



. Yewstock School

Full Governing Board Meeting

Monday 30th of January 2023

Meeting started at 5.02pm

Clive Padgett, Peter Bush, Phil Ryall, Mark Hughes, Sue Lauterwasser, Lucy Ross, & Pete Lagden,
Seonaid Walton, Mandy Morgan & Jeanette Rogers

Also present – Chris Chadwick

Clerk

Vanessa Burton

Apologies

Linda Caride

PL welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first of 2023.

Minutes of the last Meeting

PL confirmed that everyone had read the minutes and that there were no outstanding actions.

Agreed as a true copy and signed off.

Report from the Finance Committee

- PB briefed the committee regarding work that was currently taking place on site and planned for the future. The cost of which totalled £50,000
- The School Business Manager led the committee through the Budget which indicated very few changes. However, potential staff pay rises could have a significant affect.
- The school site is in very good shape and looking very presentable which supports a positive working and learning environment for staff and pupils.
- A Financial Control Checklist was carried out and no concerns were highlighted.
- BT led the committee through the Disaster Recovery Plan which had needed some updates.
- CP talked the committee through the analysis of teacher targets.
- PL said that everyone was awaiting the results of the Government Spending Plan

Report from the Curriculum Committee

- The committee received a Subject Leader Report from Caroline Latimer for Maths which gave the following information;
 1. The Subject is very well resourced.
 2. The Maths Curriculum has been reviewed to challenge and stretch more able pupils.
 3. CP said that CL is a model Subject Leader who performed really well during a recent visit with the School's Improvement Partners.

- CC delivered a report on Pupil Premium which was very detailed.
- Feedback was given to the committee following a visit from the School's Improvement Partners, who met with a selection of subject leaders and were impressed with their knowledge of their subjects and how well they performed under scrutiny. CP added that teaching and learning had been graded as Good/Outstanding.
- CC took the committee through the new Curriculum Brochure and highlighted updates to the school website.

Head teacher's Report to Governors

- There are currently 165 pupils on roll. All places for September have been allocated. There were 14 places and 85 applicants. CP said as such Tribunals would be possible in the summer term. Discussion around this took place and ***MH asked what would happen if tribunals force the school to take more children than we have places for?*** CP said he would do his best to accommodate them but not to the point that classes became unsafe. Any additions in this way would not be ideal but the school would have to do its best to make it work.
- Attendance – There is one pupil still on roll, who hasn't attended since January 2020 but as there is no other provision for him (he has moved to Cambridgeshire), DC are insisting he remain on roll. There is also another Pupil with very complex needs who is not attending despite many interventions from both the school and outside agencies. The school is organising a complex package around this young person. Finally, there is a third pupil who is only able to attend 2 days a week, who is supported with high levels of anxiety. ***SW asked what the process was for children missing in Education?*** MM and CP explained that they have regular attendance meetings along with CC every 2 weeks. CP then went on to outline the measures that can be taken such as calling a formal attendance meeting with the parents, letters home detailing individual attendance figures, although there is sometimes pushback from this particularly if the pupil has had a genuine reason for their absence. CP said that there are a significant number of pupils who have 100% attendance. 91% is the current attendance rate which is the same as it was before Covid, but we have ambitions for it to be higher. Attendance will be a key focus of Ofsted.
- Staffing – This remains in good shape at the moment with all vacancies currently filled. Teaching teams are settled. Industrial action will be taking place on the 1st of Feb and as a result 8 classes have had to close. Parents have been notified and CP said that classes that are remaining open are being managed as safely as possible. ***MH asked if it was only members of the NEU that were striking?*** CP confirmed this and that there was no picket line planned at Yewstock.
- Nurture Base – The "Tree House" is now fully up and running after its official opening in which Amanda Davis and Theresa Leavy (The new Head of Children's Services) attended. CP was able to engage her in talks regarding 6th form provision. All that attended agreed the Yewstock Choir, who attended the opening, were fantastic.

- Therapy Dog – The school therapy dog Roxie is now coming into school twice a week and is already having some lovely impact. Very few parents have expressed any concern around their child interacting with the dog, and so far it is going very well and is having a positive impact with the children.
- Safeguarding – The use of My Concern has been upgraded to enable access and printing of dashboards. CP directed the board to look at their handouts on this. CP went through each category and explained that staff have instant access to data regarding behaviour and what has been done as a result. CC added that it had cost an additional £300.00 for the reporting feature which she considers to be money well spent. She went on to say that all reports are live and she is printing termly reports and created a folder for evidence examples and case studies that Ofsted can look at. ***SL asked if you can print off a report for all categories for individual pupils.*** CC confirmed that she can select a pupil and it will show all the categories that they have been included in. Discussion around this took place.
It was noted, Deidre Fitzpatrick SIP has been booked to carry out another Safeguarding review in the summer term.
- Behaviour – Any incident is recorded and its corresponding action. Patterns are also being looked for but there is still a proactive approach. There is a lot of support from both internal and external staff to help support behaviour.
- Staff Training – There have been 3 inset days where staff have taken part in various training and the upcoming TADSS Inset day will host Dame Diana Rochford who will be delivering a speech.
- Curriculum – Lynn Gadreau and Richard House (The School's Improvement Partners) have produced a report following their recent visit. It said that Subject Leaders performed well under scrutiny but there is work to do to support other Subject Leaders. CP said that the school had graded itself as good / outstanding as a result, and LG and RH agreed with this. CC said that a great deal of work had been done in re-working the Curriculum and to ensure that it is continually evolving.
- School Development Plan – CP explained that completed elements have been highlighted in green. The Move Programme is up and running and CP said that if any Governors wanted to see this in action they would be very welcome as part of their scrutiny.
- The SEF – This is updated termly and CP will feedback to Governors in the 1st half of the Summer term.

CP said that we make effective use of staff meetings and a lot goes on around Curriculum Development and School Development priorities.

CP informed the board that a TA had requested to reduce there hours from 5 to 2 days. CP said he would like to support this as the TA is very good. **The Board Agreed the reduction of days from 5 to 2.**

CP concluded his Heads Report.

Policies

Finance, Personnel & Environment

Lone Working
Maternity Leave
Maternity/Adoption/Paternity support
Pay Policy

Curriculum

Curriculum
Exclusions
Science
RSE
Governor Visits to School
Home School agreement
Supporting children with Medical Conditions

All Adopted

AOB

VB – Urged all Governors to make arrangements in order to complete any outstanding monitoring commitments.

Please send in photos for ID badges as soon as possible.

PL – Asked that an action is taken to confirm that Monitoring has been booked by Friday. He went on to thank the rest of the Board for their continuing support of the school and CP. PL said we are a strong Governing Board for an outstanding school with great pupils, staff and good standing in the community. PL went on to say that he was hoping for some more stability this year.

Meeting closed at 5.55pm

Signed as a true copy..... Date.....