

# **BASSINGBOURN VILLAGE COLLEGE**



# Minutes of the Local Governing Body meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Present**: Stephen Morris (SM) – LGB Chair

Peter Bolton (PB)
Alison Butterworth (AB)
Dushy Chetty (CDh)
Will Clayton (WC)
Chris Cornwell (CC)
Jess Lievesley (JL)

Rachel Ward (RW) Vickey Poulter (VP) Chris Roope (CR) Laura Sims (LS)

Chair of Meeting: Dushy Chetty

Also in attendance: Jeremy Brock (JBR), Vanessa Larkins (VL)

Minutes: Sue Smith

	ACTION
1. Apologies	
Apologies were received from Mike Urquhart and accepted.	
2. Declaration of Interests	
There were no declarations of interest	
3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	
Introductions by the Governing Body were made and Rachel Ward, new staff governor, who was appointed as staff governor on 28.11.18 was welcomed.	
Matters arising: 8. Budget 18/19. Mr Cooper will follow up this action with Mr Saggers. 10. Improvement plan and risk register: The risk register items are now linked to Agenda	DC
items.  11. Governor training: Governance forum taking place this evening.  14. Assistant Clerk vacancy is in the process of being advertised. Q: What is the situation with planning permission on the caretaker's house site? A: Planning has been resubmitted by the developer and is under consultation.  15. PFA: SM has spoken to the CEO regarding PFA communication across all MAT schools. There is a MAT school communication guidance policy which details the procedure for communicating PFA events with parents. The AGM of the PFA has taken place but attendance was low. The governors wished to support the PFA but questioned how they could get parents to engage. There is a quiz organised for the end of March.	SM
The minutes were signed by CR and approved to be published on the website.	SS
4. KPIs – year 11 exam results, behaviour and attendance data for half term 2	
Data was circulated to governors prior to the meeting. No questions had been received. VP shared with the governors that the attendance percentage for the school was an improving picture, and behaviour levels were similar to previous times in the year.	

A breakdown of Year 11 exam results had been sent out focussing on English, Maths and Science in particular. Q: regarding the practice exams, is there any subject performing poorly compared with last year's data? JBR explained that one of the courses is not taken nationally therefore results were based on the teacher assessment on current working level. Students are using revision documents for this subject and the teacher is focussing on timed exam questions in particular. Moderation on units already completed is taking place. Students will be sitting their exam for this subject in March and there is an opportunity for resitting in June. Q: When was Data Point 1? DP1 was beginning of November. The results published to governors were cumulative based on work done in year 10 and assessments. Current working levels are based on whole course JBR explained. Q: Are there any subjects you are concerned about? Based on the results, some students will now move to foundation level rather than the higher level if they didn't do well with the higher level paper, or will move to synergy science rather than the separate science course for instance. Strategies and interventions are in place where needed.

Q: Are all areas fully staffed: Yes currently

Q: Is this useful data? Should we be comparing to target rather than the data point? JBR advised governors that it is better to track exam data against the data point.

Q: Do students buy into their level of progress or is it demoralising? Students are generally well focussed. The recent exam results were given out to students like they would receive them in the summer to give them the same experience. VP stated that she had met with all year 11s prior to the exam results day and advised that most were focussed, they want to succeed and are motivated. VL also advised that teachers were having conversations with their year 11s to help support them. A personalised learning checklist is also being used.

#### 5. Self Evaluation Form update (SEF)

Having shared the SEF with governors, VP advised that this was an ongoing piece of work and a "live" document. Reviews of sections of the SEF were taking place each month by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) on a monthly rotation and will be brought back to governors constantly. The SEF will grow with measurable outcomes and evidence of impact having gathered parental feedback, work scrutiny, student feedback for instance. SM confirmed that the appropriate College Improvement Plan section, risk register and SEF will all need to be used for Governors' Link meetings.

