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MEMBER GOVERNOR FORUM - 29.10.2019

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBER GOVERNOR FORUM HELD ON TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2019

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MINUTES

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**MEMBER GOVERNOR FORUM
MINUTES
29 October 2019
Executive Room 2, Civic Centre**

MEMBERS:

Co Chairs: Beyzade Beyzade (Winchmore), Christine Chamberlain (Suffolks), Roger Kingsnorth (Raglan)

Councillors: *Rick Jewell*; Dino Lemonides; Stephanos Ioannou and Glynis Vince

Co-opted: *Tony Murphy (Catholic), Simon Goulden (Jewish), Vacancy C of E*

Invited Officers / Members

Director of Children's Services:	Tony Theodoulou
Cabinet Member for Education, Children Services & Protection:	<i>Rick Jewell</i>
Chair of Staff Forum/JCGT:	<i>Paul Bishop</i>
Director of Education	Peter Nathan
Head of Schools and Early Years Improvement Service	Clara Seery
Governor Support, LBE:	Sujal Zaveri
Headteacher, St George's Primary School	Paul O'Rourke
Safeguarding Partnerships (Adults & Children) Service Manager	Bharat Ayer
Independent Chair of the childrens safeguarding partnership	Geraldine Gavin
Minute Clerk:	Elaine Dodson

School / Academy representatives: Primary, Secondary, Special Schools and Academies

Bush Hill Park Primary School	Leon Rodin
Cuckoo Hall Academy	Jenny Tosh
Eastfield Primary School/Ivy Academy	Karen Fernandes
Eldon Primary School	Caroline Jackson
Eversley Primary School	Prafulla Pujara
Eversley Primary School	Hadiza Adeyemi
Eversley Primary School	Ingrid Cranfield
Galliard Primary School	Alison Devonish
Galliard/Durants School	John Prior
Hadley Wood Primary School	Guy Cecil
Highlands School	Matt Miller
Highlands School	Ian Thompson
Honilands Primary School	Kay Newport
Merryhills Primary School	Penny Deller
Russet House	Caroline Davies
Southbury/Starks Field Primary	Bradley Jones
St George's Primary School, Headteacher	Paul O'Rourke
Tottenham Infant School	Tim Hellings
West Lea/St John and St James Primary School	Carmel Fox
Wilbury Primary School	Jo Lee

Italics indicates absence

1. INTRODUCTIONS, WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Education, Children Services and Protection, Stella Angeyo Mwa, Latymer All Saints Primary School, James Adeshiyan, St Andrew's Primary School Southgate, Janet Leach, Waverley School, Anna Williams, The Raglan Schools.

The meeting was chaired by Christine Chamberlain who warmly welcomed all attendees.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NOTED that Members and Governors were reminded that they should declare any interest relating to items on the agenda. No such declarations were made.

3. GENERAL UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND HEAD OF SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS IMPROVEMENT

a) RECEIVED a presentation on "Academic outcomes across Enfield" by Clara Seery, Head of Schools and Early Years Improvement Service. A copy of the power point presentation is included in the Minute Book and available on Governor Hub.

REPORTED the following:

- i. **EYFS** results have improved at a faster rate than National and Enfield Schools are starting to close the gap.
- ii. **Phonics** attainment remained the same in 2019, unlike the outcomes nationally which had declined. The phonics test is taken at the end of Year 1 and pupils are struggling with the test.
- iii. **KS1** Literacy remains a concern at KS1 as the results show a drop from the previous year of 2%-3%. The Reading Programme has now moved into KS1.
- iv. **KS2** Reading results had reduced by 1% and National results by 2%. Attainment continues to improve, and Enfield are heading towards the top 20% of LAs.
- v. **KS4** Students progress in Enfield continues, the average point score is improving and continues to be above average.

Reading is a priority and we need to decode the test so that pupils have the skills to infer, work out meaning and broaden their experience.

IMMUNISATIONS

RECEIVED an up-date from Clara Seery in respect of immunisations. Clara informed that schools cannot request vaccination certificates or exclude pupils who have not been vaccinated.

Additional Public Health clinics are being run for the MMR vaccination to improve uptake.

Flu immunisation for children is being advertised and circulated in schools. Governors are asked to question what the up take is at their school.

Maintained school staff can receive a free flu vaccination at any of the **Well Pharmacies**

by showing their staff ID badge from 21 October 2019 through to January 2020.

- b) RECEIVED** a presentation from Peter Nathan, Director of Education, on the implications of Brexit on schools and the current schools funding position.

Peter Nathan, Director of Education introduced himself. He has been in post since September 2019 and came to Enfield from Swindon where he was Head of Education. He is keen to visit all schools in his first year to listen to their views and issues.

i. **BREXIT**

NOTED below some of the issues facing staff, schools and pupils due to the uncertainty of Brexit.

Staff:

- Security of staff from Europe who do not have citizenship or settled status.
- Difficulty recruiting teachers/TAs/catering staff.

Schools and pupils:

- Pupils from Europe may have citizenship issues.
- Rise in xenophobia.
- Overseas trips/exchange trips may be impacted.
- Being aware of the impact on young people due to the uncertainty,
- Bear in mind the cost of food and utilities may increase.

