

JORDANHILL SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING held on Tuesday 24 November 2015 in the Conference Room.

PRESENT

Mr Ken Alexander
Mrs Anne Fraser
Mrs Sheila Jackson
Mr Kenny MacRae
Mrs Morag Munro
Ms Janice Oliver
Miss Marian Quinn
Professor Naveed Sattar
Ms Fiona Wishlade

ATTENDING

Mr Richard Buchan
Miss Wendy Grant
Mrs Christine Robertson
Dr Paul Thomson

APOLOGIES

Mrs Joan McFadden

VISITING

Pupil Representatives
(Rights Respecting School
Committee)

17/15/2016 RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Four pupils (P7 and S6) from the Rights Respecting Schools group offered an informative and very interesting presentation on the school's current journey to achieve UNICEF's Rights Respecting School Award. The pupils shared the aims and articles of the UN Convention and discussed how pupils and staff are being engaged and embracing the opportunity to help define a clear set of values for the school community.

The pupils engaged in discussions with Board members on the growth in their understanding of the differences locally and globally in the lives of others and the rights and responsibilities that they have and must demonstrate. The Board thanked the pupils for leading this initiative and look forward to further updates.

18/15/2016 APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted from Mrs McFadden.

19/15/2016 PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes and confidential minutes of 20 October were approved. The action grid was reviewed and future actions noted. The work plan was noted. Dr Thomson advised that future parent engagements events would be discussed at the January 2016 Board meeting.

20/15/2016 MATTERS ARISING

Term Dates

Term dates for 2016-17 are now finalised and available on the school website and had been publicised via an e-bulletin.

Centre of Excellence in Chinese Language

The Rector provided an update on the project. He outlined some key features of the proposal submitted on 30 October and the support received from the Confucius Institute for Scotland's Schools. A representative of the Swire Trust had visited the school on 20 November and very productive discussions had taken place with the Head Teachers of Knightswood Secondary and

St Thomas Aquinas Secondary on the day. The Rector will visit London on 1 December 2015 to meet with representatives of the trust. The outcome should be known in December.

Modern Languages 1+2

Work is underway in the Primary department to offer professional development and learning to teachers who will be taking forward French in the primary curriculum. Similarly Chinese is being developed and future plans are in place for cultural learning and development for teachers and pupils in the coming months. A week of Chinese cultural activities is planned for mid-February 2016.

Future Parent Forum

A provisional date of Saturday 27 February 2016 was agreed for the next event to be hosted by Board members. The Convenor and Rector will prepare ideas for themes/topics of discussion and present these at the January 2016 Board meeting alongside a wider set of ideas for parental engagement.

21/15/2016 ORAL UPDATE

Staffing (Primary)

Miss Liz Edmonstone leaves the Primary department on 4 December to take up a new promoted post in Renfrewshire. Mrs Susan Ferguson stops for maternity leave in December. The Primary department are currently operating with two temporary posts for session 2015-16 pending agreement on the final recurrent grant (see 25/15/2016 below). Miss Edmonstone's departure brings the vacancies to three against normal staffing complement.

Advertisement and re-advertisement of a post to cover the maternity leave had failed to attract any applicants. The senior management team therefore recommended filling two permanent posts at this time. The alternative of collapsing Primary 2 from three classes of 22 to two classes of 33 was not deemed to be desirable. Agreement on the budget and continuing statements from Scottish Government that they intend to maintain teacher numbers into 2016-17 suggest that converting 1 temporary post to permanent was a relatively low risk strategy. The Board approved this recommendation.

Sunday Times Parent Power Listing

Jordanhill School ranked number one (again) as top Scottish State Secondary School. This is based on 34% of pupils gaining 2 or more Advanced Highers, 75% of pupils gaining 5 or more Highers and 97% of pupils gaining 5 or more National 5 qualifications.

22/15/2016 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Board reviewed the Equalities Impact Assessment which takes a holistic view of all key policies and the impact they may have on pupils, parents/carers, staff and others. It was noted that The Board of Managers and the school work on the principle that we always seek to admit a child where it has been determined that the needs of the child can be met through the normal range of provision within a mainstream school. The wording of section 2 will be adjusted to reflect this.

23/15/2016 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015 EVALUATION

The Rector outlined the purposes of 'Delivering for You 2015', which provides an overview of the key themes and actions delivered to support them during the year. This summary will be

shared with the parent body shortly. The Board commented on the report and confirmed it was a very comprehensive and informative document.

Arising from this it was agreed that a briefing on the changes and developments in IT and Office 365 would be scheduled for a future meeting. (See revised Work Plan.)

The Rector invited the Board to offer any further feedback to him prior to the document being shared with all parents.

24/15/2016 FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Bursar reported on the financial position of the school to the end of October 2015.

25/15/2016 RECURRENT GRANT

The Rector provided an update on the ongoing dialogue with the Scottish Government. A revised offer of recurrent grant for 2015-16 was received by the School in November and this was accepted and welcomed by the Board. A further meeting is anticipated shortly to discuss the School recurrent grant for 2016-17.

26/15/2016 ROAD CROSSING – CROW ROAD

The Convenor and Bursar offered an update to the Board on enquiries from a parent regarding the pedestrian crossing near the junction of Crow Road and Woodend Drive that has been raised with Glasgow City Council, the School and local councillors, MPs and MSPs. It was agreed the School has responded and acted appropriately, demonstrating its duty of care.

Following a survey of the crossing GCC had responded declining to provide a manned crossing. It was noted that the parent was now asking elected representatives to challenge this decision.

27/15/2016 OTHER BUSINESS

The Convenor suggested that it would be pertinent to conduct a Board self-evaluation/assessment. The Rector advised that the timing of such exercises in the past have usually fallen at the end of the School year. He would provide the convenor with copies of the toolkits used most recently. Specific proposals would be brought to the next meeting.

In response to enquiries on HR policies and practice it was agreed to incorporate an update into the Work Plan.

28/15/2016 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 19 January 2016.

Convenor _____

Date _____