

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHITCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY HELD  
AT THE SCHOOL ON MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Joyce Slack	Foundation
	Sian Hopkins	Foundation
	David Collins	Foundation
	Dr Paul Bulpin	Community
	Denise Kelland	Community
	David Roylance	Community
	Stephanie Hicks-John	Parent
	Kelly Vanstone	Parent
	David Wikeley	Parent
	Nicola Davies	Local Authority
	Nick John	Teacher Governor
	Noreen Linforth	Teacher Governor
	Richard Burge	Staff Governor
	Scott Britt	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Wayne Lilly	Business Manager (Observer)
	Steve Williams	Estates (Observer)
	Michael Triggs	Associate Pupil
	Kate Shepherd	Associate Pupil
	Gareth Coombs	Clerk to the Governors

(Gareth Coombs in the Chair)

**1 APOLOGIES**

Ian Mcilquham; Nicole Kinnaird; Mike Newman; Prof. Peter Kille; David Greaves; Maria Boffey.

**2 ELECTION OF CHAIR : 2019 – 2020**

Joyce Slack was the only nomination and was duly appointed as Chair.

(Joyce Slack in the Chair)

**3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR : 2019 – 2020**

Sian Hopkins was the only nomination and was duly appointed as Vice-Chair.

**4 MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:-

- (i) Minute 34 : Apologies**  
Include: "David Roylance"

**(ii) Minute 39 : Headteacher’s Report**

Delete : “This represented a 2.1 reduction in staff...”

Include : “This represented a 2.1 reduction in teaching staff...”

Delete : “In response to the request of some governors the Headteacher...the initiative had come from the school.”

Delete : “With regard to the Capital Works Programme, the Headteacher was pleased to report that he had secured a commitment...”

Insert : “With regard to the Capital works programme, the Headteacher was pleased to report that there was a commitment...”

**5 MATTERS ARISING**

- (i) Minute 40: Budget Update** – The Headteacher reported that consultation regarding the teachers’ pay award had been completed. The school had not been sufficiently funded for this.

**6 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The only change in membership would be the appointment of a new Chair for the Finance Committee which would be decided at the next Finance Committee meeting.

**7 GOVERNOR TRAINING**

It was noted that governor training would be provided by the Central South Consortium. The Chair encouraged governors to undertake training if possible. There were no issues with regard to the uptake of compulsory training.

**8 COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND FEEDBACK**

- (i) Admissions** – The Chair informed governors that all appeals had been resolved. However if there were further appeals then the committee would consider them as and when required.

**9 TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE**

A full presentation was given supported by a handout which provided full statistical analysis of pupil performance and results. The areas covered in the presentation were:-

- Alps A Level – Strategic Overview 2015/16 to 2018/19
- Alps A Level – Raw results
- Alps A Level – Subject value added overview
- Alps A level – Quality Indicator
- Alps A Level – T score 2016/17 to 2018/19
- Alps As Level – Strategic Overview
- Alps AS Level – Raw results 2018/19

- Alps As Level – Subject value added overview 2018/19
- Alps AS Level – Quality Indicator 2019/19
- Alps AS Level – T score 2018/19

The Headteacher felt that reporting SRB statistics was an issue as the school operated very differently from other schools in this matter. Following discussion it was

**AGREED that the Headteacher should write to the Welsh Government explaining the purpose of the SRB in the school and the fact that it operated very differently from other schools. The way in which SRB statistics were reported had an impact upon other statistics and this fact needed to be “flagged up”.**

There were 239 EFSM students in the school.

Apart from Science girls continued to outperform boys. This would be given further serious consideration.

Subject strengths and areas for development in KS4 and KS5 were reported and noted.

#### **10 RESULTS, SIP AND SER PRESENTATION – Mark Powell – Headteacher**

A full presentation was given which was supported by a Self-Evaluation Report 2018-2019 document. The previous presentation on Teaching and Learning did cover areas for improvement which would be incorporated in the School Improvement plan. This would include an overview of strengths and areas for further development in the following:-

- Grade Overview.
- Wellbeing and Attitudes to Learning.
- Teaching and Learning Experiences.
- Care, Support and Guidance.
- Leadership and Management.

The Self-Evaluation Report was received and approved by governors.

The Draft School Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020 was also tabled and the main points highlighted by the Headteacher. This included priorities for the year going forward. Governors received and approved the School Improvement Plan 2017 – 2020.

The Headteacher also gave a presentation on GCSE results and on pupil achievement pre-entry to University. There had been some incredible

performances and governors commended the school on the fantastic results achieved at GCSE and A Level.

With regard to Teaching and Learning the Headteacher informed governors that this would be based upon a “Learning Continuum : A Vehicle for Pedagogy” and would be covered in the next School Inset Day.

With regard to further developments governors were informed that the new school day was working well.

The Headteacher was proud to report that the school had achieved Lead partner School Status with Cardiff Metropolitan University.

New meeting cycles for staff were reported. This would include work on Teacher Focus Groups.

All the above initiatives were commended by governors.

## **11 ESTATES UPDATE**

An update on progress was provided by Steve Williams.

Plans to replace the terrapin buildings were available for governors to view. Hopefully the new buildings would be in place by early 2020.

There were no plans to replace the tennis court astro turf surface and this was a cause for concern. The Headteacher was still in discussion with the Local Authority regarding this matter.

The Headteacher was concerned that the school did not have the capacity to take SRB pupils due to come to the school. At present there were only temporary classrooms available and this would need to be resolved.

A new roof would be provided for the Youth Club. The school was grateful to Neil Hardy for his £80,000 donation which enabled this work to be done.

There was no progress to report regarding the swimming pool changing rooms.

The roof of D and T Block was leaking and this would require remedial action.

There was still no heating in the Dutch Barn.

Steve Williams wished to record his thanks to all those who had contributed to the provision of the drapes in the Lower School.

The Headteacher thanked Steve for his continued work and support regarding the school estate.

**12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- (i) **Student Results** – The Chair asked the Headteacher to pass on the governors congratulations to staff for the tremendous results achieved by students.
- (ii) **Welsh Blood Service : 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019** – Governors were informed that Whitchurch high School would be the first school in Cardiff to host the Welsh Blood Service.

**13 MATTERS DEEMED CONFIDENTIAL**

None.

**14 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The following future meeting dates were noted:-

- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

All meetings would commence at 6:30pm.

Meeting concluded.