The DfE website is a good source of advice for schools on how to prepare for Brexit.

ii. **CURRENT SCHOOLS FUNDING POSITION**

The positive news from the Government is that they are committed to increasing funding for education. In 2020/2021 the average rise is 4% for all schools and the National funding formula will move money from Primary to Secondary schools. All schools will gain but will be affected differently. There is a tight timescale to get finance agreed as decisions will be made mid-January.

The DSG High Needs Budget (HNB) is overspent by £3.5m, the reason for which is the increase in need. There are 450 outer borough placements and 700 pupils educated outside the borough, which including transport costs is very expensive. Peter added that the LA believed that pupils are best educated locally, near their families.

Enfield is expanding the number of specialist places available in our special schools Durants (200 places), Fern House (16/18 places) with the aim of offsetting the costs.

NOTED the Chair thanked Peter Nathan for introducing himself and for making the offer to visit schools. The Chair asked if he would attend Governors meetings as part of his new role and he confirmed he would, subject to availability.

4. **PRESENTATION**

RECEIVED a presentation on Safeguarding Partnership arrangements by

Bharat Ayer, Safeguarding Partnerships (Adults and Children) Service Manager and Geraldine Gavin, Independent Chair of the Childrens Safeguarding Partnership. A copy of the power point presentation is included in the Minute Book and available on Governor Hub.

The biggest changes are:

- Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs), which are set up by local authorities, will be replaced by safeguarding partner arrangements.
- The three safeguarding partners will have a shared responsibility for these arrangements.
- The Local Authority is no longer leading this area of work.

The new arrangements document will be circulated on Governor Hub.

5. NEW OFSTED FRAMEWORK

RECEIVED a verbal update on recent Ofsted Inspections in the borough from a Primary School Headteacher and Academy School Governor.

Primary Academy Ofsted Visit

The inspection focussed on the curriculum, students learning, progress and the wellbeing of staff and children. There was less focus about data and safeguarding. There was an expectation on Governors/Trustees to be accountable, know what their role was and to be clear about what they know e.g. collect examples – stories of how you know these things.

The inspectors met with a group of children who were excluded or at risk of being excluded without a member of staff being present.

Difficult questions asked:

- How do you ensure as a Governor that the school is meeting their statutory duty?
- How do you know what's going on?
- What do you know about the Human Rights Act?
- How do you know that each child is accessing the full curriculum?

Primary School Ofsted Visit

Headteacher gave an insight into the new arrangements and the timetable of the Ofsted visit.

- i. School received the Ofsted call and a time was agreed to receive a call from the Lead Inspector.
- ii. The Lead Inspector call took 90 minutes and they appeared to be working from a script. The call was taken on loud speaker in the presence of the Deputy Head/SENCO and School Improvement Advisor.
- iii. Focus and requests:
 - Requested hard copies of class timetables.
 - Parental questionnaire. Fortunately, the school had recently completed a parental questionnaire.

- Briefing with staff – lesson visits paired with SEN Leadership Team.
- NQT in-depth interviews.

The Headteacher was well informed by the Lead Inspector and four inspectors arrived for the two-day inspection.

The Governors meeting took place on Day 2 of the inspection and the meeting took seventy minutes and seven Governors were present. The Safeguarding Governor was spoken to directly.

Below are some of the questions the Governors were asked.

- Strengths of the school?
- Problems facing the school?
- Pupil's experience of the school?
- Safeguarding – misuse of social media?
- Governor/Teacher workload?
- How did the Governors contribute to the school development plan?

During the visit there were two lengthy interviews regarding exclusions/bullying and allegations against staff. The inspection team also spoke to three parents. They observed a PSHE lesson and heard younger children read and completed a learning walk with older children. The children were asked about bullying, were they happy and British values.

The teachers were asked detailed questions on the context of the lesson and their workload.

Feedback was given to the Senior Leadership Team, Governors and SIA. The Headteacher commended the School Improvement Advisor who he said had been a great support throughout the whole inspection.

In summary the transition from old to new framework is a big change. Focus is now on children's right to the curriculum.

NOTED that Clara Seery invited all schools due an inspection to attend the Ofsted Club where information can be shared.

A power point presentation "Preparing for Ofsted" is available on Governor Hub.

In summary, questions schools should ask their Governors if their school receives an Ofsted visit:

- Discuss which Governors would be available.
- What is your strategy for choosing the Governor?
- How to get the Governor to the school?
- Describe access to the full curriculum – have evidence.
- Know your statutory responsibilities.

The Chair thanked the Headteacher Paul O'Rourke and Jenny Tosh Trustee for their very informative presentations on their Ofsted experiences.

6. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 2 July 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7. UPDATE FROM COUNCILLORS

This item was deferred.

8. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING

NOTED that members were invited to submit items they wish for inclusion on the next agenda to the Governor.support.service@enfield.gov.uk. Following agenda consultation with the Lead Officer the finalised agenda would be circulated to the delegate list.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. **Staff Forum**

RESOLVED to ratify the appointment of Tim Hellings as the Member Governor Forum Representative at the Staff Forum meetings.

ii. **Schools Forum**

RESOLVED to agree the appointment of John Ellis to Schools Forum as Primary School Representative.

iii. **Annual Governor Conference**

NOTED that the Annual Governor Conference is taking place on the 6 November 2019, Dugdale Centre, 5.30pm-8.30pm

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the date of the next meeting was 11 February 2020.

11. ITEMS TO REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL

RESOLVED that none of the above be considered confidential.

Confirmed and signed at the
meeting of Member
Governor Forum held on the
11 February 2020