

WOODLANDS MEED GOVERNOR STRATEGY MEETING
ON
Monday, 26th June 2023 at 4.00pm
VENUE: Woodlands Meed, Chanctonbury Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9EY

All governors are invited to attend the meetings.

Committee present: Adam Rowland (AFR), Sandra Boyd (SB), Peter Clinch (PC), Simon Virgo (SV), Marion Wilcock (MGW), Matt Stuart (MS), Nola Bennett (NB), Justina Pughe Morgan (JPM), Bill Hatton (BH), Liz Huffy (LH)

Clerk: Louisa Rydon (LC)

BUILDING UNIQUE FUTURES TOGETHER

MINUTES	
1. Welcome & Apologies	
Apologies were received and accepted from Debs Scott, Miriam Owen and Anna Hull.	
2. Declaration of Interests	
SB: grand-daughter pupil at College	
3. Approval of Minutes dated 6th March 2023	
The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.	
4. Matters Arising	
a) <u>Admissions & SENAT</u> MGW had sent Helen Johns an email requesting a response to governors' understanding that whilst Woodlands Meed followed the policy laid out by SENAT, as explained on the Woodlands Meed's website, the governing body had the final authority.	
b) <u>Post 19</u> MGW advised on the legal procedure. AFR and NB were talking to IXION to discuss the possibility of Woodlands Meed forming a satellite centre.	
c) <u>Save our Schools</u> NB explained there had been no additional campaigning. The work for the past 6 months had been done by the Unions with the teacher strikes for pay and conditions. Governors were aware of the joint Union action to find a positive resolution for the funding issues. The Woodlands Meed NEU representatives had arranged a very well attended meeting to support the cause for more school funding. Governors who had attended confirmed the impact of the meeting to raise awareness on funding. JPM reported that a local Councillor was now supporting the school with regard to the significant reduction in the bursary which had been used to pay for post 16 pupil transport. Governors were extremely concerned by the number of families who would be impacted and stressed the importance of supporting families to ensure pupils were able to get to school. MS wondered if it was something WM should be fundraising for and AFR confirmed Anna Hull's team were now funding essential items. The committee asked if curriculum costs for parents were being monitored. JPM confirmed a cap of £20 per terms had been set so there were no unforeseen costs. No charges were made for food tech costs or fuel contributions.	
d) <u>Planned pupils places</u> The resources committee had noted the impact 259 planned pupil places had on funding whilst there were 274 pupils in the school. MGW reported on the procedural regulations for increasing pupils numbers. AFR confirmed WSCC would ask if WM wanted to make any changes in Autumn 2023. AFR expressed caution	

	<p>as if there were available places WM could be asked to take on pupils who could not be accommodated. MS suggested looking at the option of increasing pupils by a smaller number. The committee understood the process to increase numbers would be long so if they wanted to go ahead they should be prepared to put a plan in place. Discussion to take place at FGB.</p> <p>PC highlighted the phrase in the Strategy <i>Designed for 230 pupils, it currently has 260 pupils.....</i> The committee agreed the phrase should be recommended for removal at FGB.</p>	<p>FGB 11/7/23</p> <p>FGB 11/7/23</p>
5.	<p>Any suggested amendments to the strategy – proforma attached</p> <p>AFR had updated the tracker. He requested that LR send out the tracker to the leadership team in advance of the strategy meetings so they could make their changes using track changes.</p>	<p>LR constant</p>
6.	<p>Review of current tracker</p> <p>a) <u>Careers</u> NB would update the FGB on the achievements and plans for careers' development. She did note the vacancy in the role to maintain relationships with local companies. Currently, she and other staff were managing but it was hoped a recruit would be found from the current list of applicants.</p> <p>b) <u>Partnership with social housing group</u> No capacity at present, but to remain as a goal.</p> <p>c) <u>Shared INSET days</u> Collaboration between local schools was successful. MGW reported on the work she was doing at chair level with QEII.</p> <p>d) <u>Professional Tutor role</u> NB had given a full report to learning and wellbeing.</p> <p>e) <u>Diversity</u> AFR/NB had reflected on the WM recruitment process and seen opportunities to attract SEND candidates by making the process more accessible. HR had confirmed this process would be appropriate. The committee highlighted the risk to WM but recognized it as a positive plan and felt it should go ahead with safeguards in place. NB commented on the excellent induction process and the support offered. AFR to action. PC to update the tracker and submit to FGB.</p>	<p>NB 11/7/23</p> <p>AFR PC 11/7/23</p>
7.	<p>Fundraising report</p> <p>The committee applauded Anna Hull for the incredible success she had. AFR gave an example of the benefit to a pupil of the fundraising at WM. The committee recognized that fundraising was increasingly needed for necessary items rather than a wish list but did note some donations were specifically ringfenced for projects.</p> <p>Anna Hull was also chair of the Friends of Woodlands Mead and governors passed on their thanks for the work she and the team of volunteers carried out. They hoped that more parents would be encouraged to join the Friends.</p>	
8.	<p>Any update on academy options</p> <p>MGW reported that no special schools in the area had plans to academize. The committee agreed it was important to continue strengthening the links between local special schools.</p>	
9.	<p>Impact on pupils</p> <p>Discussion on post 19 provision</p> <p>Consider funding options for pupil transport</p> <p>Discussion on planned pupil numbers to avoid loss of funding</p> <p>Tracker has been updated and used as live document to report on progress against strategic objectives.</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday, 20th November at 4pm</p>	

SIGNED.....*Peter Clinch*..... DATE.....20th November 2023.....

ACTION GRID June 2023			
4d	Planned pupil place number discussion at FGB	MGW/MS/AFR	✓
4d	Recommend removal of clause on pupil numbers in Strategy	PC	✓
5	Send tracker to leadership team 3 weeks prior to meetings for updates.	LR	Ongoing
6e	Go ahead with simpler recruitment process to attract diverse applicants	AFR	✓
6e	Update tracker for FGB	PC	✓