

THE GOVERNING BODY OF DIAMOND WOOD COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Minutes of a meeting of the Governing Body held at 5.00 pm at the school on Thursday 5th July 2018.

PRESENT

Mrs Claxton (Chair), Mr M Shires, Mrs L Whittaker, Mrs A Farrar, Mr A Marban, Ms Alderson.

In Attendance

Mrs K Brunier – Minute Clerk

2307. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr K Jones, Mrs Marriott-Mills. There were no declarations of interest.

2308. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

1. Awards
2. Summer Fair

2309. REPRESENTATION

2310. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th MAY 2018

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th May 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th JUNE 2018

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th June 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

2311. MATTERS ARISING

Page 798 –

- The Creative Event was really successful.
- Mr Jones to follow up on the grant for new keyboards.

Page 800 –

- Attainment levels of the pupils arriving/leaving will be on all future reports.

2312. MATHS PRESENTATION

Mr Mathew Shires provided an End of Academic Year Report 2017/18 that compared the Headline data for all the Year Groups with a comprehensive explanation the Key points. Points that must also be noted:

- A Gender Gap is forming in Early Years not only in Maths, but also in Reading and Writing as well – Girls are in front in all areas
- Both Reception and Year 2 have been externally moderated which supports the findings of our data analysis

Mrs Claxton asked if the data reflects a high proportion of boys who are new arrivals and who's first language is not English – Yes

To address this current trend the curriculum will be re-tooled for the new year with more outdoor, practical and real-life applications which will benefit the boys especially. – Mrs Claxton agreed with this strategy.

Current strategies will also continue, including the Brilliant Boys Group.

SDI Maths has proved to be a tremendous achievement in the way the school teaches Maths and continues to evolve and produce quality teaching. All students love to learn Maths.

Jess Fox will be the lead in Maths next year, supported by Sally Titherington. Mrs Claxton recommended getting involved with the Maths Hub to support Miss Fox.

Mrs Whittaker re-enforced that the external moderation helped to validate the data and that the moderators gave high praise for the quality of resources. The in-house resources are cost effective and they have 2 years of resources to use.

2313. PUPIL PERFORMANCE

2017-2018 EYFS and KS1 Data report was distributed. Figures will not be confirmed until September when the ASD publishes data. Page 1 shows we are on track, however new arrivals in school meant more work to accelerate learning but school's data is sound.

The school will continue to report about the Asian and Pakistan area even though it is no longer a national statistic, but it is important to school.

Reading – Girls are out performing boys which is a national issue but will look at how to narrow the gap in the development plan.

Writing – up 1% but depends on National data to see how well we have actually done.

Maths – the gender gap closes as the children gets older. This year's results show a drop of 10% which Yasmin will investigate

A second sheet comparing 2017 to 2018 results revealed:

- the results are only 2% away from the national average last year.
- the gap is closing
- writing shows that Boys are lower
- an upward trajectory but need to wait for national figures.

Mrs Claxton asked if the A3 sheet could be updated for September – Mrs Whittaker agreed.

Mrs Alderson asked moving forward what new areas will be developed? – Mrs Whittaker confirmed that the focus will be on the gender gap and the new arrivals into school.

Phonics

A handout comparing 2017 to 2018 results was discussed which confirmed that the exact same outcome had been achieved. However, the National average is 81% so there is still some way to go - with extra support for new arrivals they will reach their future potential.

The re-screening of Year 2 children raised the pass rate to 92%

Mrs Claxton said this was a fantastic outcome and all the governors passed on their thanks to the staff.

2314. REVIEW OF SDP 2017/18 AND SDP 2018/19 PRIORITIES

2017/18

A coloured coded document was distributed and discussed:

- Red – not achieved
- Amber – nearly achieved
- Green – achieved
- Not highlighted - is waiting for data

On page 7 the outcome was missed by 1% so not significantly worried.

Any further questions please email Mrs Whittaker who is happy to answer them.

2018/19

This plan focuses on 4 key priorities

1. Trying to change children's feelings and giving pupils a voice.
2. Increase engagement with parents especially with the use of translators.
3. Building on the strengths of the workforce including the support staff.
4. To develop creativity and skills to increase LEARNING.

Mrs Claxton thought the priorities especially the focus on Arts will develop children as a whole. Mrs Whittaker confirmed these priorities are exciting.

2315. HEAD TEACHERS REPORT

A report has been distributed to discuss:

- Number on roll – 20 new children in reception changed the class dynamics but the results are good.
- SEN – addressed at the last governors meeting.
- Attendance – a little disappointing that they are only predicted to be 94.5% and not the target of 96%. However, if extended leave was excluded, it would hit 96%. – A full report will be produced for September.
- Roof repairs are due to be finished next week.

2316. SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Farrar provided a report.

- 5 children will have protection plans from tomorrow.
- Transition is going really well.
- The training provided for parents on Prevent had to be cancelled due to poor attendance.
- Mrs Farrar is now a member of the Prevent panel which will benefit the school.
- Lesson plans have been developed and will be rolled out in September.
- Child Safety Day went really well.
- The school nurse has been retained for another year but dropped to 1 day due to budget cuts.

On every school visit Mrs Claxton reviews safeguarding with Mrs Farrar.

2317. REVIEW OF GOVERNING BOARD PERFORMANCE FOR YEAR

It was tricky to complete a review without a full cohort of governors, but we have had a positive and successful year. Attendance has been an issue and more visits to school would be welcome. If all governors made 1 visit per year and provides a report this would be a start. Mrs Alderson makes regular visits to schools and it was agreed these will be classed as governor visits. We need to attract new governors which is hard, but we need to keep trying. Mr Jones is also trying to strengthen the skills of the governors.

2318. GOVERNOR VISITS AND TRAINING

Mrs Farrar has been sent a list of courses and will circulate these to the governors; if anyone would like to attend one of the courses please book with Mrs Stead.

2319. AGREED DATES FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Everyone agreed that a Tuesday is the preferred day and Mrs Whittaker will email proposed dates to everyone.

Mr Shires resigned as a staff governor due to securing a new position, so a new staff governor will need to be elected.

2320. AOB

The school won 2 awards at the Huddersfield Examiner Awards:

- School Communication
- Inspirational Teacher

The TES Awards in London was amazing, but we didn't win any awards. – Thanks to Sally for writing the application.

Mrs Whittaker will drop the vegetable box that is in the final at the Great Yorkshire Show on Wednesday.

The school is now Tweeting news – please follow retweet and promote.

Summer Fair is Saturday 14th July – everyone is welcome.

Thankyou for your attendance.

2321. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of these minutes, agenda or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the school, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.