



ACADEMY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 5th March 2024
Time: 6.00pm
Venue: Hazel Grove High School

Clerk: A Parker
Present: M Stewart, S Blades, A Bentley, D Browne, G Vout, J Butler, R Kumar, J Vickers, C Franklin, G Street

Action		Initials
1	Governors were asked to report any changes to their Register of Business Interests to the Clerk	ALL
2	MS to speak to LW about co-opting next Governor	MS
3	Prevent Training to be completed before next ACM	ALL
4	Clerk to send out Prevent Training link	AP
5	Government Plan for Sustainability to be added to agenda for ACM4	AP/MS
6	To complete SEND visit proforma and return to Clerk	AB

Agenda – Part 1			
Category	Item	Notes	Action
1	Governance Arrangements	<p>G Street, Head of Business and Careers Enterprise – Lead for CEIAG presented to the AC an overview of careers education at HGHS and across the Trust.</p> <p>Careers at HGHS...</p> <p>“All students have an equal entitlement to high quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance at Laurus schools that helps to prepare them for choices and transitions affecting their future education, training and employment.”</p> <p>All Laurus Trust schools follow the LT Baseline Careers Plan.</p> <p>Although not mandated by Ofsted the school is using the Gatsby Good Careers Benchmarks, focusing particularly on ‘Linking curriculum learning to careers’.</p> <p>Q – Employment is constantly changing, some sectors are pulling back, some are developing. Are you managing to monitor this?</p> <p>A – We have labour market information which we share</p>	

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			with students and parents, but for this reason we focus on building transferable workplace skills.	
		Apologies	There were no apologies for this meeting. S Warner did not attend.	
		AOB items	R Kumar advised Governors that it was his intention to resign from the Academy Committee. The Chair offered thanks to RK for his support of HGHS. R Kumar to continue to work with the Trust as Science and Careers Trust Lead.	
		Register of Interests	Governors were asked to report any changes in their records held to the Clerk	All
		Code of Conduct	There were no changes to note to the code of conduct.	Noted and agreed
		Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of the meeting held 15 th January 2024 were approved as a correct record of the meeting and there were no matters arising.	Agree
		Membership: Recruitment update/Succession planning	M Stewart to speak to L Woolley about looking to co-opt next Governor.	MS
		Scheme of Delegation	Governors attention was drawn to the Financial Scheme of Delegation which was updated following the Finance and Resources meeting in December 2023.	Noted
		Trust Board updates	Governors were provided with Trust Board updates from the November 2023 meeting. Governors did not have any questions relating to the report. GV commented that the Trust is growing, it was confirmed another Primary School has requested to join.	
2	School Performance & Accountability	School Development Plan Priorities	MS explained the purpose of the School Development Plan is a constant check of where the school is. It sets targets out at the start of the academic year and is continually checked throughout the school year. It gives an idea of where the school is at and what they are working towards. It triggers actions from the leadership team and from the various departments, leading to individual actions across the school.	

		Ensure delivery of School Curricula and Assessment is in line with Trust's approach	MS confirmed the school curriculum and assessment was in line with all other schools in the Trust.	
		Review Head's Report	<p>Governors received Head of School Report. MS presented the report.</p> <p>Sixth Form External Offer morning was a success with 46 external students attending. The majority were from Bramhall and LCH, but with some further afield from Chapel and Hayfield. The Sixth Form is growing and the school wants to build on this. MS commented that the students that are applying, both internally and externally are the right type of students.</p> <p>Q – Do you get formal feedback from the Sixth Formers about what they think works and what doesn't? A – There is currently a Sixth Form Cabinet that feedback but we want to get stronger with this and would consider student surveys in the future,</p>	
3	Governor Monitoring	Finance update including pupil numbers, bench marking and value for money	<p>Governors reviewed the January 2024 Management Accounts.</p> <p>GV commented that teaching costs are high. MS agreed teaching costs were high, but are not as high as they were when the school joined the Trust. High costs were attributed to a combination of having some long term absences and also having a more experienced, therefore expensive staff.</p> <p>It was noted that reserves are low but this was attributed to the new Sixth Form and the plan is to grow reserves as the Sixth Form grows.</p>	
		Risk Register	<p>Governors received the school Risk Register.</p> <p>The biggest concern is recruitment. The school is still getting applicants but it is noticeably harder and in some subjects the quality of the candidates is not there. Science and Maths are particularly challenging. PE, Drama and Art have traditionally been easier, but these too are feeling the pinch of the recruitment crisis. This has been discussed with other Secondary Schools and is the same across the</p>	

			<p>board. It is unpredictable and we don't know where it will be next year.</p> <p>Q – How many open positions are there?</p> <p>A – Currently there are positions for Head of Geography, Science, B&V and two cover supervisors.</p> <p>Q – What is teacher retention like?</p> <p>A – That has not changed significantly. With regards to LSA's we are fully staffed and traditionally these positions are usually the hardest to fill.</p> <p>The next cohort of Year 7 is full.</p> <p>Laurus Grace – building work will start in the summer term and continue over the holidays and for the next 12-18 months. Will need to manage the impact on students' education and also our neighbours.</p>	
		Policies	Governors <u>approved</u> the Intimate Care Policy.	
		Ensure curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance	MS confirmed curriculum policies are in line with statutory guidance.	
		Safeguarding and SEND Link governor updates (if meetings have been held)	<p>AB updated Governors that he had recently completed a SEND link visit. He had observed interventions taking place and had met students. He had been impressed with the changes in provision and noted the stable staffing of the SEND department and the work done to keep students on their learning paths. AB to complete the proforma for the visit and send to the Clerk.</p> <p>GV updated Governors that in the absence of SW he had agreed to deputise as Safeguarding Link Governor. He has recently visited school and reviewed the SCR, which he found to be very thorough and impressive.</p>	AB

		Monitor Pupil Premium, Catch up and Sport Premium spending	Was reviewed at ACM 2.	
4	Governor Development	Review Governor Training plan – GDPR/PDC/Ofsted training	Prevent Training to be completed before next ACM.	ALL
		Minute any training undertaken by Governors since the last meeting	J Butler- Pupil Premium and Prevents training completed.	
5	Community Engagement	Stakeholder engagement – verbal update (Staff/parents/students/Governors)	The school performance of Wizard of Oz took place over three evenings. It was a huge production with amazing feedback from parents/carers. A huge amount of credit goes to the staff and students for all their hard work and for making the show such a success. Governor GV and RK who attended commented on the professionalism of all involved, not just the performers but also the technical and musical assistance.	
	AOB		DB raised the issue of recycling at the school and as a school are we ‘practicing what we preach’. It was noted that paper is recycled as are plastic bottles in the canteen but that more recycling bins for plastic are needed around the hub, outside and in classrooms. MS suggested adding the Governments Plan for Sustainability to the agenda for ACM4.	
	Meeting Dates:	Meeting dates 2024	ACM4 Tuesday 25 June at 6.00pm	

Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes
The Intimate Care Policy was approved by Governors
Governors reviewed the Management Accounts January 2024
The School Risk Register was reviewed
Governors reviewed the Head of School Report
Governors Reviewed the Trust Board Report November 2023
The School Development Plan was considered.
Minutes of 15 th January 2024 were agreed.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm



Steve Blades
Chair of Academy Committee
08.07.2024

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