

34 ADDITIONAL YEAR 7 CLASS

The Headteacher informed Governors that the Local Authority had asked the school to take an additional year 7 class again in September 2018. This would be a class of 5 pupils but would require the appointment of a full time teacher. Concern was expressed that there would not be sufficient space to accommodate this extra class when it became time for the class to progress to the upper school. Following discussion it was

AGREED That the school should accept an additional year 7 class of 5 pupils providing that SRB issues were taken into account and provided for by the LA.

That an additional class teacher and teacher assistant be appointed.

That £25,000 be provided for "leadership".

That £3,000 be provided for additional resources.

A review of SRB provision and needs is undertaken.

The Chair would write to the LA with the Governing Body's decision and conditions.

35 MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 20th November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with by the agenda.

36 GOVERNING BODY MEMBERSHIP, COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING

The Governing Body membership was noted.

The Committee membership was noted. Noreen Linforth would become a member of the Curriculum Committee.

The Chair reminded Governors of their training requirements.

37 HEADTEACHER'S REPORT - Huw Jones-Williams

A full written report was received.

It was reported that Kath Jones, PA to the Headteacher would be retiring at the end of the academic year after 20 years at the school. The Headteacher and Governors paid tribute to Kath's significant contribution to the school. Her outstanding personal skills and knowledge of the school had ensured that the school operated calmly and efficiently, particularly in her role as PA to the Headteacher. Kath would be greatly missed.

The Headteacher gave a verbal update regarding an incident in the village on 22nd January 2018. There were no pupils from the school involved in the incident and fortunately no-one was hurt. The Chair commended the Headteacher and school staff for their involvement in the matter and their subsequent support. The Headteacher also complimented the police for the way that they responded to the incident and it was agreed that a letter be sent on behalf of the Governors and school to the police to thank them for their swift response and their help and support.

There were many school successes to celebrate which were listed in detail in the report. Governors wished to record their congratulations to the school and pupils in their many achievements, both academic and sporting.

The school took part in the Remembrance Sunday celebrations on 12th November 2018. Max Rowlands (Head Boy) and Fran Pawar (Head Girl) took part in the march and ceremony and laid a wreath on behalf of the school at the War Memorial at Whitchurch. This year's march was undoubtedly the biggest ever seen.

The school took part in the “Coats for Christmas” scheme whereby the pupils and staff helped the homeless in Cardiff by making a collection of warm coats which could be donated to the scheme for use by homeless people. Governors wished to commend the school for continuing to take part in such charitable causes.

A Peer Review of the school had been undertaken by the Headteacher and staff from another school. The Peer Review Enquiry Report was received by Governors and the main points and findings of the report were highlighted by the Headteacher. The report’s suggestions and findings would be considered by the SLT and Headteacher and the Headteacher would report back to Governors regarding this matter at the next meeting.

The School Improvement Plan for the Academic Year 2017/18 had been circulated with the agenda and was received by the Governing Body. Andrew Hurley, Deputy Head, highlighted the main action points of the Plan. One of the more important action points concerned the development of learning strategies.

The Progress Overview Report as at January 2018 had been circulated with the agenda and was received and noted by the Governing Body. Andrew Hurley went through the main points of the Overview Report and expanded upon the statistics provided in the report and their relevance to the standards and progress of the school. Governors were pleased to note that there had been a general improvement in pupil results.

38 COMMITTEE MEETINGS: FEEDBACK AND FUTURE MEETING DATES

(i) Admissions Committee: 9th January 2018

A draft admissions policy had been produced and sent to the Local Authority and neighbouring schools. Comments were awaited. The school would be taking part in the LA’s pilot Coordinated Admissions Scheme.

(ii) Buildings Committee: 29th January 2018

Steve Williams gave a verbal update on the condition of the school buildings and site. The LA had examined the cladding on school buildings and there was no cause for concern. New heaters were due to be provided for the 6th form block as the old heaters were in need of replacement. