



Saltley Academy

Minutes of the Local Governing Body Meeting

Tuesday 22nd September 2015 at 4.00pm

Attendance
Mr Michael York (MYO), Mr Pete Weir (PWE), Mr Chris Spiers (CSP), Mr Anwar Hasan (AHA), Ms Keran Janagal (KJA), Ms Nelam Madahar (NMA) Clerk: Miss Nabila Haseen (NHA)

1.	Apologies
	None <i>Ms Shahin Ashraf (SAS)</i> <i>Vacancy</i>

2.	Agenda and Declaration of Additional Business	Action
	<p>The Chair of Governors welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then asked whether the LGB agreed with the last LGB meeting's minutes; they were available online (school's website); all agreed.</p> <p>Mr Weir thanked Mr York for attending the grand opening of the school; Mr York thanked Mr Weir for his invite.</p> <p>Mr York asked whether the skills audit had been completed; Mr Spiers and Ms Madahar said they had completed theirs and would give it to Miss Haseen.</p>	CSP, NMA

3.	Matters arising	
	<p>Mr York informed the LGB that policies in the 'Effective Governing Body Audit Tool, 2015-2016' need to be followed, and that a PDF version of this document is available (Miss Haseen to send a copy of this document to the LGB).</p> <p>Mr York/Mr Weir informed the LGB that the MAT will set the budget, however the Governors remain responsible in ensuring the budget is followed. Mr Hasan asked whether the LGB will have enough details to monitor the budget, Mr York said that major exceptions in spending will be looked into. Ms Madahar asked how the budget would be financed; Mr York said that the trust would be contacted for their input. Ms Madahar then asked whether the MAT would need to approve any changes which happen in relation to the budget; Mr Weir said that he is planning on</p>	NHA

	<p>timetabling a meeting the MAT once a month to discuss issues with the budget, and that a report could be drawn up to illustrate how the budget is being spent, yet pupil premium would be a separate item in relation to this. Mr York requested a summary of the budget for each LGB meeting; if there are any exceptions with spending.</p> <p>Mr York asked about building works in the school. Mr Weir said that building works are not complete as of yet, however is very appreciative towards school staff for their patience with this; when the school opened there were still two teachers with no classroom. Mr York asked when the two staff would have classrooms, and Mr Weir informed the body that one member of staff had been given one this week, yet the other had security barriers attached to it. A brief discussion regarding the completion of the building work was then conducted.</p>	PWE
--	--	------------

4.	Examination results review	
	<p>(Refer to hand out)</p> <p>Mr York asked about the most recent examination results. Mr Weir informed him that 36% of pupils scored 5 A*-C and that he was disappointed with the results, however highlighted that the school was faced with issues beyond their control. Mr Weir said that predicted grades were based on papers which were externally marked; pupils were initially given bottom C's yet ended up receiving middle D's, and there was a lot of press coverage in relation to this; many schools had been hit. Mr Weir went on to say that the Higher English IGCSE papers had been sent back for remarking, yet coursework components were in line with their predicted grades. Mr Weir informed the body that plans to improve results are in place.</p> <p>Mr York asked about predicted grades. Mr Weir said that predicting grades is tough due to changing mark criterias. There was then an in-depth discussion about the 2015 exam results. Mr Hasan asked about how the whole school would go about entering predicted grades and a secure input of data. Mr Weir said that the data entered would be last year's due to progress 8.</p> <p>Mr York reiterated the feeling of disappointment in relation to results, however said that such results are not down to SLT; predictions were the key factor. Mr Weir outlined areas where he feels the school could and should have performed better and outlined the actions being taken to achieve this.</p> <p>Mr Weir said that Maths showed the biggest gap between pupil progress and the progress 8 measure. Last year's results were classified as Saltley School's results, whereas this year they will be Saltley Academy's. Mr Weir said that the school's previous timetabling was a bonus as well as the three-year KS4, and that these factors will help to meet targets. Mr Weir informed the body that the idea of computer-generated results is being looked into so that meaningful results can be created across the school; MBU is working on this.</p> <p>Statistics on hand out discussed. Mr Weir highlighted that changes had been made to improve the quality of education pupils receive i.e. History teacher teaches History and Citizenship teacher teaches Citizenship. Mr Spiers expressed favour for the previous and said that it makes sense for specialists to teach their subject, as greater expertise may well produce better results.</p> <p>Ms Janagal asked about the plan for mock exams this year. Mr Weir said that we do not have time to have as many as we did last year, Mr York added that a desire for data should not get in the way of pupils' learning. Mr Weir said that the mocks do have benefits as we learn where pupils are, however they did impact lessons, and as the Maths and English grade boundaries changed, the results obtained were not really helpful in telling us what we needed to know.</p>	

