

Alexandra School

Minutes of Local Advisory Board Meeting

Held on Wednesday 4th July 2018 at 7.00pm

Community Members

*Sue Stalley (SS) Chair
*Barry Nolan (BN)
*Peter Horne (PH)
*Temple Rogers (TR)
+Graham Henson (GH)

Staff Members

* Simone Wright (SW)
+Sophia Gordon (SG)

In attendance:

Sudhi Pathak Director of
Operations and Finance

Parent Members

* David Hamilton (DH)
(Vice Chair)
* Anand Pajpani (AP)

Headteacher

*Perdy Buchanan-Barrow
(PBB)

Clerk

*Zareena Ullah (ZU)

* denotes present

+ denotes absent with apologies received and accepted

- denotes absent no apologies received or accepted

1. Declaration of interest – None

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising -

Matters Arising- SS said she is hoping that a LAB member will consider managing the Friends of Alexandra account. LAB to look at this again in September.

SS

The minutes were agreed and ratified

3. Budget 2018-19 - see report. Sudhi presented his report. He said it was an extract of the report that went to the BOD.

Sources of Funding – the main funding streams are:-

1. ESFA funding @ £10,000 per pupil
2. Top up fees - higher rate of £16,019 lower rate of £9,068
3. Pupil Premium
4. Other smaller grants
5. Capital Funding through a bid process to the ESFA
6. Other income raised by the school.

For 2018/19 Alexandra have a £51,023 surplus and a cash balance projection of £470,737. A healthy budget overall and the carry forward was not used.

DH stated that the budget for catering was very low. Sudhi said that it has been increased slightly. PBB said we do get some income from paying parents and the menu has been revised to provide nutritional meals at a low cost.

SS asked if children receive free school meals up to Year 2. PBB said yes Reception, Year 1 & 2 all received Universal Free School Meals.

SS thanked Sudhi for attending the meeting and for presenting his report.

4. Assessment Report – (see report by Catherine Holdsworth)

Progress in EYFS is outstanding in all prime areas of learning.

Progress during 2017-18 for individual children in year 1-6:-

- Progress in reading , science and speaking & listening is outstanding
- Progress in writing is good
- Progress in maths requires improvement. PBB said we will continue to develop Maths Mastery to build strong foundations in maths.

AP asked at what point in a pupils learning journey we would be worried about maths. PBB said children can make one step of progress in year one but the following year they may make 2 steps of progress. We normally look for targets of two steps.

BN stated in theory, once the foundations in Maths Mastery have been built on, progress will be shown in future years.

SW agreed, she said a solid base was being built with Maths Mastery and evidence of this is shown in lesson observations and in the children's maths books. This method of teaching maths came from Singapore

PBB added that as in all subjects we are really being rigorous in maths. Building on basic foundations is the right way to teach children, the benefits of which will be seen later.

BN asked if this way of teaching was echoed in other subjects. PBB said yes, we have Talk for Writing for literacy and Enquiry for Science .

TR stated that not everyone can attain the same level in maths. It is much more important to get a good grasp of basic maths. It is no good racing through the curriculum without having a concrete foundation.

Progress across Key Stage 2:-

- Outstanding in all areas.

Analysis of progress through EYFS 2017-18 - The majority of EYFS pupils are making outstanding progress in:-

- Personal, social & emotional development
- Physical development
- Communication & language (one child will be monitored carefully with the SALT team)

PBB said if a child is making less than 3 steps progress then improvement is required.

Analysis of within year progress 2017-18

- Reading is outstanding
- Speaking & listening is outstanding
- Science is outstanding
- Writing is good
- Number requires improvement

TR asked how long it took Catherine to do the analysis. PBB said it was quite difficult to quantify but she does this analysis exceptionally well as Assessment Lead.

The LAB members commended the work done by Catherine in producing this report.

5. **Headteacher's Report** – (see paper)

PBB said she presented the Alexandra Goals 2017-18 to the BOT and has used these for her headteachers report.

In summary – Ten goals, 9 ragged green and maths ragged amber because we are working on Maths Mastery to build core skills.

PBB said she is happy with the progress made this year.

Last year we predicted 3 main challenges :-

- **Efficient use of the budget** – Feedback from the Eden Finance Team and our healthy budget indicates that this challenge is being met.
- **Make and maintain links with other schools and boroughs** – this continues. We attend the Harrow Sencos forum, SEN panels; provide outreach programmes to mainstream schools; moderation of assessments with other local schools etc.
- **Continue to promote the school** with parent tours and marketing of the school – we are seeking parent testimonials from current Alexandra parents.

Goals for 2018-19 :-

- **Play** - a recent staff survey highlighted play as an initiative. We will explore the benefits of learning through play.
- **Teaching** – we have a strong teaching team at Alexandra and we want to develop excellent teaching through the promotion of professional learning communities.
- **Safeguarding** - To maintain a robust and effective safeguarding system. Behaviour Watch will be used from September.
- **LSA's** – To maintain a strong and skilled LSA team – we have had a large turnover but we have a strong team.
- **Maths** - To deepen our pupils understanding of mathematical concepts.
- **Computing** – to revise and develop the computing curriculum. This was last revised in 2014.
- **Reporting Progress** - To streamline and coordinate the process of reporting on progress.
- **Mental Health** – To support pupils and families to foster good mental health as a springboard for learning.
- **OT**– to develop and support the provision for children with physical and sensory needs in association with OT
- **Leadership** – to distribute leadership, forging teams to ensure the schools systems continue to be well considered and efficient.

6. **Safeguarding Report** – (see Paper)

7. **Feedback from LAB** – BN informed the LAB that the Eden Academy will be expanding from 5 schools to 7 on the 1st of September 2018. The Eden Academy are creating a Northern Hub with Hexham Priory in Northumberland and James Rennie in Carlisle. Both schools are Ofsted outstanding and are PMLD all through schools. BN said they will learn a lot from us and we will learn a lot from them through sharing skills and best practice.

8. **AOB** – DH said he joined Goslings on the Forest School open learning and it was very good.

On behalf of the LAB, SS said a big thank you to the 4 members of staff who went on the France Trip.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Date and time of next meeting – Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 7pm

Signed..... Chair of Local Advisory Board

Dated.....