

LIONEL WALDEN SCHOOL

Minutes of a meeting of the Lionel Walden School Governing Body held on Wednesday, 13th November, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at the school.

Present: J. Dale (Chairman), S. A. Barnard-Taylor, D. Barron, C. Buckle,
V. Cronin, R. Lehner-Mear, A. Naughton, K. Naughton.

Apologies for absence were received from M. Dunham and K. Robinson.

The Governing Body ratified Andy Naughton's nomination to stand for another 4 year term as a LEA Governor.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

All Governors present declared that they had no pecuniary interests in the matters being discussed.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September, 2014 were approved and signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Published Admission Number (PAN)

Following the Governing Body's application to reduce the school's Published Admission Number, a letter of acknowledgement has been received from the Local Authority. The request will be included within the Annual Consultation of Admission Arrangements for Admissions in September, 2015. There will now be a period of consultation of 8 weeks when the Local Authority will consult with other schools for their comments on any impact this proposed reduction may have. The result will be notified no later than 1st May.

HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

This had been circulated prior to the meeting and matters arising from it were discussed:-

- The Governor Data Dashboard and RAISEOnLine documents have recently been made available and had been circulated to Governors before the meeting. This is the latest set of data for the school and is designed for in-school analysis. Each set of Key Stage data for 2013 has been analysed. The Year 1 phonics test shows a 91% success rate, with just two children not achieving the expected standard. One child was absent and will re-take the test in Year 2. The Key Stage 1 assessment results were very positive. There is a lot of analysis available on the Key Stage 2 data, which shows that we are in the top 17% of schools overall. Breaking each down each subject, we are in the top 6% for Reading, in the top 14% for Writing and the top 32% for Maths. It has been identified that we need to concentrate on Maths as two children did not make two levels progress.

- The Headteacher's Performance Management review has taken place and one of the targets identified is to improve pupil progress in Maths and maintain high levels of attainment.
- Teaching Staff – One member of the teaching staff has met the standards for the threshold and the Upper Pay Spine.
- Property Management – Concerns were expressed about the lack of service from Atkins. Serious discussions need to be held about whether or not we continue using this company. It was agreed to put this on the Agenda for the next meeting.
- Our application to become a Teaching School has been submitted and the outcome of this should be known by 17th March.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Minutes from the recent Finance Committee meeting had been circulated. The Chair of Finance, Mr. Naughton, went through each point in detail.

- The financial figures to the half year ending September, 2013 had been discussed in depth and all budgets are on track. Miscellaneous income includes income gained from our support work at Guyhirn. The NLE budget covers the funding from the school's work as a National Leader of Education, supporting other schools in the area. We are involved in various support projects which bring in additional income to the school and which give our staff professional development opportunities. For example, we are involved in developing a writing cluster project with staff at All Saints Academy in March.
- Pupil premium funding has been budgeted at £34,000; however, we might not receive the full amount as a couple of children have left who were originally included in the figures.
- Capital expenditure – various items had been included in the capital expenditure plan for this year. It has been decided not to proceed with replacement LED lighting throughout the school, as it is too costly. Quotes have been received to increase the cooking capacity in the school kitchen, which are very expensive. However since this item was included on the plan, the Government has announced that every Foundation and Key Stage 1 child will be provided with free school meals as from next September. It was thought that to be able to provide these meals, some capital investment should be provided.
- Guyhirn – Our support work at Guyhirn Primary School is much more complex and time consuming than at first thought. Improvement advisers from the Local Authority are still visiting most days. Staffing at the school is a major issue. The next initiative is to appoint an Assistant Head to give the school some long term leadership. The plan is for Mrs. Barnard-Taylor to be at Guyhirn no longer than May, 2014 half term. It has been suggested that perhaps a couple of our Governors attend the next Guyhirn Governing Body meeting on 5th December.
- In view of the amount of time that Mrs. Barnard-Taylor is spending at Guyhirn, it was proposed that an Acting Deputy Headteacher be appointed at Lionel Walden. This position would be advertised internally,

with applicants applying by letter. This was agreed by all those present at the meeting.

- Taking into account all the initiatives the school is currently involved in, particularly in respect of our support work with other schools, and the reduction in staffing levels due to Sue Carter's retirement, it has been proposed that another teacher be employed from September, 2014. Due to the fact that we are receiving significant funding as a result of support work, it was agreed that it was sensible to employ another teacher.

READING FOR PLEASURE

A Reading for Pleasure statement has been drawn up and circulated, detailing the school's aims to develop and embed a strong, sustainable reading culture within the school community. The Governing Body adopted this statement.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday, 5th February, 2014 at 7.30 p.m. at the school.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m.

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Chair

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Date