

Local Governing Body  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Present: Mary Sanders (MSS) - Chair, Rolf Purvis (RPS) – Head teacher, Lucy Scott (LST) – CEO  
Simon Prior (SPR)- Vice Chair, Jim Warwick (JWK), Jeanette Redding (JRG), Lesley Waugh  
(LWH) and Lynne Martin (LMN)

Also present: Nick Hewitt (NHT), David Hewett (DHT) and Richard Auffret (RAT), Tracey Sendall (TSL)

1. **Apologies:** Helen Richings and Simon Grapes

2. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair –**

- Simon Prior nominated and elected as chair.
- Jeanette Redding nominated and elected as vice chair.
- RPS – Thanked MSS for her service as chair and looks forward to MSS continuing on the LGB as a member.

3. **Declarations of Interest - None**

4. **Minutes of the last Meeting**

- Were agreed as being an accurate account of the meeting and signed by SPR.

5. **Previous Year Financial Outcome – Tracey Sendall**

- TSL – handed the LGB the summary of the previous years account summary for the trust.
- TSL – Explained that the value of the trust had increased to assets £6.6 million. This is a result of the windows funded by the CIF grant and the works to the CCC building and the computer hub.
- TSL – Talked the LGB through the management summary account previously circulated.
- TSL – Explained that the difference in projections is that the main source of funding had dropped by £400,000.
- TSL – Explained that she would know the funding allocated for the next academic year by the end of March 2020.

6. **Faculty Update - History – Nick Hewitt**

- NHT – Explained that the GCSE outcomes for 2018/19 had significantly improved from 2017/18 and that there were no U grades.
- NHT – Told to LGB that the 5+ grades had increased by 13% and 7+ up by 4% and that the first 8 and 9 grades had been received.
- NHT – Informed the LGB that there had been significant staffing changes to the department adding 2 NQT's and 1 Lead Practitioner and that there was a more cohesive team with subject specialists providing much higher quality teaching.
- NHT – Explained that he felt the pass rate still was not high enough but that the CCC curriculum had now been fully implemented for KS4 and the KS3 curriculum had been updated to CCC standards.
- NHT – Stated that the new building has boosted the profile for History adding a dedicated history reference library.
- SPR – Asked NHT what the data for this years, Year 11 is indicating?

- NHT – Stated that the mock data at this stage was not all positive showing a 40% pass rate however in comparison to last year the data at the same stage showed only an 11% pass rate.
- JRG – Asked who the link governor was for History?
- SPR – Stated that link governors needed to be reviewed and could be discussed at the next meeting.

## **7. KS4 Curriculum – Richard Auffret**

- RAT – Explained that this year the focus has been to leverage outcomes for attainment and progress and develop a curriculum that inspires passion in the students. The raw outcomes for GCSE were good overall but progress 8 improvement is slower than wanted.
- RAT- Explained that there would be two subjects added this year to the KS4 curriculum, ancient history and Health and Social Care.
- RAT – Stated that the curriculum had been designed to prepare students for post 16 and beyond.
- RAT – Stated that the current IDSR showed that DMA was reaching 14 out of 17 subject clusters but by adding ancient history we would be meeting 15 out of 17.
- RAT – Stated that there was a languages action plan to increase uptake of MFL at GCSE level this included providing a much more positive experience of languages at KS3 level.
- RAT – Stated that there will be KS4 pathway appointments for year 9 students and parents where students will be encouraged to make more ambitious and challenging option choices.
- SPR – Asked RAT why there was a low expected English and Maths pass rate on his presentation?
- RAT – Stated that the change in KS2 SATS grading made it harder to predict so predictions at this stage were cautious.
- JRG- Asked RAT how predicted outcomes were calculated if there was no set formula?
- RAT - Stated that predictions were based on existing knowledge and using a formula similar to Fisher Family Trust.
- LWG – Asked RAT how the pathway assemblies were received?
- RAT- Responded that the assemblies were well received and that students were engaged and focused.

