvantaged pupils; in percentage terms 1 pupil can make a large difference. KS1 targets will be more in line with national this year; deployed 1:1 tuition in Y2. The targets are based on end of KS assessments & value added; predictions/targets are good. EY targets are ambitious. Rate of progress will be above national average.

Challenge

Q. In the difference between cohorts some are doing better than non-disadvantaged?

A. Yes when we take cohort by cohort you will have anomalies.

Q. You seem confident that the targets will be met even though aspirational.

A. Yes. Primary Heads have received LA data for primaries MS/KL to circulate to governors.

Q. Should low attainers at baseline make more accelerated progress?

A. This doesn't happen in this area due to the impact home life have. We will keep doing our best

BM

Agenda

KL FGB

Timetable

MS/KL

to narrow the gap & stay positive.

8. Draft SIP Key Issues 2017/18

Draft going to staff tomorrow for input & expansion. On SIP day 11/03/17 staff will be allocated SIP responsibility to drive through; governors will pick up responsibilities to monitor July/Sep.

9. SEF

Positive report, accurate current picture.

10. SFVS

Approved, KL to submit to LA by 31/03/17.

KL

11. Pupil Premium termly impact report

Autumn Milestone for SALC has not been met. A case study will be carried out on PP spend SALC intervention to assess impact.

SM/CH

Governors are fully aware of their accountability for PP funding. If governors have any further challenge to email KL.

CH thanked for report.

12. Sports Funding annual spend/impact report

Governors scrutinised report & approved; for publication on website.

SM/KL

13. Safeguarding

No immediate issues.

Report received.

14. MAT

No current shift in LA although they are working hard to seek alternative provision. Quiet on a national scale. Governors will consider all new information re: MATs & agree a local option would be better for pupil outcomes. BC, MS & MA to arrange a meeting with Trinity Academy to gain more information & to report back to FGB. Primary Heads looking at potentially setting up a traded service for schools; utilising collaborative working & economies of scale without being a MAT. A working party will put together a model which will promote collaborative working whilst enabling schools to retain individual identities/budgets.

15. Governor update

- New Handbook & competency framework Jan 17, comments

All governors have received documents.

- Governor training record & feedback opportunity

Governor's commitment to training is clear. Governors reminded about producing reports after monitoring visits.

16. Correspondence

None.

17. AOB

Notional SEN Spending Plan tabled; to be brought back to next FGB meeting.

18. DONM

24/04/17

Meeting closed 9.20pm

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____