

Gresham Village School and Nursery

FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING

Monday 11th July 2022 at 19:00

MINUTES

Present

Chris Hunter – Chair	CH	Sarah Rankin – Clerk	SR
Marc Goodliffe – Head	MG		
Liz Wheeler	LW		
Alice Vargo	AV		
Steve Balmer-Walters	SB-W		
Becky Dunnett	BD		

ACTIONS challenges DECISIONS

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS

	ACTIONS
CH stepped in as Chair and welcomed Governors to the meeting. There were apologies from GS, RB and SMcD. There were no declarations	

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21st March 2022 AND MATTERS ARISING

	ACTIONS
The minutes were checked for accuracy and approved.	
<p>Matters arising:</p> <p><u>Car Park:</u> MG has met with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council regarding use of the village hall car park at drop off and pick up times. This will now be raised at the next Village Hall Committee meeting in August.</p> <p>MG reported that potentially dangerous parking at the crossroads is being monitored. Governors questioned whether a crossing might solve the problem. MG advised that a lollipop person was an option but that the cost would have to be funded by the school.</p> <p>MG noted that bays may be added to the car park to ease the parking issue.</p>	
<u>Skills audit:</u> Outstanding forms were chased. Skills audit data will be analysed early next academic year.	

3. HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

	ACTIONS
<p>The Headteacher reported that, despite a most challenging year with regard to staff and pupil absence and continuing restrictions, the school has made huge amounts of progress. MG was pleased to report that all the curriculum intent is coming into fruition and that children's quality of work and outcomes are very much improved. This was supported by a very positive Ofsted visit earlier in the year. MG observed that the next step is to set new goals and milestones for the coming year.</p>	
<p>Evaluation of SIDP:</p> <p>Priority 1: Ensure that following the school closure our children recover swiftly to the academic standards expected for their ages: <i>Almost complete</i></p>	
<p>Priority 2: Fully implement the school curriculum in all phases, including Early Years, so the impact of the school curriculum is evident in children's outcomes: <i>Achieved.</i></p>	
<p>Priority 3: Ensure teaching in all phases and subjects is consistently well sequenced and focused clearly on deepening children's knowledge and understanding across the curriculum: <i>Highly successful and effective in achieving this. VNET and Ofsted reports reflect really good teaching going on.</i></p>	
<p>Priority 4: Develop school leadership and leadership systems: <i>partially successful</i></p> <p>Governors noted that this priority needs a lot of the Headteacher's input and therefore time. MG advised that his teaching commitments are reduced for the forthcoming year.</p>	
<p>Priority 5: Develop and implement a whole school Emotional Health and Wellbeing policy: <i>partially achieved.</i></p>	
<p>Curriculum Development: MG advised that a really strong curriculum has been created for next year, and that staff are knowledgeable and well supported. However, the government's recently published white paper encouraged MATS to share the curriculum rather than each school building its own. It was noted that the Trust's view is that this would be sensible in order to strengthen subject leadership, monitoring and training. MG reported that he sits on the Head's Committee who are researching suitable curricula and is keen to ensure the curriculum chosen is right for GVSN. Governors asked how this compares with other Trusts. MG confirmed that other Trusts are also going through the process of researching options.</p>	
<p>Staffing and class structure: Detailed in the HT's report. A SENDCo has now been recruited. Karen Nice is a recently qualified SENDCo who will be receiving plenty support and mentoring from the Trust. There were no questions from Governors.</p>	
<p>National assessment results: The Trust School by School 2022 outcomes document was tabled at the meeting. KS2 writing was looked at in depth by the LGB due to low outcomes following moderation. MG circulated some year 6 books to show Governors what the outcome 'working towards' looks like.</p>	

<p>The strengths and weaknesses of the moderation process were discussed. Inconsistent punctuation was observed which suggested an issue in KS1 and early KS2. MG reported that the writing strategy has been brought in to address this. It was also noted that there are three children in Year 6 who are dyslexic which will affect the data. Governors suggested that the school liaise with higher achieving schools in the Trust, such as Bawdeswell and Litcham to see what teaching strategies are being used. In addition, Governors suggested visiting successful schools outside the county. This was agreed to be a good idea, and the HT will make contact again with the school in Hackney. Governors asked whether the moderator could come to the school to explain the outcome to the LGB. MG advised that one of the moderators is the English Lead at the Trust, so this could easily be arranged.</p>	
<p>SIDP 22-24: MG advised that there will be 5 objectives in the three-year plan. <u>Priorities 1 and 2</u> will focus on increased capacity and structures. An Assistant Head or two TLRs may be required. The building is now at capacity with all rooms in use and the hall being used for storage. The school is in consultation with the Trust regarding space issues. <u>Priority 3:</u> Quality of Education and shared curriculum. <u>Priority 4:</u> Improve the teaching of core subjects so outcomes are consistently high. <u>Priority 5:</u> Fully implement, evaluate and improve the emotional wellbeing and anti-racism policy. Governors asked how the teachers feel about the direction of the school. MG confirmed that staff are kept informed through regular meetings and all staff are encouraged to give their opinions, ideas and thoughts.</p>	