## **8. Exclusion Data – Rolf Purvis**

- RPS – Stated that there have to date been no permanent exclusions this academic year.
- SPR – Stated that there had been managed moves.
- RPS – Stated that there had been a drop of fixed term exclusions by 24% from 2018/19 to 2019/20.
- RPS – Also stated that there had been a reduction in the number of children excluded by 26%.

## **9. Report discussion – Behaviour Attendance Punctuality and Pastoral- Rolf Purvis**

- RPS – Stated that the total number of students sent to Isolation had reduced by 18% from 2018/19 to 2019/2020 and that the average number of students had dropped from 6.7 to 4.9.
- SPR – Asked if this reduction was due to staff management of behaviour or changes to student behaviour?
- RPS- Responded that this was neither that the changes to behaviour were a reflection of good quality teaching and students being fully engaged during lessons.
- JRG – Asked if there was still a high level of cover teaching?
- RPS – Responded that there were much fewer cover lessons.
- LWG – Stated that it was clear that students understood the behaviour policy and the steps taken.
- JRG – Stated that when she attended the academy there was a significant change and that there were no students walking around during lesson times.
- RPS – Stated that whilst there had been an improvement there was still work to be done and that with having new teachers, trainees and NQT's there will still be some to adjust to the behaviour policy.
- RPS- Stated that in regards to attendance the pastoral leads had worked closely with the attendance officer. There has been letters sent out to parents of students who persistently did not attend. But there was still work to be done.
- RPS – Stated that attendance had improved by 0.1% from 2018/19 to 2019/20.
- JRG – Stated that it was good to see an improvement of attendance for PP and SEN students.
- RPS – Stated that there had been 7 managed moves to different schools and that they had been successful and that 5 have arrived at DMA.

- SPR – Stated that it would be useful to see success rate of those who arrive at DMA and understand the reasons for those that fail and the trends for the next LGB meeting.
- JRG – Asked if the schools DMA are working with are happy?
- RPS – Stated that there was a good relationship with other schools.

#### **10. Headteachers report – Rolf Purvis**

- RPS- Stated that the headteachers report had been circulated prior to the LGB and asked for any questions?
- SPR – Stated that it was good to hear NHT explain that the NQT who needed additional support had been given this.
- RPS – Stated that it was very important to invest time in retaining staff and that he holds regular meetings with staff to give honest feedback.
- MSS- Asked about the mentioned NQT who resigned.
- RPS – Stated that the NQT had chosen to resign and was no longer teaching.
- SPR – Asked if there was a lot of work involved in training the trainee teachers?
- RPS- Stated that it was very important to invest in the trainees as they would be the future teachers at DMA.

#### **11. Safeguarding – Rolf Purvis/Mark Eastwood**

- MED – Stated that he had met with Helen Richings link governor recently and that his annual report would be delivered in the next meeting.
- JRG – Stated that she had a concern about students smoking whilst walking on Bexwell Road.
- RPS- Stated that duty staff would be made aware.

#### **12. Health and Safety – Rolf Purvis**

- RPS – Stated that there were no reportable incidents.
- RPS – Stated that the roofing works were ongoing and 40% complete.
- RPS – Stated that there was significant expenditure for replacing fire doors within the academy.
- RPS – Stated that there were still ongoing issues with the heating and that boiler issues were being looked at.
- RPS – Stated that there was an issue with damp in the boys' gym but this had now cleared up and been resolved.
- RPS – Stated that a successful lockdown drill had taken place.

#### **13. AOB**

- SPR – Asked if MFL could be put on the next agenda in place of Science.
- SPR – Stated that a governor skills audit should take place
- SPR – Provided an update on FODMA that it had raised £1500 to date
- LWG – Stated that £680 had been allocated to an outdoor table tennis table, £100 for post-16 SEN public transport training and funding for a visiting troop for drama GCSE students. It would be useful for other department heads to be made aware of the money potentially available to support non-core activities.

**SIGNED BY CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

*M Sanders*

**SIGNED**

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**MARY SANDERS**

**DATE 13.2.2020**