



. Yewstock School

Full Governing Board Meeting

Monday 13th of March 2023

Meeting started at 5.02pm

Clive Padgett, Peter Bush, Phil Ryall, Lucy Ross, & Pete Lagden, Seonaid Walton & Mandy Morgan

Also present – Chris Chadwick

Clerk

Vanessa Burton

Apologies

Linda Caride, Sue Lauterwasser, Mark Hughes & Jeanette Rogers

PL welcomed everyone to the meeting

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 said that the committee were briefed on all of the work that had been carried out on site and up at the college.
- BT delivered an outturn report which showed the schools finances remained in good shape but subsequent years may be more problematic. PL said credit was due to BT and CP for managing the finances very effectively, which was also helped with DC funding the new Nurture Base build, which had freed up some funds.

Report from the Curriculum Committee

- In MH's absence, CP delivered the report. He informed the board that the Curriculum committee had received two subject leader reports. The first was from Aimee Brown for RE. She detailed the statutory hours that RE must be taught and that the school follows the Dorset SACRE Curriculum. AB has adapted this to ensure it is at an appropriate level for our pupils. RE is resourced really well and AB has made up some resource bags (CP brought an example of the Easter story). These help our pupils understand some of the difficult concepts in RE, in a visual way.
- The other Subject Leader report was from Steph Sanders who is the lead for Complex Needs. She detailed in her report how she had reopened and refurbished the Rainbow Room and has been working with the new OT Rob Kirkwood. RK is very experienced and specialised in Sensory Needs. SS has been developing individual pupil programmes and building up

resources and integrating Zones of Regulation which will be a School Development Priority. SS will also continue her in reach work as well as looking to do outreach.

Monitoring

- MH and PL have Monitoring responsibilities this term, both have made arrangements to meet with the appropriate staff members. CC needs to be Monitored by the Safeguarding Governors and PL said he will be free on Friday 24 March. [Post Meeting Note: PL is confirmed to see CC on Friday 24th March.]

Curriculum Update

- CC has updated the Brochure and Website and ran through this at the Spring 1 Curriculum committee meeting. She had also shared the SIP Report headlines and at the last Curriculum meeting gave an Ofsted update following the Westfield school's recent inspection. CC will run through this again later.

Governor Development Plan

- CP said with reference to Point 9, Lynn Gadreau has been asked to attend the final 2 FGB Meetings in which she will complete a school evaluation exercise during the Summer 1 meeting and do some learning walks with Subject Leaders. She will feedback during the Summer 2 FGB Meeting.
- Finance Governors have completed the SFVS but a Broader Skills Matrix template needs to be sought, adapted for Yewstock and completed. **VB to look for a suitable template.**
- In the Summer term CP would like for Governors to look at the impact of the MOVE Programme.

Head teacher's Report to Governors

- Attendance – There are currently 166 on roll and there remains a huge pressure for places. CP went on to say that Mandy Morgan in her role as Attendance Officer has been very proactive.
Overall attendance is good at 92% which is the rate it was before Covid but the target remains 94%. CP,CC and MM meet every 2 weeks to discuss any attendance concerns and individual pupil attendance figures have been sent out to parents.
- Staffing – This remains stable and vacancies are filled. There have been no changes to the Teacher Team.
- Premises – BT has completed the business case for Post 16 and Early Years provision and this has been submitted to County.
- Safeguarding – CC explained that the My Concern software allows you to print off key headlines for Ofsted. It also has a general dashboard and allows you to manipulate data in a number of ways.
Safeguarding is very well monitored and trends can be spotted.
- Complaints – None

- Staff Training & Development – The TADSS Conference is taking place on the last day of term. Dame Diana Rochford will be speaking at the event.
- Curriculum Development - CC said that everything has now been updated and there is more focussed work taking place on Subject Leaders. They have received external scrutiny from RH and LG and have been allocated meeting time. RH has also worked with on traditional subject leaders such as ASD, Complex Needs etc on his most recent visit.
There have been 2 really good Curriculum focus events organised by Oliver Turner. We had the careers “dress up as your dream job day” and a KS3 classes attended a careers fayre held at the Exchange. In addition, careers have also been referenced in assemblies. OT’s next planned event is Science week. CP informed the board that he had received Richard Howse’s SIP report which very much focussed on the work of the subject leaders. He met with Claire Donohoe, Oliver Turner, Ben Tun Pe and Emily Briggs, whom he was particularly impressed with.
- School Development Plan update – Good progress has been made in all SDP areas
- Interventions – There is a budget to continue with SALT Provision and the OT. CP informed the board that one SALT for 1 day per week costs £19,000 per year. The LRC work will continue and be led by the 2 new Principal TA’s.
- EHCPs – These may change to a standardised format throughout the country. There will also be review of funding in SEN Schools and deficits in the High Needs Block may be written off. Health and Social Care may now have to contribute to EHCPs.

CP concluded his Heads Report.

NPQH Project – Chris Chadwick

CC explained that as part of her NPQH she had to undertake a project. She went on to say that she had identified that the Teacher Appraisal process was in need of improvement so had decided to base her project on this. The existing process meant that teachers were given the same targets that were just tweaked throughout the year. CC said that this could be done in a better way. CC went on to say that she had visited Thomas Hardy school and had met with a member of staff there who had done something similar, albeit for a mainstream secondary school, which wouldn’t necessarily work at Yewstock. CC outlined her objectives as follows;

- The aim – More collaboration between teachers and how targets link with the School Development Plan
- Ensure that targets are more meaningful.
- Collaboration could lesson workloads
- CC is looking to revamp the whole process including the Policies and Procedures and would like it to be more reflective and for this to be detailed in a more meaningful way as opposed to box ticking.
- Continue to have check ins during the Autumn term.
- CPD is linked to targets, make use of courses on Creative Education but also for teachers to dig deep and find experts in their field and arrange to meet with them. Research suggests that this has more staying power than a 1hr online training course. They could consider visiting other TADSS Schools or other Mainstream schools.

Creative Education

CC explained that this was an online learning platform for staff that the school has bought into. She went on to say that it was very good and there was an extensive range of training. If they don't have something you need or are interested in, they would put something together. ***LR asked if we have signed up as an organisation or as individuals.*** CC said everyone is signed up, including Governors. She then went through how to log in. CC will update the board on new and relevant courses but that Governors shouldn't feel obliged to do them all.

Policies

Finance, Personnel & Environment

Curriculum

- Acceptable Use of Mobile Phones
- Complaints
- Freedom of Information
- Governor Allowance Payments
- Lettings
- Email
- Risk Assessment
- School Closure
- School Therapy Dog
- Staff Disciplinary
- Violence at Work
- Volunteers

- Administering Medicines

All Adopted

AOB

None

Meeting closed at 6.35pm

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