

**THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF LEIGHTON ACADEMY**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TEACHING & LEARNING COMMITTEE**  
**HELD AT THE ACADEMY ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014**

**(COMMENCING AT 6.30PM)**

<b>Governors Present:</b>	<b>Mrs N Heath</b>	<b>Committee Chair</b>
	<b>Mr G Turner</b>	<b>Academy Principal</b>
	<b>Mrs J Young</b>	<b>Academy Vice Principal</b>
	<b>Miss S Brennand</b>	
	<b>Mrs L Horne</b>	
	<b>Mrs A Millar</b>	

<b>In Attendance:</b>	<b>Mr J Hibbert</b>	<b>Clerk to the Governors</b>
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### **1. APOLOGIES & ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS**

1.1 The absence of Mrs R Stubbs was noted.

1.2 The following items of business were tabled for inclusion at the end of the meeting:-

- Reference items from the Directors Report
- Parents Form Update

### **2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Governors were asked to declare any potential conflict of interest regarding the business to be discussed.

No conflicts were declared.

### **3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting dated 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Committee Chair.

There was one matters arising which was to be reviewed during part 14 of the agenda

### **4. SPORTS GRANT – THE IMPACT OF THE INVESTMENT**

Governors were furnished with a detailed update from which Miss Brennand spoke; the report had the following head lines:-

- Purpose of the Funding
- Accountability
- Funding Period & How the Funding is to be Used
- Additional P.E. Projects

➤ **Publicity Celebrating Successes**

Miss Brennand reported on the positive aspects and opportunities that the funding has opened up for the pupils in both team and individual events. This follows clear planning having identified areas for development both as part of curriculum, and after school clubs which lead to the opportunities to take part in outside events and tournaments.

Governors were then furnished with a data base report (Sports Hall) of an inter school athletics event and achievements. This information will now be used to analyse areas for improvement from a team an individual view point.

The number of planned projects will be enhanced by the appointment of the full time PE Instructor, which will give pupils even more opportunities along with enhancing Leighton's growing reputation. It was noted that the Sports 'Kite' Mark accreditation is being pursued.

Governors were brought up to date with recent successes and confirmed involvement in this terms outdoor athletics tournaments.

Full details of the overall impact of the funding will be posted on the Academy website later in the year when meaningful data has been gathered.

Miss Brennand was commended for the detail of her report and the excellent work being carried out under her leadership.

## **5. SCHOOL TO SCHOOL SUPPORT**

Governors were furnished with a summary report, the detail being confidential, which clearly shows the academy's continued activity in supporting other schools in a number of varied aspects. It was also noted that, in addition, there is also considerable 'informal, contact. Governors also noted that it is intended to maintain the 'robust approach' toward supporting other schools, while adjusting that approach as more middle leaders take on additional responsibilities.

## **6. ACADEMY PROGRESS**

The committee Chair furnished the meeting with an updated template related to governor led Progress and Attainment Data (see previous minutes). Considerable debate ensued highlighting the positives and the benefits of future development to ensure compatibility with the academy's own data.

The Principal highlighted the complexities of SEN pupils and the huge variances of abilities; this should be noted with the current Year 6 though progress is good in the main. The Vice Principal suggested that the information should be more contextual and more data will be available next half-term. Governors were reminded of the 'optional tests' to be conducted post term the outcomes of which become the core to the pupil's individual end of year reports to parents.

## **7. RESEARCH PROJECT WITH KEELE UNIVERSITY**

Governors were furnished with a study document from the Research Institute for Social Science, entitled 'Strategies in Raising Standards in Key Stage One. Mrs

Millar and Mrs Morris were also in attendance at the initial meeting, the former saying how positive the meeting was as Leighton had been chosen to be part of the project. There is to be presentation at 'Belmas' by Kitty Bishop in Stratford-Upon-Avon in July relating to teaching schools and academy status.

## **8. ACADEMY CURRICULUM & CREATIVE WORK UPDATE**

The Vice Principal highlighted the following since the last meeting which included:-

- A German Art Project during w/c 16<sup>th</sup> June with an artist arriving from Germany followed by a 'Sommerfest' on 15<sup>th</sup> July.
- Involvement with Students arriving from Dortmund.
- Dance Project at Beechmere Residential Home
- International Student Programme – Students Arriving from Boston, USA. It was noted that this is self funding, details to be posted on the website.
- Progress toward the Science Quality Mark – Wendy Hardman is completing the audit to achieve 'Gold'.
- IPad Investment Programme – The Vice Principal is still considering options and will report further. **Action: JY**
- Design & Technology Project – there is now a 'Wish List' which is to be forwarded to 'Finance' for sanctioning, though the Principal remarked of the tremendous and exciting possibilities this project could provide in the long term when it will undoubtedly become self financing.

## **9. EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE REPORT**

Governors were furnished with, and debated, detailed EYFS analysis for 2013/14 across the core subjects by gender, Pupil Premium, SEN, and EAL. In addition to the data the report highlighted areas of achievement and those for development. Subsequently it was agreed that Mrs Millar meets with Miss Bishop with a view to adding the data to the governor dashboard. **Action: NH**

In addition to this Mrs Young agreed to populate the governor dashboard with attainment data **Action: JY**

## **10. SELF EVALUATION UPDATE**

Further to the previous meeting when the judgements were challenged the Principal reported that current data and analysis indicated that all aspects should be raised to 'outstanding'. The SEF will be revisited once the Raiseonline data is issued.

## **11. CPD PROGRAMME – INCLUDING 'SINGAPORE MATHS'**

Governors were informed that following further research it is planned to have a whole school approach toward Singapore Maths; there are to be two twilight INSET s before the end of term to aid further reflection before being auctioned in September. The Vice Principal is exploring all avenues.

## **12. SEN PROVISION – REPORT UPDATE**

Governors received the latest report, from Mrs Robertson, which summarised Years 1 to 6 APS progress across the core subjects along with the SEN Register summary. In addition governors received a brief summary of the latest proposed draft SEN Code of Practice (September 2014) which the Principal described as ‘aspirational’.

## **13. PUPIL PREMIUM – REPORT UPDATE**

Governors received the latest update of activities regarding the Pupil Premium Grant along with associated resources purchased to aid progress and thus ‘closing the gap’.

## **14. READING RECOVERY - REPORT UPDATE**

Governors were furnished with an updated report, authored by Mrs Robertson, including the APS of the pupils involved on the programme.

## **15. DIRECTORS REPORT –SUMMER TERM**

The Vice Principal summarised the responses of items from within the report associated with this committee:-

- Item 1 – It was agreed that the Pay Review Panel will comprise of members of the Finance & Resources committee and the Appeals Panel be drawn from this committee.
- Item 2 - It was noted that Mrs Heath is the governor responsible for the Pupil Premium grant
- Item 3 – A Safeguarding Forum is to be set up in preparation of for a September meeting to review existing policies and procedures
- Item 4 – Safeguarding - to arrange 1:1 sessions with reception parents, to review FSM and paperwork for admissions. (SIMS)
- Item 8 – To note that Sarah Winterbottom is the link governor for ‘Cared for Children’ and to take issue to the Parents Forum
- Item 10 – The new regulations regarding ‘visits outside the classroom’ were noted.

## **16. PARENTS FORUM**

Mrs Millar reported that the minutes of the first meeting are now on the website, and that the overall response at the meeting was very positive. One area which was asked to be considered was a canopy area in the KS2 playground. The next meeting is scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm

*There was no further part one business.*