

WOODLANDS MEED GOVERNOR STRATEGY MEETING
ON
Monday, 6th March 2023 at 4.00pm
VENUE: Woodlands Meed, Chancetonbury Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9EY

Present: Adam Rowland (AFR), Sandra Boyd (SB), Peter Clinch (PC), Simon Virgo (SV), Marion Wilcock (MGW), Nola Bennett (NB), Justina Pughe Morgan (JPM), Bill Hatton (BH), Miriam Owen (MO)

Clerk: Louisa Rydon (LC)

BUILDING UNIQUE FUTURES TOGETHER

MINUTES		
1. Welcome & Apologies	Apologies were received and accepted from Tom Brown, Matt Stuart and Anna Hull.	
2. Declaration of Interests	SB: Grand-daughter pupil at college	
3. Approval of Minutes dated 24th November 2022	The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.	
4. Matters Arising	<p>a) <u>New SEND school in Burgess Hill</u> MGW had just heard about a proposed new school on the old adult learning centre at Marle Place. AFR/JPM confirmed Woodlands Meed had previously approached WSCC with an expression of interest on the site but had been turned away. Governors considered the impact a new SEND school might have on WM and asked that it was added to the risk register.</p> <p>b) <u>Strategy on website</u> JPM demonstrated how to find the visions and values statement on the website. It was very low on the website page due to the celebrating 100 years logo, but it clearly had its own green menu button.</p>	LR 10/3/23
5. Any suggested amendments to the strategy	<p>As requested at the FGB, PC had suggested a clause (1d) to be added to the strategy: <i>To ensure that school leavers are equipped as fully as possible for their future educational and life needs beyond Woodlands Meed.</i></p> <p>The committee recommended the addition for approval at the next FGB meeting.</p>	Agenda 23/3/23
6. Review of current tracker	<p>MGW stressed the importance of a governor led strategy. PC confirmed he had asked AFR to revise the tracker document using the new strategic goals agreed at the December FGB. Governors recognized the value of a concise document but asked that an extra governor/governor committee oversight column was added. The committee carefully went through each item and confirmed which governor/committee should be allocated oversight. PC to complete. The committee thanked NB for her comprehensive progress update on strategic objectives 1a, 1b and 5a and 5f.</p> <p>Items noted by the committee: <u>Admissions</u> MGW continued to raise her concern about SENAT claiming responsibility for admissions. As a foundation school, it was for governors to stipulate their own admission process. On discussion and if SENAT was the most effective way of running the admissions, the committee suggested this was made clear on the website that the governor body had given the authority to SENAT. MGW to check with Helen Johns at WSCC.</p>	PC 23/3/23 MGW 23/3/23

	<p><u>Post 19 support</u> The committee applauded the objectives and noted the need to secure permission from the Schools Adjudicator to support post 19 pupils. The FGB would have to agree to set up a specialist independent provision for 19-25s. MGW noted the timescales and believed it would be possible to apply for temporary alterations and the committee asked her to write to the Schools' Adjudicator for permission.</p> <p><u>Carbon neutral</u> SB suggested that links to documents mentioned in the tracker should be added. PC to do.</p> <p><u>Partner with local housing group</u> The committee did not want to lose site of this objective. NB commented on WM's current relationships with housing groups through the Careers Fair.</p> <p><u>Maintain good relationship with WSCC</u> The committee appreciated the current challenges but highlighted the contact made by AFR/MGW with WSCC. They also appreciated Chris Carter had a good working relationship with SENAT.</p> <p><u>Benefits of foundation school status</u> The committee stressed the value the independence foundation school status gave, ie fitting solar panels, owning the land and buildings.</p> <p><u>School fundraising plans</u> The committee recognized the incredible work Anna Hull and her team achieved and had all been so impressed by the Hawth theatre event. They asked that the committee receive the termly fundraising report.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>SB left the meeting.</i></p> <p><u>Support efforts to get special needs funding</u> There had been no recent news from Worthless. NB reported on the Save our Schools national campaign and would investigate how to get involved. She also noted that though strikes were not about funding, teachers were saying the strikes were more than just about pay.</p> <p><u>Professional tutor role</u> NB reported on the challenges with the second year of the programme. The committee asked that the learning and wellbeing committee asked for a report on the programme at their next meeting.</p> <p><u>Assistive technology</u> NB explained how the headsets had been used successfully. Governors saw how beneficial they could be to prepare students through a 'real' experience. They asked for a demonstration at an FGB meeting.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> To be reported through learning and wellbeing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>AFR left the meeting.</i></p> <p><u>Diverse workforce</u> Governors questioned the terminology 'disrupting the current process around the recruitment of personal support assistants (PSA)'. JPM confirmed the role of PSAs and the reasoning behind the wording. Disability recruitment programme to be agenda item at next L&WB meeting.</p> <p>PC would update the tracker with the discussions held during the meeting and complete the governor oversight column. Completed tracker to next FGB.</p>	<p>MGW 23/3/23</p> <p>NB 23/3/23</p> <p>Agenda 12/6/23</p> <p>FGB</p> <p>Agenda 12/6/23</p> <p>Agenda 12/6/23</p>
7.	<p>Consider and discuss how to maximize the outcome options for college leavers Added as an objective to tracker.</p>	
8.	<p>Fundraising report Anna Hull to send report to each meeting.</p>	<p>AH/LR 26/6/23</p>
9.	<p>Update on academy options As per report on tracker (4b). MGW attending the Academy Roadshow on 9/3/23. Report back to FGB.</p>	<p>Agenda 23/3/23</p>
10	<p>Impact on pupils Tracker has been updated and will be used as live document to report on progress against strategic objectives.</p>	

	Objective added to work on successful outcomes for school leavers.	
11	Date of next meeting Monday, 26th June at 4pm	

SIGNED.....*Peter Clinch*..... DATE.....26th June 2023.....

ACTION GRID March 2023			
4a	Add new SEND school at Marle Place to risk register.	LR	✓
5	Approval of new strategic objective at FGB	Agenda	✓
6	Admissions – contact Helen Johns for advice on admissions authority.	MGW	Awaiting reply from Helen Johns
6	Post 19 support – letter to Official Schools adjudicator	MGW	✓
6	Include links to documents in tracker ie under carbon neutral (sustainable action grid)	PC	✓
6	Investigate Save our Schools national campaign	NB	✓
6	Reports on ECT programme, communication & disability recruitment programme to next L&WB	Agenda	✓
6	Assistive technology – consider demonstration for governors	FGB	✓
6	Update tracker for FGB	PC	✓
8	Termly report to be submitted to strategy meeting	AH/LR	✓
9	Report on academy roadshow to FGB	MGW	✓