

VICTORIA COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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BOARD of GOVERNORS

DECEMBER 2015

Together we aim for the stars

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held at Victoria School on
Tuesday 1st December commencing at 5.30pm.

Members Present:

Miss Christine O'Callaghan, Chairperson
Mrs Samantha Daniels
Mr Simon Husband
Mrs Judith Jones
Mrs Helen Kerr
Mr Dave Lawrence

Mrs Sonia McLaughlin
Miss Jeanette Minns
Mr Mark Petherick
Mrs Amanda Reynolds
Cllr. Mark Wilson
Mrs Helen Moreton

Apologies

Mrs Rebecca Connor
Mrs Nikki Lacey
Mrs Cath Newman
Mrs Clare Price
Mr Kevin Sullivan
Mr Rhys Taylor

Apologies were given and accepted by Governors.

Absent

Cllr. Rhiannon Birch

Welcome

C O'C welcomed two new governors, Mr Dave Lawrence (Parent Governor) and Mr Mark Petherick (LA Governor). The challenge advisor, Morwen Powell was also introduced to governors as were members of the SLT.

Standards Committee & Presentation of School Data Analysis

Morwen Powell informed governors that her role was to raise standards through challenging and supporting schools. Based upon the National Categorisation for standards the school is placed in standards group 1B i.e. we are in the Green category. Last year the school was ranked 1A.

MP outlined the key strengths and areas for further improvement. From the analysis of data and the school's self-evaluation the areas for improvement were highlighted as being:

- To improve the performance of pupils who are more able in both FP and KS2

- To improve outcomes in KS2; whilst performance is above the family average in all indicators, it is below the median in nearly all indicators when compared to similar schools.

MP presented the performance data to Governors who agreed that when analysing the data the only fair comparison was with our family of schools.

An informed discussion followed, **MP** acknowledged that the GB asked relevant, pertinent questions. Governors expressed the view that stand alone data meant nothing, it had to be contextualised.

SD stated that when the SLT and representative governors had met with **MP** to review the data they had all agreed that there was room for improvement and had therefore agreed that we should be category 1B and not 1A. **MP** expressed her confidence that the SLT knew what they had to do to improve and was fairly certain that in 12 months' time the school would once again be 1A.

MW observed that there were too many acronyms and a glossary of terms would be useful, **SD** agreed, and said she would make one available.

MP left the meeting.

Presentation of SIP

SD explained that there were three key questions to consider. It was important that governors held the school to account through focused monitoring and support. **SD** and **C O'C** have discussed the best way for this to happen. They proposed that from January, one of the GB meetings each term would involve governors dividing into three groups to look at the key questions, their findings would be reported back to the full GB. Questionnaires would be sent to each governor before the next meeting to determine which key question they would like to monitor.

Members of the SLT presented a thorough overview of the *FADE sheets; each one examined a key question (standards, provision and leadership). The questions had been broken down into subsections.

***NB FADE sheets attached for your perusal.**

JM expressed her thanks to staff on behalf of all the governors.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 29th September 2015

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday 29th September were approved by the Governors; proposed by **JJ**, seconded by **AR** and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising:

See below:

Traffic Update

C O'C commented that she had noticed a car driving through the back lane at speed and asked if the situation was still being monitored? **SD** confirmed that it was and said a reminder would go in the newsletter, if parents do not abide by the rules the back gate would be closed.

Victoria Playing Field

It was agreed that this would be discussed further in January. **SH** will email the two new governors to give them background information.

Feedback from Personnel Committee

Prior to the GB meeting, the Personnel Committee had met. **SH** reported that staffing structure and the caretaker position had been discussed. There is currently a temporary caretaker; interviews for the permanent post will be held in January.

Register of Interest

HM reminded governors that if there had been any changes, they must inform her so that the register could be updated. New governors were asked to complete the register.

Correspondence

A letter of resignation had been received from Mr K Taylor (caretaker) due to ill health. **C O'C** advised that she would acknowledge with a letter of thanks.

Any Other Business:

SM wanted to discuss HWB with governors – it was agreed that it would be on the agenda for the January meeting when hopefully more governors would be present.

JJ confirmed that she would be able to attend the awards assembly on 11th December.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 26th January
5.30PM Governing Body