

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

BOARD of GOVERNORS

MARCH 2021

Together we aim for the stars

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held virtually for Victoria School on
Tuesday 23rd March

Members Present via 'Zoom':

Miss Christine O'Callaghan, Chairperson
Mr David Adams
Mr Marc Cahill
Mrs Rebecca Connor
Mrs Sam Daniels
Mr David Hall
Mr Simon Husband
Mrs Judith Jones

Mrs Helen Kerr
Mrs Sonia McLaughlin
Miss Jeanette Minns
Mr Mark Petherick
Mrs Helen Moreton
Ms Julie Plumb

Apologies

Mrs Amanda Reynolds

Apologies were given and accepted by Governors.

Belated Apologies

Cllr. Rhiannon Birch
Cllr. Mark Wilson

Absent

Mr Grant Robson
Mr Rhys Taylor

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 were approved by the Governors; proposed by **MP** seconded by **JJ** and signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising

SD advised that the results from the 'Express Yourself' questionnaire had been analysed. As a result some on-line friendship groups were set up for certain identified pupils during lockdown.

The new curriculum was still on track to be delivered. All year groups would be trialling one of the themes during the summer term.

Head Teacher Update

The report had been sent to governors prior to the meeting. **SD** highlighted some salient points.

Staffing

We are fortunate that staffing is consistent.

Attendance

Rates have been pleasing and were averaging 97%. However, following the updated guidance this has dropped to 93%. A number of children have been tested for covid-19 – the results are being processed quickly and so far all have been negative.

Accelerated Learning

Analysis has been undertaken in order to identify the FP pupils who will require additional short term support in order to plug any educational gaps as a result of Lockdown. After the Easter break a review of KS2 children will be taken.

Premises

We have received a significant grant from Welsh Government which had to be used before the end of term. Some of this has been used to purchase equipment for the outdoor classroom project which will provide valuable outdoor learning experiences for the Reception and Nursery children

Fire Practice

This will take place on the morning of Tuesday 20th April.

Lateral Flow Tests

Staff are undertaking these on a weekly basis, providing another layer of safety.

Budget

There was a £62,000 deficit but following some substantial Welsh government grants the budget has now balanced.

The PTA have provided £5,000 for IT equipment. CO'C said that she has written to the PTA thanking them for their invaluable support.

Celebrations

*Eisteddfod was celebrated, there were some fantastic family project and photography contributions.

*We have had a successful return to school

*FP have already held Parent/teacher consultations, KS2 will take place after Easter

*Red Nose Day

*Falconry Day for YR3

*Young Carers action day

*SLT led a Webinar for CSC – this can be viewed on the CSC website

SD concluded by stating that it has been a challenging term but there have been many positives and as a school we are looking forward.

CO'C stated that the parents should be congratulated for the way that they clear the yard so quickly, their co-operation has been appreciated.

MC asked:

How is staff well-being managed?

How is pupil well-being managed?

Is there a way of measuring this?

SD thanked him for raising such important questions.

Staff

There is a good support mechanism in school. The staff are very positive and have a well-being champion. Sickness levels are low, attendance is high. It is already planned for a further staff survey to be conducted after Easter to ascertain if there is anything further that could be offered to support staff.

Pupils

A resource called 'SELFIE' is utilized to identify any additional support that might be required. Some children need a 'meet and greet' in the morning. The school has recently invested in a new tool, called 'Motional'. This provides therapy play – the staff are having training after Easter.

MC asked if this could be communicated to parents. **SD** advised that it would be useful for a governor to come into school and meet with Mrs. Hall the ALNCO and see the tools being utilized. **MC** agreed to liaise with **SD** and report back to parents and governors.

Feedback from Health & Safety Committee

DH advised that during the current climate the usual H&S walks have not taken place. He confirmed that the Covid Risk assessment had been ratified by VOGC.

A H&S officer from the VOGC had called at school to conduct a Covid assessment and there were no points for improvement.

Lateral flow tests were being undertaken by staff, including cleaning and catering.

DH wanted to acknowledge the outstanding level of staff enthusiasm and the effort that had been put into on-line learning.

Feedback Finance & Personnel Committee

SMcL advised that the above committee met earlier that day and had discussed the budget and staffing. See Matters Confidential.

Safeguarding

JJ informed governors that the school were seeking 'Young Carers Accreditation'. An action day had been held and a number of staff had already been trained. It was important to identify those children who were young carers, especially those who didn't realise that they were. **JJ** will send further information to governors before the next meeting.

JJ advised that she would be attending the ACE's training.

SD advised that all staff would undertake Level 1 Domestic Violence Awareness training in the summer term. **SD, JH and SH** have already taken the Level 2 training.

Correspondence

HM reminded the GB that they had all received details of various training courses and they could sign up directly.

Any Other Business:

Staff members were asked to leave the meeting.

Matters Confidential

See attached

Next GB meeting – Tuesday 18th May @ 4PM

