

Local Governing Body
Minutes of the Meeting
Held on 06 February 2018 at 3.00 pm

Present: Mary Sanders (MSS) - Chair, Lucy Scott (LST) - CEO, Rolf Purvis (RPS) - Headteacher
Andy Bullen (ABN), Andy Crumpton (ACN), Lynne Martin (LMN), Simon Prior (SPR),
Andy Rayner (ARR), Jeanette Redding (JRG), Helen Richings (HRS), Jim Warwick (JWK),
Lesley Waugh (LWH), Jacqueline Westrop (JWP), Susie White (SWE)

Also present: Deborah Pett (DPT) - Director of Assessment and Data,
Rose Cornelius (RCS) - Head of Science,
Martin Russell (MRL) - CCC Director of Finance and Resource,
Clare Hargraves (CHS) - CCC Acting Deputy Head

The Chair invited all to introduce themselves.

1. Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Sarah-Jane Napper and Brian Reeve-Hayes.
2. Declarations of Interest – there were none.
3. The minutes from the meeting of 07 December 2017 were signed as being a true record of the meeting.

4. LGB Roles and Responsibilities

The differences between responsibilities of a Trust Governing Body and those of a Local Governing Body were clarified by LST:

- The Trust Governing Body is responsible for all the schools within that Trust.
- In order to support the improvement process of the school, working on behalf of the whole cohort of students, LGBs:
 - monitor, question and understand the day to day running of the school, ensuring the policies in place are implemented appropriately and effectively
 - hold senior leaders to account
 - are very well informed about the school

Governors were invited to visit Chesterton Community College and also to join a Trust Governor meeting.

- JWK thanked everyone for the time and effort they were committing to the LGB and explained that all present were new to this process; Chesterton Community College had been one school before this Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) had been formed with DMA. He explained the background to the formation of the Trust and advised that LGBs were not common to all Trusts but that CET felt the LGBs were the 'eyes and ears' for the Trust Governors.
- As Ofsted Inspectors will expect to meet with members of the LGB, discussion took place about practice as to what Governors could expect to be questioned on, ensuring they have the knowledge needed. They were advised of two inspections; a KIT (Keeping In Touch) visit by the Cambridgeshire Local Authority which happened last week and an imminent DfE visit.

5. Data Training

- CHS explained that schools are measured primarily on Progress 8 (P8) scores. She explained how P8 figures are calculated, followed by a task to assist Governors in their understanding.
- Governors were given copies of the Inspection Data Summary Report; DMA being in the bottom quintile nationally, and CHS explained that Ofsted would investigate the highlighted areas in the next inspection.
 - An electronic copy of the Chesterton Inspection Data Summary Report – top quintile nationally - would be circulated after the meeting for comparison purposes.

Discussion took place as to the reasons why DMA was in this situation; inappropriate courses for students, wrong syllabuses/coursework, quality of teaching, quality of behaviour, high staff absence. Using the CCC (Chesterton Community College) processes, it was felt it could possibly be 2-3 years for DMA to reach the same level as CCC. CCC staff have been helping/challenging teaching; provision should be personalised for students to be able to focus, every child should be known and not looked at as a group. Year 10 predictions show significant improvements compared to last year.

6. Year 11 Data

DPT advised her responsibility for reports sent home to parents/carers, ensuring pupils are in the right classes/studying the correct subjects. The data produced had comparisons to that of CCC. ARR commented this was the best set of data which had been presented to Governors.

Governors were asked to contact either CHS or DPT if they needed any assistance with data.

7. Science Developments

RCS presented robust data and explained the battle within the department due primarily to a lack of consistent, quality teaching. Lots of new teachers were starting which would enable those underperforming to be challenged.

(ACN left the meeting at 4.35 pm)

RCS also informed the meeting that Year 11 9-5 grades were currently 24%, predicted to be 52% for the current Year 7 students.

She also made Governors aware that investment in furniture and aged labs was imminent.

8. Budget

MRL talked Governors through the draft budget 2017-2018 (pre-restructure) – copies of which were given to Governors - and the Income/Expenditure Report which had been forwarded in advance of the meeting. He explained the reasoning behind the drastic staffing re-structure the Academy was undergoing; comparing the expected financial savings between the two reports.

He also informed Governors of other monies which had been gained by the Trust on behalf of DMA and where these monies would be spent. Discussion took place around capital funding which Governors understood should have been passed to DMA by CWA – this had not appeared.

9 Any Other Business

- Governors were advised of Mr S Waters' resignation from the Team
- They agreed unanimously to the appointment of Simon Grapes (details had been sent in advance of the meeting) as a Community Governor.
- The date for October's meeting was changed to Wednesday 3rd 3.00 – 5.00 pm.
- It was agreed to allow up to 2 hours rather than 1½ hours for future meetings.

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm

This has been agreed as being a true record of the meeting

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Chair of Governors

Date: 8/5/18