5.	New OFSTED framework	
	<p>(Refer to hand out)</p> <p>Mr York asked how the school will meet the new OFSTED framework. Mr Weir said that a</p>	

	<p>Mocksted has been planned for in relation to this. Mr Spiers asked about the likelihood of the 'real' inspectors visiting the school, in response to this Mr Weir said that there was a feeling of trust amongst the school and inspectors; however the Mocksted would help us to prepare for an inspection if it were to come about.</p> <p>Mr York reiterated that the LGB need to have read the 'Effective Governing Body Audit Tool, 2015-2016' as part of the new framework; this would help the LGB develop as we are all fairly new members. Mr York asked the LGB how they want to go about discussing the Audit Tool. Mr Hasan and Ms Madahar said that they would like time to read the Audit Tool and prepare for a discussion of such. Mr York agreed and said that this meeting would need to be Chaired by someone else. Follow up meeting to be held regarding the Audit Tool (second half of this half term). Miss Haseen to request a PDF of the document and send to LGB.</p>	NHA
--	--	------------

6.	Triad Governance Meetings; KJA	
	<p>Ms Janagal informed the LGB that she has been attending Triad Governance Meetings which aim to improve Governing Bodies and create Outstanding Governors. She said that three meetings had been arranged and that she would forward the details of such to Miss Haseen to share with the LGB. Mr York said it was a good idea, that it is important to be open with one another and that he welcomes best practice. Miss Haseen to share details with the LGB.</p>	<p>KJA</p> <p>NHA</p>

7.	<p>Proposal to seek a disapplication as described below for religious assemblies</p> <p>A school can reflect the religious backgrounds represented in its community in its collective worship, as long as the majority of provision is broadly Christian. Alternatively, the family backgrounds of some or all pupils may lead the headteacher and governing body to conclude that broadly Christian collective worship is not appropriate. The headteacher can apply to the local Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) to have the broadly Christian requirement disapplied and replaced by collective worship distinctive to another faith. The headteacher must consult the governing body before doing so. Academies need to apply to the Secretary of State via the Education Funding Agency (EFA). (<i>OFSTED framework 2015</i>)</p>	
	<p>Mr York drew attention to the framework and informed the LGB that one would need to apply to the secretary of state in relation to this. Mr Weir said that schools have done this for several years. Mr Spiers asked whether Islamic assemblies would run in Saltley Academy due to the majority Muslim intake of pupils, Mr Weir's response was that religious assemblies of any religion should teach morals.</p> <p>Ms Madahar said that as long as the paperwork is all in order then the current practices should stay the same. Mr York reminded the LGB that the framework is the law. Mr Hasan agreed to the proposal and Ms Madahar seconded it. Mr York wanted some clarity in relation to the final line of the framework passage above; Mr Weir said that he would report back on this during the next meeting.</p>	PWE

8.	AOB	
	<p>Mr Spiers asked about the vacant board members. Mr Weir said that letters had been sent out yet no expressions of interest had been received, yet he may now try a texting campaign in relation to this. Mr Spiers suggested advertising the post/s during the first parents' evening may be useful, Mr Weir agreed and said this was a concern as the current LGB lacks in parental</p>	

	<p>representation.</p> <p>Mr York informed the LGB that a Vice Chair needs to be elected; Ms Madahar said that she would fulfil this role; Mr Hasan and Mr Spiers approved this decision. Mr York said that further meetings need to be scheduled, and that the minimum amount allowed is three per-academic year. Dates/times for meetings were arranged and agreed; see below.</p>	
--	--	--

9.	<p>Date of next meeting</p>	
	<p>Tuesday 24th November 2015, 4.15pm, Saltley Academy</p> <p>Upcoming meetings:</p> <p>Tuesday 26th January 2016, 4.15pm, Saltley Academy</p> <p>Tuesday 15th March 2016, 4.15pm, Saltley Academy</p> <p>Tuesday 17th May 2016, 4.15pm, Saltley Academy</p> <p>Tuesday 12th July 2016, 4.15pm, Saltley Academy</p>	