

BANKS LANE JUNIOR SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

SPRING TERM 2020

Date: 21 January 2020
Time: 4.30 pm
Venue: The School

GOVERNORS PRESENT

Mr J Vali, Mr E Milner (Headteacher), Mrs J Graham (Chairperson), Mrs J Humphreys, Mr D Bennett, Mrs J Patel, Mr A Bassett, Mrs K Pixton, Mr P Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A Lane Governor Support Officer

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Governors were welcomed to the meeting. Apologies for absence from Mrs J Knott, Mrs E Battersby and Ms J Sturch were received and accepted by the board.

Mrs Nicola Taylor had resigned from the governing board. The Clerk would write to thank her for her service as a governor.

1. FEEDBACK FROM SUBJECT LEADERS DISCUSSIONS

Governors reported back on their meetings with Subject Leaders.

Mr Bennett (Computing, PSHE): DB had been very impressed with the two Leaders' knowledge of their subjects and had received a briefing into the three "e's" of progression. AB advised that the school was working to reinforce Leaders/teachers' ability to brief outsiders on their subject delivery.

Mrs Humphreys (Maths) – JH commended the effective tracking and assessment processes and added that she would be writing up notes of her visit

Mr Vali (Pupil premium) - JV paid credit to the work by Nicola Windass in ensuring that pupil premium monies were targeted effectively to support vulnerable children. JV still held misgivings how the success of pupil premium monies could be evidenced. ***Would positive outcomes in cohorts be down to the related pp-supported intervention and support strategies or would this be down to other factors such as simply the make-up of the cohort itself ?*** The committee agreed with the sentiments but it was felt that the picture of how pupil premium monies were deployed meant that transparency was secured.

Mr Thomas (English, Spanish) – PT noted that considerable work had been invested in the former, while ex-school pupils were show to be performing well in Spanish at Stockport School.

Mrs Graham (Art, Design and Technology) – JG reported that considerable work had been invested in planning and the Knowledge Organisers. JG had looked at two Art and Design books and had been impressed with the quality of their content.

The Chair concluded from the feedback that these link meetings were proving successful (also reciprocated by the Subject/Year Group Leaders themselves). DB also cited the value of the drop-in days, with governors encouraged to attend the next one on 29 January. EM also felt that the meetings were not simply of information-gathering, but also forums for increasingly confident governors to question Leaders/teachers.

2. FEEDBACK FROM EXTERNAL VALIDATION

Governors received the following pieces of evaluation:

- Howard Bousfield feedback to Monitoring committee on 13 January 2020.
- Howard Bousfield feedback at staff meeting on 15 January 2020.
- Michelle Cundle, external consultant, note of visit and action log from visit on 3 December 2019 on Reading across the school.
- Subject evaluation of autumn term 2019.

Governors noted the very positive feedback from the various sources which validated the school's work to address its RI status.

3. WELLBEING GROUPS

Jackie Giles had been appointed Learning Mentor. Her role had been adjusted slightly to ask her to take the lead on additional wellbeing groups, which would be run by TAs. It was intended to train up TAs next week for them to lead one or two groups with four children in each one. The longer term intention was for her to work more in-depth with specific children.

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

In the light of the committee chair resigning, clarification was sought on whether the meeting next week would be quorate with one other governor already having tendered apologies. It was clarified that, including a new governor, the meeting would be above quorate. It was noted that, in order, to avoid the meeting duplicating today's business, it might necessarily be truncated in meeting duration.

It was also agreed that Mr Vali be appointed to the committee.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SEND Forum – The first meeting would take place on 22 January, with around twenty parents expected to attend. EM was keen to promote the school's extensive array of support strategies for SEND children.

What is the goal of the forum ? To further cement the school-parent partnership.

How can the school measure the outcomes for SEND children ? Via pupil progress meetings, tracker systems and data analysis.

With no further business to discuss, the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 5.55 pm.