

Alexandra School

Minutes of a Full Local Governing Body Meeting

Held on Wednesday 8th March at 7.00pm

Parent Governors

+Mark Elmer (ME)
* David Hamilton (DH)
*Anand Pajpani (AP)

Teacher Representative

*Elena Burns (EB)
*Hannah Lawrence (HL)

Head of School

*Perdy Buchanan-Barrow

Community Governors

*Mrs Sue Stalley (SS) Chair
+Mr Barry Nolan (BN)
*Peter Horne (PH)
*Temple Rogers (TR)
Vice Chair

Non-Teaching Representative

+ Mrs Karen Stanton (KS)
*Sophia Gordon (SG)

Clerk

*Zareena Ullah (Clerk)

In attendance:

*Ivan Talbott (IT)

LEA Representative

+Mr Graham Henson (GH)

- * denotes present
- + denotes absent with apologies received and accepted
- denotes absent no apologies received or accepted

1. **Declaration of interest** – PH declared he was Chairman of the Turtles Swimming Club.
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting and matters arising** - PBB informed the governors that ME would draft a testimonial for Fronter.
SS said GH mentioned that Harrow is going to start a planting scheme as part of the Flood Programme which the school could get involved in. GH will keep the school informed of its progress.
The minutes were agreed and ratified.
3. **Minutes of the Operations Committee**
The minutes were agreed and ratified (as were the confidential minutes).
4. **Minutes of the Teaching & Learning Committee** – SS said the Committee looked at the work done on writing tasks. She commended HL on her ‘dragon’s egg’ concept and said it was an excellent way of engaging and inspiring the children to write.
PBB informed the governors that the school had a training day today ‘Talk for Writing’. The trainer was very good and staff evaluations are extremely positive.
The minutes were agreed and ratified.
5. **Sports Premium and Pupil Premium** – (see papers)
Sports Premium - PBB went through the School Sports Report. The school will have received approximately £8400 Sports Premium Funding by the end of this school year. Swimming is costly at around £9000. This is due to the fact that we have to hire a Harrow

minibus to transport the children. Although we do have our own minibus, it is a Variety minibus which means that only drivers who have a D1 on their license are allowed to drive it. Seven members of staff with D1 currently drive the minibus.

SS informed the governors that there are school minibuses available which don't require a D1. PBB said in the future when we need a new minibus we will look into getting one of these.

Other activities supported by the sports premium include:-

- Numberfit
- Fitness based after school clubs (yoga, trampolining and martial arts)
- Physiotherapy Group – movement
- Flamingo Chicks
- Bikeability training for year 5 & 6 pupils
- Sailing
- Get Active Sports Coaching
- Outdoor and Adventurous Activities week

PBB said at the beginning of the Summer Term we would like to encourage parent, staff and children to walk a 'daily mile' to promote health and wellbeing.

PH stated that historically we did a one-off project with sports premium funding for example the sports zone, trim trail. PBB said yes, but now the sports premium covers much more. PBB added that the sports premium will go on Fronter and on the school website.

SS asked if the sport premium was for all pupils. PBB said yes it was.

Pupil Premium – PBB informed the governors that we get a considerable amount of money from this and we would like to be more adventurous with it. We are currently investing pupil premium in resources for:

- Writing
- Number (core skills)
- The Nurture Room
- Mental health training and resources
- A large part of the Pupil Premium funds the Learning Mentors salary for work done with children and families.
- Elklan – a high level of staff are trained in communication and language support.
- Bucket Time training
- Play therapy provision directed towards certain children
- Extra- curricular activities
- Therapeutic transition support – led by music therapist from the Academy
- Parenting courses – Share a Story, Let's Get Cooking.

PH asked if the Pupil Premium was going to be a casualty of the new funding structure. PBB said that as far as she is aware, no one has said it is going yet.

AP asked – do parents know if their child is a Pupil Premium child? PBB most do. If a child receives free school meals, it is a good indicator that they will also be receiving pupil premium.

