



ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 26th September 2023

Time: 6pm

Venue: Hazel Grove High School – New Library

Clerk: C Whitehead

Present: J Butler, S Blades, G Vout, M Stewart, B Vickers, A Phillips, C Franklin, S Warner
A Bentley

Action		Initials
1	Governors were asked to report any changes to their Register of Business Interests to the Clerk	All
2	Governors were asked to review and approve the Attendance Policy	All
3	Governors were asked to inform the Clerk of any training they had completed	All

Agenda – Part 1				
Category	Item	Notes	Action	
1	Governance Arrangements	Apologies	R Kumar	
		Register of interests	Governors were asked to report any changes in their records held to the Clerk	All
		Part 1 Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held 26 th June 2023 were approved and there were no matters arising.	All
		Membership: Election of Chair and Vice Chair	The governors voted for the chair and deputy. S Blades was unanimously voted to serve another term as chair and A Bentley as deputy for another term.	All
		Scheme of Delegation	There were no changes to the Scheme of Delegation to note.	
		Trust Board Meeting Summary	Governors were provided with Trust Board updates from the May and July 2023 meetings as part of the pre-meeting reading material. AB Q: Will there be a Trust environmental policy? There is not to be a policy focussed on this subject	

2	School Performance & Accountability	Tour of Sixth Form building	The governors were given a guided tour of the sixth form building, two current Year 12 students hosted the tour and showed round the auditorium, classrooms, study centre and refectory. The governors were very impressed with the building and with the student's enthusiasm for their workspace and work.	
		School development plan priorities	SB Q: are we are optimal size number of students versus funds per student? MS advised Hazel Grove High School has been a Trust member for four years and noted the growth of the Trust within that time. MS noted to the Governors the Trust executive team as per scheme of delegation and advised that the Central team is now established with new Heads in schools interested to know Trust long-term aspirations.	
		Review Head of School's Report	B Vickers gave an overview of the Key Stage 4 headlines 2023, the Year 9 Languages Headlines 2023, attendance and our new Sixth Form <i>Key Stage 4 headlines</i> This summer the students sat GCSE exams for the second year following the cancellation of exams in 2020 and 2021. The government and Ofqual have overseen a return to pre-pandemic grading. MS advised the Governors overall we were disappointed based on the data from the national context, we did not predict grade boundaries would be so different. The Sixth Form criteria didn't have an impact, but was a concern how we ensure the extent of normality now to accurately report on data. BV advised we always want a little bit more of a national picture as academic standards are challenging and vigorous. The Governors were talked through the data from the report.	

		<p>Review Head of School's Report (cont.)</p>	<p>B Vickers advised that they will be taking September 23 lessons learnt for 2024 with Heads of department to look through the grade boundaries, if students have missed the boundary by two marks then this can be reviewed. One expectation around analysis is the Teacher Assessed Grade and the Mock results, the Heads of Department and leadership have been tasked to look through pupils data to see patterns. Once this is established we will then analyse through Bromcom with the Head of department during a Fireside meeting with MS. They will then discuss the data performance and present and the Year 11 plan with adaptations to lessons or extra support for students. There will be a discussion around updating the Year 11 plan with key days to determine any patterns we can link to focus on Year 11.</p> <p><i>Year 9 languages Headlines</i></p> <p>This Year 9 language headlines saw 232 Year 9 students sitting their Language GCSE as well as a small cohort of Year 11 students sitting another language. The data showed that the HGHS students grade attainment was significantly higher than the National statistics. The Governors were very pleased, with SW commenting that the results were even better as they were from Years 9 students.</p> <p><i>Attendance</i></p> <p>MS advised the Governors that HGHS staff looked at data from 2019 and at every measure we have increased and the school has moved on more attendance behaviour. There are post-pandemic factors which could have effected how students could have done differently. Staff worked really hard and have been a credit to the school as they couldn't have done differently. We know we have to be significantly aware what is going to change and need to ask, what is it going to take to change this? The national average hasn't moved. Attainment 8 is as same as last year 10% more than the year before. We need to look at how to bridge the gap and review the league table when it becomes available.</p> <p>C Franklin explained to the Governors that the attendance data is not much different this year however it is significantly less then want. The next step is to work with our new attendance officer, alongside the pastoral department and SLT to input and implement interventions when required. There has been a trend in post covid attendance making it perceived to be easier for students to stay at home. There is a system in place</p>	
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			<p>which includes home visits and more letters. With now two Assistant Heads of Year we can track and intervene more vigorously and with the attendance policy rectified during this meeting we can implement this.</p> <p>GV Q: Is there a Covid hangover in relation to attendance?</p> <p>There is a concern about the level of absence, most worryingly year 11. There is a concern that outcomes play out leading to attainment. The focus is on the whole school, with staff and the newly ratified policy to look at issues with persistent attendance. Most students can be worked with outcome attendance links ongoing challenge mental health behaviour issues. We have changed the internal structure to try to support that data. We are also looking at students who require alternative provisions to tap into other provisions and diversify to a wider field to find assistance. We are now wanting to build resilience for students, with a pre-Covid expectation to be in class and re-energise as normal. We are using step out passes and then staff can monitor this usage.</p> <p><i>Sixth Form</i></p> <p>MS advised the Governors, we have 45 brilliant students, some staying on from high school and others for other schools. We are pleased more have stayed with us and have shown their loyalty to HGHS especially as the building was not ready until the summer. Staff have big smiles on their faces planning and teaching in the classrooms. The current students have demonstrated as an aspirational target for other year groups, with students aspiring to work harder to be able to secure their own place and meet the entrance criteria. Apertura students have similar aspirations and so the goal is to inspire as many students as possible. Some might want different experience outside of the school but we have shown what we have. MS advised we have several more Trust Curriculum Directors which is even broader in terms of impact.</p>	
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3	Governor Monitoring	Finance Update	<p>This document was shared with the ACM as part of the pre-meeting reading.</p> <p>The Governors discussed the impact of covering lessons and using agencies, with MS discussing recent recruitment and staffing management strategies.</p> <p>TP asked if the sixth form could be booked for external events. MS advised this is not something we are looking to do at present but is not in the realms of possibility.</p>	
		Policies	Governors were asked to Review and Approve the Attendance policy.	All
		Safeguarding and SEND link Governor RovS	C Whitehead asked the link Governors to start using the Review of Visit form template to document their visits from this academic year onwards.	SW & AB
4	Governor Development	Review governor training plan	SB reminded all the governors to review the training schedule for the year and to complete any training required.	All
5	Community	Stakeholder Engagement	The Governors discussed the opportunities throughout the year in which they can provide engagement to.	All
6	AOB		T Phillips kindly agreed to support the Governors until final recruitment election progresses with staff next week	
	Meeting Dates:	<p>ACM 2: Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 6pm</p> <p>ACM 3: Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 6pm</p> <p>ACM 4: Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 6pm</p>		All

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes
Governors were impressed with the Sixth Form and enjoyed being shown around by current Year 12 students
S Blades and A Bentley were voted as Chair and Vice Chair for another term of office
The Attendance Policy was reviewed and approved

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

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