ΑII

### 6. Finance Update

The variance report for P4 had been circulated prior to the meeting. No questions had been received. VP walked the governors through the details in the report and reiterated that we are expected to break even based on the forecast. **Q: years 2/3 will be more difficult?** Yes, as result of this the school is looking closely at curriculum planning. VP highlighted that less pupil premium income had been received than was previously expected and ESCIP funding was not included in the report. Energy project: there had been problems with the biomass heating system which has now been fixed and we were also unable to report the solar panel readings but income should start to come in now that this had been resolved. Sports Centre income was lower than expected due to staffing issues but this too has been resolved. **Is staffing of the sports centre now more expensive if we are using VHS?** It is slightly more, but only by a few pounds. They are also locking the school up for us which is working well.

## 7. Premises – contracts list and general update

VP advised the governors that the boiler in the sports centre needed fixing which was not in the original budget figures. There is now a centralised pot of money available which schools within the MAT can bid for (which is allocated to multi academy trusts instead of the previous Condition Improvement Funding). BVC is looking at boiler repairs/replacements,

and health and safety issues in the back car park which includes installing barriers and better signage. VP is meeting with the MAT's CEO after the half term break to discuss this further. The kitchen has needed a new oven, freezer, washing machine and fan.

Contracts: All contracts were now up to date on the school's reporting and monitoring system, "Every". A new COO for the MAT had also been appointed who will be able to coordinate contracts for all the schools if appropriate for cost-savings. Two contracts in particular coming to an end were flagged: the school's MIS system and ICT support. The governors agreed that efficiency savings were needed and that the MAT should be able to get cost-savings across the board for all schools now that a new COO and Director of Finance were in place. It was agreed that as the contracts for the MIS system and ICT support were due to expire at the end of March, discussion/agreement to these contracts would take place via email.

VP/SS

#### 8. Safeguarding – MAT audit report and SCR check

The Audit report have been circulated to governors. No questions had been received. VP advised that the actions raised in the report have been carried out. The MyConcern online report system for staff to report safeguarding concerns was explained to governors. Single Central Record check – CC agreed to carrying this out this term.

CC/SS

#### 9. Curriculum, staffing and finance – academic year 19/20

VP explained to governors that the Leadership Team were modelling the curriculum with 140 in each year group with 6 teaching groups for English and Maths, and with 5 teaching groups for each of the other subjects in years 7 and 8, with 6 option columns for KS4. There were 856 lessons within the curriculum and a current staff capacity of 831.5. The school would therefore be 1 member of staff light. This member of staff would be needed in maths and science. VP advised that there are staff currently employed that would be willing to pick up more maths teaching, therefore the gap will be in science. VP proposed to governors that a speculative advert be raised for a science teacher. All Governors agreed to this proposal. VP advised governors that student numbers would have to remain at 140 to ensure this model was fully funded. **Q: What is the ultimate capacity?** 30 per teaching class.

VP flagged Creative Arts as a subject needing future development (art drama music). There is a possibility of Lead Practitioners with a teaching and learning responsibility (TLR) looking a research and development. **Q: Why can't we have MAT lead practitioners?** We are looking at this, especially for English, but mainly for core subjects at the moment.

## 10. Staffing update

VP advised that following the advert for a teacher of languages, we had 8 applicants and 6 were shortlisted. There was a strong field, some of which were NQTs (newly qualified teachers).

Staff sickness update was given and a flexible working request was also discussed.

#### 11. Link Governor reports/planning

The Leadership link report had been circulated. JL wished to highlight the possibility of supporting middle leaders in relation to coaching. Two governors, WC/CC, agreed that this would be beneficial and offered their support and expertise. VP to go back to Middle Leaders with this proposal.

VΡ

SM to recirculate link governor structure suggestions. Meetings need to be done before the end of this term.

SM / All

# 12. Trust update

VP circulated a sheet detailing an update which included the benefits of being with the MAT, for example the catering contract, savings on management time, staffing costs, biometric system implementation, compliance to name a few. The governors discussed their thoughts about the benefits of being within the MAT followed by which the Chair of Governors asked whether it would be useful for the CEO to be invited to come to an LGB meeting. The governors unanimously agreed. SM to arrange.

SM

The Chair of Governors asked the staff governors, VP, JBR and VL to leave the meeting to enable a confidentially minuted discussion to take place. VP, JBR, VL, PB, RW leave.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm	
	Chair