4. WELLBEING UPDATE

	ACTIONS
<p>BD reported on her attendance at the Synergy Wellbeing Forum lead by Rob Martlew, held at Astley primary school. This gave BD the opportunity to meet with other wellbeing leads across the Trust. BD reported that the Trust has formally adopted the Wellbeing Charter, and that a Trust-wide Inset day will take place on 6th September focussing on wellbeing and that Governors are invited to attend. The Trust are also carrying out a Trust-wide staff wellbeing survey.</p> <p>Governors were pleased to note the Trust's focus on staff wellbeing. BD noted that the staff wellbeing board has now been set up, along with a staff Whatsapp group. Staff have also been allocated check in buddies.</p>	

5. POLICIES

	ACTIONS
MG presented two major policies which will sit alongside the safeguarding, behaviour and anti-bullying policies. It is hoped these new policies will be implemented in full next year.	
Emotional Health and wellbeing: this policy has two parts. The first part focuses on prevention and the second part on identification and support. Governors were pleased with this policy as a starting point.	
<p>Anti-racism and discrimination: MG stressed the need to raise the profile to the same level as anti-bullying. The need to ensure the children are able to function in modern Britain was stressed. The following actions will be carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MG will audit books across the school to ensure diversity is reflected • MG will look at the resources held at the school in Hackney where a diversity curriculum is in place • MG will look to forge links with partner schools across the UK and potentially across the world to widen children's experience. • Work will take place to challenge staff perceptions and white-centric viewpoints • Governors will monitor the implementation of the policy. <p>LW reported on a valuable training attended on 'Race, Equality and Diversity' where considerable resources and contacts were shared.</p>	MG
<p>The following Trust policies were circulated for information only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety • Ordinary Paternity Leave and pay – adoption • Ordinary paternity leave and pay – birth • Parental leave guidance and application form • Shared parental leave – adoption • Shared parental leave – birth • Summary of maternity leave and pay for all employees 	

6. SAFEGUARDING

	ACTIONS
<p>The Annual Safeguarding Report was circulated in advance of the meeting, along with CH's safeguarding report of 28th June.</p> <p>CH reported that the move to CPOMS (Child Protection Online Management System) has been successful and positive, with the SCR moving over currently. Nothing further to report.</p>	

7. SEND

	ACTIONS
<p>The annual report produced by the SENDCo was circulated in advance of the meeting. The SEND governor reported on the progress made since the last report and evidence that interventions and monitoring are taking place. Time spent in lessons observing and talking to the children has been extremely valuable. The school has now joined the Trust SEND network. The importance of SEND being a top focus was discussed which will filter down through the school and have an impact on all children's wellbeing.</p> <p>The HT noted that SEND provision was endorsed by the recent Ofsted visit.</p>	

8. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

	ACTIONS
Outstanding. MG and SMcD will work on this and circulate by email.	MG/SMcD

9. GOVERNOR TERM RENEWAL

	ACTIONS
<p>SMcD has kindly agreed to renew her term of office for a further four years.</p> <p>CH will renew his term and review every year.</p> <p>Both were thanked for their ongoing support to the school.</p>	

10. CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE TRUST

	ACTIONS
<p>The Clerk advised Governors that the current Headteacher of Sheringham High School is leaving at the end of this academic year. A new Head, Alastair Ogle, has been recruited. Mr Ogle is currently Head at Alderman Peel High school in Wells. The Clerk also advised that there are spaces for two Community Governors at Sheringham High School, and questioned whether there might be anyone within the GVSN community who might be interested in finding out more. MG asked the Clerk for details to circulate in the newsletter to parents.</p>	SR

11. MEETING EVALUATION

	ACTIONS
<p>Have the agenda timings helped the meeting run more efficiently? Governors felt that the timings did help, but that more time needs to be allocated to the Headteacher's report. The importance of governors reading the papers in advance of the meeting was flagged.</p>	



13. A.O.B.

	ACTIONS
None.	

With no further business the meeting closed at 21:00

Date of next meeting: tbc