



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY**  
 held at Grand Avenue School on  
 Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.30pm

LA-1	CO OPTED 8		PARENT -2	STAFF 2
<b>Hannah Newell</b>	Jenny Gresson (Chair)	Richard Newman		Margaret Barrington Co- Head Teacher (Ex Officio)
	Alexis Orlovac	<b>Michele Harris</b>	David Magee (VC)	<b>Kirsty Maitland</b>
	Archika Kumar			Shamama Tul Amber
	Ada Massett	<b>Connor Adams</b>		

Associate Members: Shona Pitcher, **Matt McHale**

Clerk/Minutes: Miss Lucy Richards

Bold = absent

ITEM	MEETING STARTED AT: 7.30pm	ACTIONS
049	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED</b>	
	Michele Harris Connor Adams Matt McHale Kirsty Maitland	
050	<b>DECLARATIONS OF BUSINESS INTEREST</b>	
	None	
051	<b>OBSERVERS</b>	
	None	
052	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 22nd JANUARY 2024</b>	
	These were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held.	

Signed/Initialled (Chair of FGB Committee): *Jennifer Gresson*

Date..... *13.5.24*

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053	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
	<p>MB advised that the letters from Ed Davey and NAHT regarding Shared Parental Leave have been shared on Governor Hub. There is a request for the Government to pay for the shared parental leave, as opposed to it coming out of the school budget. NAHT Kingston is going to take this forward.</p> <p>Behaviour Policy and audit - was looked at by C&amp;C.</p> <p>The leak in the carpark is still not fixed - this is ongoing.</p> <p>EIF training - JG encouraged members to sign up for this training which is in May.</p> <p>Next training on EIF - 21st May - share.</p> <p>Updates from Alexis and Richard were included.</p> <p>The recent Inset day which focussed on Executive Functioning was very good. This looked at what makes a human human, planning and cognitive thoughts which develop over time with maturity. There are some children who need some help with developing this functioning and this has been included in the year group action plans.</p> <p><b>Governor question: Does the school think that staff wellbeing is in a good place at the moment or does it vary?</b></p> <p><b>Response: It does vary - more settled than the period following Covid. Responses may vary depending on the type of day staff have had. Generally it was felt that staff felt supported.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: A couple of years ago Governors spoke to staff about wellbeing. Would this be a good idea to do it again?</b></p> <p><b>Response: It was acknowledged that there will be some changes in the school and it was therefore agreed that this would be a good idea. Governors to set a date for the Summer term.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: What was the rationale for giving the extra teacher to the older children and not to the younger children?</b></p> <p><b>Response: The older classes had established a good process, particularly in maths. The shared teacher works with the maths groups in Year 5 &amp; 6 and supports the non contact time for these years. When this was being put in place it was considered whether the time is better invested in younger children but it was felt this was better for the older children.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: Is there a road camera being put up to deter bad parking outside school?</b></p> <p><b>Response: This was one of the possible solutions to the parking situation. MB to attend the next neighbourhood meeting.</b></p> <p>Training report - LR to ask AfC if they can share a report.</p> <p>Parent/Governor forum - Shamama/Ada/Richard will all attend the meeting on Friday, 8th March. A date will be put in for the Summer term. It has been asked as to whether the minutes of these meetings could be shared on the school website. These meetings are informal chats with the aim to raise the visibility of the governing body and provide parents with an opportunity to meet with governors. As such there are no formal minutes of these meetings produced. It was agreed that a summary could be included in the termly Governors corner in the school newsletter.</p> <p>There was then a discussion around the Parent Forum which is a more formal meeting and one which is minuted and then shared with parents.</p>	<p>Set a date for a Staff/Governor meeting on staff wellbeing.</p>

Signed/Initialled (Chair of FGB Committee): *JG*.....

