

# JORDANHILL SCHOOL

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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING** held on Tuesday 26 November 2019 in the Conference Room.

**PRESENT**

Mr Ken Alexander  
Mr Anthony Daye  
Mrs Julie Carrie  
Mr Neil Francis  
Ms Susan Jeffrey  
Mr Kenny MacRae  
Mr Joseph McKenna  
Mr Graham Short

**ATTENDING**

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

**13/19/2020 APOLOGIES**

Mr Gerry Sludden, Ms Margaret Orr, Mr Alister Cameron, Dr Helen Kelly and Professor Kevin O'Dell.

**14/19/2020 PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of 22 October 2019 were approved. The action grid offered no new or live items and work plan was noted.

**15/19/2020 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising not already accounted for in the agenda.

**16/19/2020 RECTOR AND CONVENOR: ORAL UPDATE**

**Centenary Events**

The Rector provided an update. The book successfully launched on 7 November with an author reception and around 60-70 guests in attendance.

The tartan tie has launched, and senior pupils are now able to purchase this as part of their senior uniform. The response has been very positive, and we anticipate a healthy uptake.

Planning is well underway for next year's events with the Kelvingrove dinner nearing full. The gala day in June is also taking shape.

Sadly, one of the school's former pupils, Kieran McSorley tragically passed away 2 weeks ago. He too had supported the centenary and school by designing the Striving Higher logo for the 1920-2020 campaign. The Rector will attend his funeral.

## **Research Projects**

The school is participating in two research projects.

VR (Glasgow) is a project incorporating virtual reality headsets into learning and teaching. When the School explored the merits of VR 18 months ago the advice from researchers at the university of Dundee was that there is little educational merit as yet. Engaging with this project will provide some useful insights and training for staff and may suggest that options be reconsidered.

Project Soothe (Edinburgh) looks at the impact of images on people and how it affects their well-being. We are engaging with the research team at present and this is a work in progress.

## **17/19/2020 TERM DATES**

The term dates for 2021-22 were shared and the Board approved these dates. Noted were some differences in the August start dates across neighbouring local authorities. Glasgow City Council will return in August 2021 two days prior to Jordanhill School with the resulting differences counterbalanced in June 2022.

## **18/19/2020 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP)**

Dr Thomson delivered an overview of the full SIP for 2019-20 and referenced the parental 'Delivering for You' paper summarising the key points and actions. The Board engaged in discussion around the next parental engagement survey in 2021, the pupil census on health and well-being and the young person's 'How Good is our School' (HGIOS).

The Depute Rector offered an update on the School's counselling programme and the School's approach to delivering a set of outcomes prescribed by the Scottish Government as it begins to fund this work from 2019-20 onwards. The Board were pleased with the supportive counselling offering made by Jordanhill School to all our young people. Anonymised statistics are produced annually by the School's counsellor for the pastoral and management teams.

The SIP outlines the investment made to staff under 'Our People' after a very positive uptake on the Scottish College for Educational Leadership (SCEL) resources, mentoring and training that was offered to middle leaders.

The School website pages devoted to curriculum choice are nearing final development and the Board were impressed by the page design and information offered in the new format, also expressed in the SIP.

## **19/19/2020 ANNUAL POLICY OVERVIEW**

Dr Thomson shared an overview of the School policies published and available to all parents, on our website. These policies come under a regular review cycle as highlighted in the Board work plan.

Further discussion in tonight's meeting will cover the policy on Learning for Sustainability and Mental Wellbeing.

**20/19/2020 LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

This policy introduces the big issues that affect our planet such as climate change, loss of biodiversity and global poverty. Learning for sustainability in School is about who we are and the type of community and world we want to live in; it is about improving the quality of life and the wellbeing of all. It is very much about the here and now, the present day, but also about the future.

Learning for sustainability impacts on 5 key rights from the United Nations Children's Rights Convention and these are expressed in the policy. It can also impact positively on the 6 Scottish Government wellbeing indicators. The details are expressed fully in the policy.

The Board acknowledged the importance of this very relevant policy. A further update on the practical activities being undertaken across the school will be brought to the Board in 2020.

**21/19/2020 MENTAL WELLBEING**

The Rector, Depute Rector and Head of Primary engaged with Board members on the activities underway in School under this important theme. A new area on the School website was previewed showing the various links and information available to offer different categories of support. There are vast resources and channels of support available to pupils and parents.

Mr Buchan talked about the importance of teaching grit and resilience in primary, expressed in assemblies and in Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) for our secondary pupils.

The School has a team of circa 24 mental health first aiders who are available for pupils and staff.

The Board acknowledged the growing societal pressures and was appreciative of the support offered by the School.

**22/19/2020 HEALTH AND SAFETY AUDIT**

The Bursar presented the executive summary from the recent external audit of Health and Safety across the School. This takes place on a 5-year cycle. Miss Grant was pleased to report 100% compliance and some very positive comments and observations from the Health and Safety consultant on compliance, due diligence, risk assessment and overall safety culture and attitude. A full report had now been delivered to the School and would be made available on the Board portal for review and further discussion at the January Board meeting if desired.

The consultant offered the following observation:

*'The positive health and safety culture evident at Jordanhill School is something the School should be justifiably proud of.'*

**23/19/2020 PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT**

An updated area of the School website was presented for Parental Engagement; it has been redesigned to make navigation more effective and information more accessible. The Board tested the links to information and suggested some final tweaks to the webpages.

**24/19/2020 FINANCE UPDATE 19-20**

The Bursar presented updated income and expenditure streams to the end of October 2019. She discussed the challenges of the costs associated with the food service and some of the costs expended on reactive capital expenditure in 19-20 to date.

**25/19/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 21 January 2020**

**26/19/2020 OTHER BUSINESS**

Members are asked to advise the Rector or Convenor of any additional business in advance of the meeting.

Convenor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_