

VICTORIA COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
Cornerswell Road Penarth CF64 2UZ
Tel: (029) 20709225 Fax: (029) 20709123
Email: victoriaps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

BOARD of GOVERNORS

DECEMBER 2022

Together we aim for the stars

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors for Victoria School on
Tuesday 20th December

Members Present

Miss Christine O'Callaghan, Chairperson
Mr David Adams
Mr Marc Cahill
Mrs Sam Daniels
Mrs Beth Hales
Mrs Laura Halliwell
Mr Simon Husband

Mrs Judith Jones
Mrs Cerys McDonald
Mr Mark Petherick
Mrs Helen Moreton
Dr Rhiannon Slade

Apologies

Cllr. Rhiannon Birch
Mrs Rebecca Connor
Mrs Sonia McLaughlin
Miss Jeanette Minns
Ms Julie Plumb
Cllr. Mark Wilson

Absent

Mrs Amanda Reynolds

Apologies were given and accepted by Governors.

Welcome

CO'C welcomed the new parent governors, Mrs Beth Hales and Dr Rhiannon Slade.

RS introduced herself as the mother of a Reception child and an Educational Psychologist, working in Cardiff. **BH** said she has two children in school, one in Nursery and one in YR2 and works for Barclays.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 25th October 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday 25th October were approved by the Governors; proposed by **DA** seconded by **MC** and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters arising

CO'C advised that the audit of skills questionnaire would be sent to governors in January.

Head Teacher Report

The report had been sent to governors prior to the meeting, **SD** outlined key points. Our pupil numbers are good, additional nursery children will join us in January. We are currently fully staffed however, 3 members of staff will leave us at the end of this term. An LSA who has secured a job at Ysgol Y Deri, a mid-day supervisor and one of our cleaners who is retiring. Attendance for the term is 93.6%.

SIP: there are 5 key areas, responding to the challenges of the new curriculum and the ALN bill remain a focus; also ensuring effective provision for supporting wellbeing, equity and inclusion.

SLT: the SLT have led drop-ins across the school and were extremely pleased with the high level of teaching and learning opportunities.

The SLT review the SIP at every meeting, it is an evolving document.

This term we have also completed the SLO (Schools as learning organisations) questionnaire and analysed the data. The overall analysis was extremely positive, one area that needed improving was the involvement from outside organisations. Due to Covid there has been reduced involvement with outside groups. **SD** informed governors that their work with the AOLE teams will involve them coming into school, meeting with staff and together creating a vision for that particular area.

Staff Development: much of our training and development for this term is linked to our SIP and the implementation of the revised curriculum. Governors had been sent the INSET Meeting agenda. Staff regularly attend online training provided by CSC.

Comparative Writing: this is an exciting new tool which will assess the content of writing – grammar, punctuation, structure etc.

MALT: this is a Maths test conducted twice a year to show standardized score for each pupil and will show value added throughout the year

Premises: The new trim trail will be installed on the yard during the holidays, 50% of the cost will be met by the PTA.

Health & Safety: a thorough audit has been undertaken by VOGC, no significant risks were highlighted.

Budget: We started the year with a good carry forward enabling us to have additional staff to work with children who have been impacted by the pandemic. **SD** said the impact would be felt for some time. However, due to recent pay awards, we, alongside most other schools are likely to be facing a deficit at the end of the financial year.

On a positive note, we have been successful in securing some additional grants:

- Go See Me Fund - £1,000 to supplement whole school trip to Pantomime
- Arts Council Grant - £10,000 over 2 years. Project to look at diversity, inclusion and belonging
- Tesco Grant –to purchase a defibrillator for the school.

SD & SH have both done work with CSC to secure additional funds. Mrs. Brown (ALNCO) has also worked on an action research project which has generated income for the school.

CMcD asked if the budget had been impacted by the increased cost of heating. **HM** advised that there had not been any impact yet but there would be in the future.

PTA: the PTA remain very supportive and work hard to generate income for the school. The recent Christmas Fayre raised nearly £4500.

My Concerns: this continues to be an effective tool, it is used by all staff across the school – **JJ** commented that she was impressed with the confidentiality of it.

Teaching & Learning Policy

At the start of the term all staff had worked on this. It is a policy that covers all teaching & learning as opposed to 1 policy for Maths, 1 for English etc. The policy reflects how, what and why we teach.

Feedback from Finance & Personnel

This was broadly covered under Head Teacher Report.

Safeguarding

JJ confirmed that there was nothing of significance to report, she has recently undertaken her safeguarding refresher training.

Strategic Equality Plan

This was sent to governors in advance, the basis of the plan was drawn up by the VOGC but was then tweaked to reflect our vision and values. We have a strong emphasis on diversity and inclusion, diverse dolls and diverse superhero costumes have been purchased, the 'No Outsiders' assembly is used. Two questions have been posed to the children, in FP 'What is Racism' and in KS2, 'How do you know someone is Welsh and what does it mean'. The answers from the children have shown that there is a lot of work to be done.

In the spring term a writer of colour will visit school to work with the children.

The Plan was ratified by governors.

Correspondence

Resignations from an LSA and MDS

AOB

None

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 14th February

Matters Confidential

See attached

CO'C thanked governors for their time and support this term.

