

VICTORIA COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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BOARD of GOVERNORS

MAY 2022

Together we aim for the stars

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held at Victoria School on
Tuesday 24th May

Members Present

Miss Christine O'Callaghan, Chairperson
Mr David Adams
Mrs Rebecca Connor
Mrs Sam Daniels
Mr Simon Husband
Mrs Judith Jones
Mrs Helen Kerr

Mrs Cerys McDonald
Mrs Sonia McLaughlin
Miss Jeanette Minns
Mr Mark Petherick
Mrs Helen Moreton
Ms Julie Plumb
Mrs Amanda Reynolds
Mr Grant Robson
Cllr. Mark Wilson

Apologies

Cllr. Rhiannon Birch
Mr Marc Cahill
Mr Rhys Taylor

Welcome

CO'C welcomed the governors and introduced the School Council

School Council

Yr5 & YR6 members of the school council were introduced, also, the head girl.

The children gave an informative presentation about their role to the Governors. Although it had been a difficult start to the school year as the children were in bubbles, they had achieved a great deal. They had been involved in many aspects of school life including organising an 'odd socks' day to highlight 'Anti-Bullying week'.

The council have spent a considerable time re-drafting the 'Anti-bullying' Charter – the new slogan was 'One Kind Word', it had been shared with all children and staff, and signed by Mrs Daniels.

They have also been involved with choosing new fitness equipment for the playground and improving the 'Rainbow Room' to create a calm and welcoming space. The children wrote to local businesses asking for their support.

The council had also been involved with the interviews for new staff and had spent some time considering what questions to ask.

The children were particularly proud of a new initiative they had been involved in, 'Playground Pals'. Nineteen YR5 children had been trained to be 'buddies' and to encourage happy and sociable play times. They wear a purple vest and are on a rota to spend part of a lunchtime each week to encourage friendship games and to identify any children who seem isolated.

CO'C thanked the children and invited the governors to ask questions.

RC asked if the 'Playground Pals' was a busy role, did many children engage with them? The children said it was still a new project but so far, they had experienced a number of children who had asked for their help. **MP** asked if they made a note of the number of requests. They responded that they had not so far but they had an action plan to review and monitor and it would be a good idea.

JJ asked how often they met. The council said that they would meet if they had a task to complete, for example rewriting the school charter. **JJ** commented that they had achieved a great deal this year.

CMcD asked how they felt about being involved in an interview process. They responded that it had been interesting; they had held a number of meetings to determine what questions to ask. **SD** stated that all the candidates had enjoyed that part of the interview process.

JM asked what had been the toughest decision they had made, the children said choosing the new equipment and creating a slogan for the charter. **JM** then asked if there was anything they would like to do, they said that improving the Rainbow Room would be their next big task. They also thought that they could look at redesigning the shelter on the yard. **JM** asked what they particularly enjoyed doing; they all agreed that they enjoyed the interview process.

HK said that she felt very proud of them; they took the process very seriously and engaged with the candidates. Finally, **JM** asked what difference being a member of the school council had made to them; a child responded that it made him feel very special. **RC** stated that Stanwell School had a school council and she looked forward to seeing some of them on it.

On behalf of the governors, **JM** thanked the children for their presentation, they were articulate and had gained skills that they could use in the future. It was acknowledged that pupil voice was important and their contribution to school life was valued. **JM** also thanked Mrs Kerr who has led the school council for a number of years, the children then left the meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th April 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday 5th April were approved by the Governors; proposed by **MP** seconded by **JJ** and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising

None

Feedback from Finance & Personnel Committee

The final budget has been received and circulated to governors. **SD** advised that although there was a good carry forward, much of it has been earmarked to employ additional staff. The staff will be used to negate the impact of Covid and to support well-being.

Three new teachers will be employed from September. Two LSA's have been employed one is being used in YR3 and the other as a 1:1.

Cllr.MW commented that although the budget looked healthy there would undoubtedly be challenges ahead as a deficit is forecast for the future.

Governors approved the Budget.

Safeguarding

JJ reported that there has been 1 multi-agency referral and 3 LACE reviews. Mrs Brown has undertaken a 'My Concerns' health check to ensure that we are making the most of the resource. The teaching staff have had a refresher course the LSA's will receive training on the next INSET day (Friday 27th May). The staff are more confident in using the resource.

SD advised that we have used an Ed Psych for 6 sessions and plan to use her for another 6 next year due to a backlog of assessments.

Correspondence

None

Any Other Business:

SD stated that the 'sharing learning journal day' was well attended. The children were excited to share their journals and the parents were pleased to be in school. **JP** stated that as a parent it was evident how excited the children were. **SD** advised that only a few children did not have family members attend but they eagerly shared their journals with staff and YR6 children. It was a great success and would definitely be repeated.

CO'C asked governors to consider if from September we should change the start time to 5pm – we will discuss at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 12th July – SLT will be attending

Matters Confidential

None