

WHITBY SECONDARY PARTNERSHIP

At Scoresby Site
Tuesday 25th February 2020 at 5.30pm

Present: Pen Cruz, Carolyn Watkinson, Simon Riley, Andy Fyfe, Julian Fester, Sarah Hugill, Barry Harland, Jon Brown, Tony Hewitt, Trevor Parker, Jane Mortimer.

In attendance: Peter Geer (Clerk), Sir Martin Narey, Paul Brennan (Strategic Plan item only)

MINUTES

ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
	<p>Whitby Secondary Federation - Strategic Plan</p> <p>AF explained that for the last few months he has been working with SR to look at the opportunities that the Federation brings and produce an outline Strategic Plan on how to realise these benefits.</p> <p>The first section this Strategic Plan looks at the federation structure and the four priorities which were identified by the Governing Body as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High academic standards and results• Great teaching and learning by, and for all• Rich and memorable experiences• Collaboration between the schools creating opportunities <p>AF and SR have divided leadership of key areas so that they play to their strengths, although there are also areas that need to be co-led. There is a timeline for how the document will be developed and implemented over the seven weeks as it is rolled out to staff and the community.</p> <p>To assist teaching and learning the subject areas will be divided in to six schools of learning which will meet to share practice and to target students for the Sixth Form. There is also an outline list of cross-federation events and celebrations.</p> <p>The Chair explained that there is funding from the Opportunities Area for a financial review of the Federation and they are looking for a suitable external person to lead this review. This review should take place within the next few months.</p> <p>The Governors discussed whether there still are tensions between the school communities. AF noted that there is still a residual element of antipathy with some staff but that is declining and most staff are now keen to come together - there are inevitable concerns over jobs, and a lack of trust with NYCC and historical issues over capital investment. The Governors noted that this process of bringing the school communities together would take time and that the best advert is to show how the federation benefits students.</p> <p>The Governors discussed Sixth Form intake. Last year there were seven pupils from Eskdale who sent to the Sixth Form, this year AF anticipates that will be between twenty and thirty. AF is taking every opportunity to bring Eskdale pupils to the Sixth Form and to make this the default destination. Staff and the town need to be aware that the future of the Sixth Form is not assured but depends on attracting enough numbers to make it viable.</p> <p>The Governors discussed the subject offer of the Sixth Form and noted that this was one key reason students were expressing for choosing to go outside Whitby. The Governors noted that the Whitby Sixth Form struggles to compete with other Sixth Forms in vocational subjects - which are especially difficult to put on as they generally require a significant capital investment in equipment and need a sizeable and consistent intake to avoid being a financial drain. SR has been having conversations with Scarborough Tec about some form of joint offer in Construction or other vocational courses where students could spend part of the week in Whitby. The Governors noted that subjects may need to be offered as a loss-leader until they can generate</p>	