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054	<b>HEALTH CHECK</b>	
	See document for updates.	
055	<b>GOVERNOR MATTERS</b>	
	<p>a) Training - training report - need to download. Connor has shared some training from NGA.</p> <p>b) Governor visits - brief overview of Richard's visit to Reception. <b>Governor question: Is there an agreement between Nursery parents and the school regarding attendance?</b> <b>Response: Yes, but this is difficult to enforce when children are under 5.</b></p> <p>Shamama - Attendance/Behaviour has been monitored during the school day. Attendance - the school is working with PPG families to improve attendance and has been looking at how to improve communications with these families. e.g.; via phone calls, letters, chats on the gate. There was a discussion on the impact of social Media and the issues the use of Whats app groups may cause and the impact on attendance in school. These issues sometimes spill over into the classroom. It was noted that the age limits for the social media platforms are often ignored and children are accessing sites they should not be using. If Governors cannot come in for a visit then it is possible to arrange a virtual meeting with the member of staff.</p> <p>c) Parent Governor Election - have had one nomination to date. Closing date is 12th March for nominations.</p> <p>d) eNews/Termly newsletter - 24th Jan mentioned refresher courses. Kingston absences - persistent absence is lower than national, but this is higher nationally since Covid. It was noted that this is higher in secondary schools. Governors have had the updated document on 'Working Together to Safeguard children.'</p>	<p>JG to write up the Behaviour training/SEND.</p> <p>Connor to share feedback on training.</p>
056	<b>HEADTEACHERS REPORT – VERBAL UPDATE</b>	
	<p>There had been an in depth discussion at C&amp;C on data.</p> <p><b>Governor question: Has the data in Year 3 been reviewed recently?</b></p> <p><b>Response: Yes, this has been looked at.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: Is the HT dashboard a live document?</b></p> <p><b>Response: It is a live document, however, the version on the Hub is a download of this information. This can be added to the verbal update as well.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: Have the pupil numbers in Reception improved?</b></p> <p><b>Response: No, these are still lower than would be expected based on previous years. As are the Nursery pupil numbers, which are currently 42. The capacity for the Nursery is 52.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: Does the school think that the government provision for 2 year olds will take children away from school nurseries?</b></p> <p><b>Response: This could potentially impact the numbers in Nursery as families may choose not to move their children when they turn 3, which is the age of entry to the school nursery. The school may need to consider how to structure the nursery in future however, any changes would need to be considered carefully as this could change the nature of the Nursery.</b></p>	

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	<p>Governor comment: Wrap around care may make a difference to the numbers and people signing up for the places.</p> <p><b>Governor question: Would the Nursery have to set a defined curriculum for the wraparound care?</b></p> <p><b>Response: It was felt that this would not be necessary as after school club does not, as it is an out of hours provision.</b></p> <p>It was noted that some other schools are having their PAN changed due to lower pupil numbers.</p>	
057	<b>SEF UPDATE</b>	
	<p>The SDP has not been updated since the last meeting as this is updated termly.</p> <p>Governor section of SDP should be updated to agree some support for Shona in her new position at HT.</p> <p>Summary SEF - has been revised and a subject summary has been included. This was introduced two weeks ago and staff are still working on these.</p> <p>The SEF Summary will help year group/subject governors to review the information which will support their discussions with the teachers. These summaries will be updated every term.</p> <p><b>Governor question: Are there many young carers in the school?</b></p> <p><b>Response: Yes, there are approximately 28 that are registered. If it is brought to the attention of staff then the children can become registered. There is a lot of support in school to support these children. There is a Kingston Young Carers who run events in the local area and the children can attend events that are run. Children can be considered to be a young carer if they are caring for a parent/sibling.</b></p> <p><b>Governor question: Do subject coordinators do learning walks?</b></p> <p><b>Response: Yes, they do.</b></p>	Add Racial Justice - Michele to the TORS.
058	<b>SCHOOLS FINANCIAL VALUES STATEMENT</b>	
	Connor is supporting on this with Hannah.	
059	<b>FEEDBACK FROM COMMITTEES:</b>	
	a) C&C - 15th January 2024 - these will be reviewed in detail at the next meeting.	
060	<b>SAFEGUARDING</b>	
	<p>There have been two Single Point of Access (SPA) referrals around attendance. One meeting with a parent has taken place. The other referral will have a court order put in place.</p> <p>There is one child on a CP plan.</p> <p>TA's had SG training last week.</p>	

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063	<b>SCHOOL COUNCIL</b>	
	Shamama joined the children for a litter pick. Hockey rules have been written. Top table - to be reinstated. Music assembly for young children has been reinstated; these are being run by Mary Villar. The children are now looking at how children in school can take more responsibility for their actions without adult intervention. The children have asked if they can have a friendship bench. The children have requested a clock in the playground and are looking forward to mini GASPA being reintroduced.	
061	<b>AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT FGB</b>	
	18th March - budget meeting	
062	<b>AOB</b>	
	FGB minutes from HT appointment meeting. Updates to be made. Risk Assessment - Draw out common themes and present these to the group. Skills Audit - update from Michele.	Check if these minutes go on the website.
034	<b>SCHOOL COUNCIL</b>	
	No additional updates following the HT update.	
035	<b>MINUTES OF THIS MEETING CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
	See confidential minutes.	
036	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING: 9.22pm</b> <b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 18th MARCH 2024</b>	

Signed/Initialled (Chair of FGB Committee): *Jennifer Green* 5

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