PBB informed the governors that the impact of this spending will be reviewed at the end of the school year.

6. Head of Schools Report

Item 1 – Academy and School News

- The Academy has appointed a new Director of Schools – Jariath O'Brien.

- CAHMS Future in Mind project continues at Alexandra. Unfortunately CAHMS were not successful in their bid to provide a new wellbeing service which launches in April. Barnardos will be providing that service and Alexandra will buy into it in September. PH asked if CAHMS still existed. PBB said yes, but they will not be providing the wellbeing service.
- LMT had a strategy day where they discussed the SDP and upcoming work on wellbeing and poverty.
- Alexandra hosted a Learning Walk for colleagues from mainstream schools last week.
- Flights and accommodation for the Year 6 trip to France have been booked.

Governors ratified the risk assessments for France and the Outdoor Adventure week in order for flights and accommodation for the Year 6 trip to France to be booked.

Item 2 – School Development Plan (SDP) - The SDP has been ragged twice since the last LGB meeting. Nine out of ten targets were ragged as green.

The Classroom Monitor (CM) assessment system remains orange. PH asked what CM was.

PBB explained it is a recording and reporting system for assessment data. The program analyses the data into reports etc. CM itself is good but their customer service lets it down. PBB said LMT will look into CM more effectively in the summer term.

Work continues across the school on all SDP targets. The next round of RAG ratings is due at the end of the term.

Item 3 – Pupils – We have 79 pupils on roll.

One pupil is currently being educated off-site by a home tuition service whilst Brent SENARS review his placement. PBB said Brent have been informed about the chosen provider of home tuition (9 hours over 3 days with 1 teacher and 1 teaching assistant) and we will pay for it as long as we continue to receive funding for this pupil from Brent. DH asked if we had any contact with this pupil. PBB stated we continue to have contact with mum via email and we have been sending him homework.

Item 4 – Staffing

- Elena Burns will be going on Maternity Leave.
- We have advertised for a maternity leave cover post.
- Toni Bennett (LSA) left at the end of the term
- Stephen Oliver (handyman) will be taking redundancy at the end of April.

Item 5 – Dates and Visits – We have 2 training days this term; Talk 4 Writing for staff and the Eden Academy Training day on 31/03/2017/

7. **Safeguarding** – SS informed the governors that GH has agreed to be the nominated safeguarding governor. IT went through his termly safeguarding report. PH commented that he had not known the school to have so many safeguarding issues before. SS commended IT for his hard work and commitment to safeguarding. PBB and PH agreed.
8. **Risk Register** – PBB went through the risk register. All risks remain amber (see paper).

9. Update from Academy – BN will provide an update at the next LGB meeting.

SS informed the governors that various Eden Directors were going to be responsible for liaising with different schools to arrange meetings with Chairs, teachers, non – teaching staff and parents however, these meetings have not happened yet.

DH said he and other Eden parents attended a group where Karen Deacon and Vanessa Hoch discussed communication within the Academy and within schools.

10. AOB – AP asked why international days aren't celebrated on the actual day. PBB said most are but for example, World Book day was celebrated on Friday instead of Thursday because as it involved dressing up, it was easier at the end of the week.

SS said she has noticed the willows whips in the wigwam and tunnel at the front of the school have grown considerably and asked if there was a way they could be tied in. PBB stated that we may be starting a project in the sensory garden soon which would take care of the willows.

AP mentioned that some large companies look to provide 'social value' so we could look to engage with them to help us with resources we need, volunteering etc.

PBB said that the Barclays Community Team have provided a similar service to the school for many years and will hopefully be coming again this year.

Meeting finished at 8.45pm

Date and time of next meeting – Wednesday 28th June 2017

Date of Meeting changed to Wednesday 21st June 2017 at 7pm

Signed.....*Susan Stalley*..... Chair of Governors

Dated.....*21st June 2017*.....