	<p>their own momentum and that the federation may need support to help cover these losses.</p> <p>SR explained that the Sixth Form currently offer 18 A-Levels, 7B-Tec lines and 4 vocational lines, although in 2019 not all of those (eg music and drama) attracted enough pupils to then run the subject.</p> <p>The Governors agreed that they have to move quickly. There are positive sounds from students following the physical separation of the Sixth Form and the work done with Eskdale but there is a sense of urgency to translate that into numbers.</p> <p>Sir Martin Narey explained that he has not yet got firm assurances as to whether the Opportunities Area will be carried on in to a fourth year but feels that the Sixth Form needs support at this time.</p> <p>AF and SR will work with Paul Brennan and their SLTs to look at the detail of the Strategic Plan. The Governors will meet again to look at the Strategic Plan and monitor progress on the 21st April.</p>	AF/SR Governors
1	<p>Apologies for Absence Absences: Alison Hodgson Apologies were received and accepted from Alison Hodgson.</p>	
2	<p>Declaration of Interest Governors were reminded of the need to declare any interests and of their duty of confidentiality around governing body meetings.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of the meeting of the 21st January 2020 The Governors discussed the minutes of the 21st January 2020 DECISION: The Governors approved and accepted the minutes of the 21 January 2020 as a true and accurate record.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 21st January 2020 Website AF confirmed that the new Eskdale website was now up and running. Financial Review Paul Brennan and SR are still in the process of identifying a suitable person to carry out the financial review. SFVS This will be discussed at the meeting in March.</p>	
5	<p>LA Governor Appointment NYCC has formally nominated Jane Mortimer for the position of Local Authority Governor. DECISION: The Governors voted to appoint Jane Mortimer as the Local Authority Governor.</p>	
6	<p>Licensed Deficit. The Governors acknowledged that both Eskdale and CCW are running a licensed deficit and that this will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.</p>	
7	<p>Link Governor Report The Governors thanked CW for her report as Link Governor for Curriculum. CW noted that the Heads might want to consider whether there would be any benefit to the schools from ASDAN.</p> <p>SR and AF confirmed that in light of the new framework most of the broad curriculum work has been done but that the challenge is on getting middle leaders to understand their increased role and in finding ways for monitoring.</p>	
8	<p>Headteacher Update SR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR explained the CCW leadership structure which consists of 4 Assistant Principals and Directors of Learning. • SR outlined the timetable for next year. The timetable is constructed to allow for setting in Maths and for flexibility for Science and IT. • GCSE revision information has been sent out to parents and there are lots of resources available for them. • Work has started on the new Ofsted framework, the extended leadership team will be working on this with subject leaders where appropriate. This is being done with input from Nick Horn. 	

	<p>AF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF confirmed that the School Development Plan is available through onedrive – AF to resend the link to Governors. Last year’s SDP is now used as a reflective document. • The organisation of Eskdale consists of 4 Assistant Heads with 41 teaching staff in total. Subjects are split into five faculties – although there are some subjects not yet assigned to a faculty for various reasons. • The timetable for next year is still being worked on and will depend on the results of the options due next week – Photography will be dropped and incorporated within Creative Arts. • There is a need to appoint a new Data Manager / Exams Officer which could be a Federated post. • Work is ongoing on the new framework. This is supported by Nick Horn and has an increased emphasis on Middle Leaders. • For Year 11 AF is looking at Average Total Attainment 8 score of 42.81 which would be slightly below National Average. English is the weaker key subject but AF feels that there is now a strong English department. The main group that needs to make progress are middle attainers. • Attendance is at 94.3% and behaviour is generally good. 	AF
9	<p>Developing the Governing Body.</p> <p>The Chair met with Nick Horn last week to consider the work he might do to further support the Governing Body. In particular there is a need to draw together the different ways of working of the previous two Governing Bodies and to find new ways which are appropriate to a federation.</p> <p>There will be a session with Nick Horn (17th March 5.30pm) where he will go through items such as Link Governor roles in light of the new framework. In the summer term there will be another session on Ofsted.</p>	
10	<p>Safeguarding items to report.</p> <p>SR confirmed that he was seeking advice from NYCC regarding a pupil in Year 11.</p>	
11	<p>Unpaid Leave</p> <p>Requests for unpaid leave to be considered at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Governors noted that if there are policies in place regarding unpaid leave it would be useful to have this at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Agenda</p> <p>AF/SR</p>
12	<p>Policies and Policy Reviews</p> <p>The Governors discussed policies.</p> <p>The Governors noted that the Federation Code of Conduct was the County Policy but that Headteachers should consider how this is cascaded out to staff – in particular they might feel that there are some items that need explanation or highlighting to staff.</p> <p>DECISION: Governors approved and adopted the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation Work Experience • Federation Governor Disciplinary • Federation Governor Visits • Federation Code of Conduct • Federation Appraisal • Federation Admissions Policy (KS3 & 4) • Federation e-safety • WSF Admissions • WSF Bursary Fund • Child Protection Policies 	
13	<p>Any Other Urgent Business</p> <p>None.</p>	

Meeting Closed 8.20pm

Signed by the Chair:

Pen Cruz