

**THE GOVERNING BODY OF BATLEY GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL – VISUAL ARTS COLLEGE**

Minutes of the meeting of the Academy's Governing Body held at 7.00 pm at the School on Thursday, 20 March 2014.

**PRESENT**

Dr R J B Asby, Mr G Goddard, Mr S Khan, Mr M Limbert, Mr S Mayet, Mrs P Pickles, Mr J L W Townend.

**In Attendance**

Mr W Schonenberg (Minute Clerk)  
Ms Julie Haigh (joint Head Teacher elect)  
Ms Ann McCall (joint Head Teacher elect)  
Ms Sally Cook (Observer)  
Miss Samera Khalil (student representative)

**260. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Apologies for absence were received from Jackie Eames, Martin Ridge and Peter Rout, all with consent.

The Chair informed governors that Mr Rout had attended the special meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> March even though he had only just been discharged from hospital. Governors expressed their best wishes and hoped that he would make a full recovery.

**261. NOTIFICATIONS OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The following item would be raised under any other business:

- Samera Khalil (student rep) to give a presentation

**262. REPRESENTATION**

The Chair informed governors that Mr Mark Griffin had handed in his resignation, effective 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014, citing pressures of work. Nevertheless, the Chair undertook to contact Mr Griffin to see whether this decision could be reversed.

**263. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2014**

These were reviewed page by page.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2014 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**264. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters raised from these minutes.

**265. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2014**

These were not yet to hand, but they would not contain any outstanding matters.

266. MATTERS ARISING

There was no other business transacted on the 12<sup>th</sup> March.

267. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday, 23 January 2014

Governors noted the report.

268. EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER'S UPDATE

Julie Haigh and Ann McCall began by saying that they wished to start the discussion by outlining the proposed new strategic direction of travel for the School. This would include protecting the current reputation of the School and developing it further. This will be underpinned by a recruitment strategy building on the current profile of English and Maths in the School.

They suggested that governors would like to see how the joint co-headship roles develop and in order to explain this, 3 documents were subsequently shared.

The first document was a listing of individual roles and joint roles; JCH taking on the **Achievement** role whilst relinquishing some aspects to others in the SLT. AKM will take on the **Transformation** role whilst relinquishing some aspects to others in the SLT. Both will jointly take on the Whole school Vision and Ethos role.

**Q. Have relevant colleagues been consulted?**

**A. We are currently sharing the details with them.**

**We have also identified staff poised to step up in respect of the next stage in their respective careers.**

**We have taken into account the opportunities this transformation brings.**

Governors then studied the second diagram. This showed the current 5 super faculties; Humanities, Art & Design, Culture & Communication, Maths & Applied, and Life Science. The joint heads plan to move these 5 structures into 3 new structures: Respect, Achievement, and Transformation. A discussion arose as to why these proposals would work better and be more successful. Julie Haigh and Ann McCall then covered aspects of each of the 3 new super faculties.

This discussion then lead governors to the third document which drilled down into potential areas of responsibility and who might lead on them. Achievement will be driven forward utilising the skills of the current Core leaders who have so much to share.

**Q. What would be the costs of these proposals?**

**A. This model will be substantially cheaper to implement than the current structure. This had been discussed and supported in principle at the strategy sub-committee meeting earlier that day (with JE, JT,RA and SK present).**

The joint co-heads ended by stating that they hoped that these proposals would elicit governors' full support. The Chairman replied that the proposals were very innovative and that the governors were fully behind these changes.

269. PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Governors received an update notice. This showed updates regarding:

- Huddersfield University
- School Direct
- Leading Edge School SSAT
- PIXL
- Turbo Cummins
- Stem Link with Leeds University
- Primary outreach
- Change Project.

270. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

This was deferred to the 26<sup>th</sup> June meeting.

271. GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

A general agreement on recruiting more governors was reached.

272. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Miss Samera Khalil, the student governing body representative, was welcomed by the Chairman. She informed governors about a project that she was currently working on. This was a project centred around former students, the Alumni, which wanted to ask individuals back into School, in order that they could personally explain their path into work and careers. Former students had been asked to provide pen sketches for inclusion on a web site, as well as the library notice board. They were asked to answer around “How had the School prepared you for your current career?” and “What tips can they share with current students?” Samera was supported by Huddersfield University on this project and an event is being prepared for the Summer.

**Q. Do you have a team supporting you?**

**A. Yes, but we would like to recruit further numbers.**

**Q. How many years back are you going with the alumni?**

**A. 5 to 6 years at first. But over time it is hoped that the project can go back further.**

**Q. Can updates of this project be included in newsletters to parents?**

**A. Yes, that can be arranged.**

Governors were very appreciative of Samera’s work on this and her interesting and lively presentation.

273. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meetings of the Governing Body be held at the School on:

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014. 5.15 pm Every Learner Matters  
6.00 pm Standards  
7.00 pm Full Governors

Thursday 26 June 2014. 5.15 pm To be advised if needed  
6.00 pm Finance & Premises  
7.00 pm Full Governors

274. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of the agenda, minutes or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the School.