



Newtown Primary School Governing Body

Full Governing Body Meeting Thursday 16th January 2014 at 17:30 Venue: Newtown Primary School

Present Hayley Back (HB) Ruth Jones (RJ) James Lyon (JL) Ruth Jones (RJ)
Jane Morris (JM) Sandra Dalgleish (SD) Steven Fearn (SF) Richard Westlake (RW)
Frances Everson (FE) Penny Burnside (PB) Simon Belshaw (SB) Louise Mason (LM)
Jenny Lloyd (JML)
In Attendance: Jessica Bengel (JB) (Clerk)

Apologies:

Quorum: 7. 13 in attendance, meeting quorate

Action/ Resolution

1. **Apologies for Absence**
None noted
2. **Declaration of Interests invited and declared**
SF - School Website Noted
3. **Approval of meeting minutes from FGM 5th December 2013**
FGM Minutes from the 5th December 2013 agreed by all present and signed by the Chair. Minutes of the FGM
05/12/2013
approved and signed

4. **Matters Arising from the minutes of the FGM**

4.1 **Monitoring the impact of Pupil Premium Expenditure**

RJ and PB have reviewed the attainment of Pupil Premium Pupils (PPP) measured against other pupils within the school. This included a review of the latest Raise Online Data and the 'gap' in attainment for PPP in the Autumn term. A review was also carried out into the data for gaps in progress for age-related expectation.

The conclusions from this initial review were that students who are solely Pupil Premium do well in attainment but where there are other factors, such as SEN or School Action Plus, the gap in attainment is not being closed at the same rate.

PB gave feedback on a very positive visit to Chestnut Class. It was noted that the THRIVE interventions and SEAL have had a big impact. This impact will be more formally evaluated.

FE clarified that Pupil Premium had only been in place for the last 18 months, in which case Year 6 has not had the benefit of the funded interventions throughout their time at school.

Action: Both committees to discuss and answer the self-review questions at next meeting.

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It was noted that funding for 'Looked After Children' is set to change in April 2014 with additional funding being made available for these groups of pupils.

Action: Once further information on funding for Looked After Children becomes available, this will be discussed by Teaching and Learning

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Committee.

FE asked if national statistics reflected the findings of the RJ/ PB review and whether there were comparisons of interventions available. It was noted that this information was not available at this time.

4.2 Raise Online Report

All governors have a PDF copy of the RAISE ONLINE report but can only access the data at the school.

Agreed: The Governing Body will not subscribe to the Fisher Family Trust Data Dashboard Service.

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4.3 School Website Development Update

The meeting has not yet taken place.

Action: Agenda item for the next meeting.

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4.4 Community Governor Vacancy

A pen portrait, written by Saxon Spence was circulated to all governors.

Proposal: Saxon Spence to be co-opted as a Community Governor
Agreed by all present

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Proposed: Richard Westlake

Seconded: Steve Fearn

Agreed by all present

SS will become a member of the Resources Committee and will be invited to attend the next meeting.

5. Verbal Update by Headteacher

A report was circulated at the meeting and RJ gave further information.

Results of 'Parents Questionnaire on After School Care Provision' were circulated at the meeting. RJ gave further information. One parent has offered to do further research into needs and options for provision and will report back to RJ. The response shows that parents would be interested in both Breakfast Club and After School provision.

JL asked whether there was a sense of timescale in developing these plans and whether this could be in place by September 2014. RJ responded that it would be great if something could be in place by Easter 2014 but timescales would very much depend on the option of provision chosen.

RJ reported that leaks in the roof of the new class room are due to a design flaw.

Action: RJ to get a written report from the builders highlighting the design flaw contributing to the leak.

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Action: RW to speak to Chris Cooper at DCC regarding correcting this issue.

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Illustrations for design of Library were circulated at the meeting. The school has received £1500 donation from FONS for new books and £1000 from the Local Learning Community towards the library interior. The Governor extended their thanks to FONS for all their efforts in fundraising.

Progress in Key Stage 2 report was distributed at the meeting. JML asked what the floor targets for 2013-14 will be. RJ responded that floor targets will be 65% and this means that will current progress the school could drop below this level. Discussion focused on issues with progress in KS2. Contributing factors include high percentages of SEN pupils and pupil mobility. Teaching staff have already reorganised classes to better target interventions.

6. Developing a new Vision for Newtown Primary School

This item was moved to later in the agenda

7. Review Community Cohesion

Agreed: Move Review of Community Cohesion to Teaching and Learning Committee. Clerk to update Annual Cycle of Business.

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8. Review insurance arrangements & local authority services

HB has investigation insurance provision arrangements and currently Zurich still provide the best policy for the school.

Action: Agenda item to be carried forward to Resource Committee to discuss further

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9. PART TWO

Matter brought forward by the Chair. (additional items to the agenda)

i) Consultation on Re-constitution of Governing Bodies.

JML gave governors information on the governments plans to further change the role of Governing Bodies (GB) and a plan for all GBs to reconstitute by September 2015 to "smaller highly-skilled boards of governors". It was noted that there is not a lot of information available at this time.

Action: JML to attend both committees meeting to discuss further and gather feedback for the consultation process.

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ii) New Governors Handbook

JML reminded all present that the Governors Handbook has been updated. Clerk has emailed a copy to all governors.

iii) Governors Newsletter

JML is working on the draft newsletter.

Action: JML to bring to each committee for review prior to publishing.

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iv) School Meals Working Party

It was noted that the announcement from Central Government of free school meal provision for all pupils in Keystage 1 impacts on the remit of the School Meals Working Party. The working party plans to meet in the near future.

Action: Agenda item for Resources Committee.

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v) Policies to be adopted:

a) Anti-Bullying Policy

This has been updated by RJ and teaching staff.

Approved: Anti-Bullying Policy

Anti Bullying Policy agreed for adoption by all present.

b) Child Protection Policy and Procedure

This is a newly-released model policy from DCC. Named staff have been added to the policy

Approved: Child Protection Policy and Procedure.

Child Protection Policy and Procedure agreed for adoption by all present.

c) Inclusion Policy

This has been updated by RJ.

Approved: Inclusion Policy

Inclusion Policy agreed for adoption by all present.

d) Race Equality Policy

This has been updated by RJ.

Approved: Race Equality Policy

Race Equality Policy agreed for adoption by all present.

e) Accessibility Plan

This has been updated by RJ.

Approved: Accessibility Plan

Accessibility Plan agreed for adoption by all present.

f) Homework Policy

This has been updated by RJ.

Approved: Homework Policy

Homework Policy agreed for adoption by all present.

JM left the meeting at 18:35

6. Developing a new Vision for Newtown Primary School

JML gave out handouts at the meeting to aid discussion. Additional materials had been distributed prior to the meeting including responses from parents/carers to vision and values consultation. It was agreed by all present that the tree motif of the school was a good starting place to work from and should be preserved.

The meeting split into smaller groups to discuss what their vision for the school was. This was a very lively and positive discussion, working on large sheets of paper to map out ideas. The meeting then rejoined feedback discussion.

Copies of the worksheets were distributed to governors at the end of the meeting.

Action: JML and RJ to collate ideas and bring draft version of vision statement to the next meeting.

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10. Time and date of next meeting.

Thursday 3rd April 2014 at 5:30pm. This will be the budget ratification meeting.

Next FGM
03/04/2014 at 17:30

Agreed by all present

Meeting ended at 19:37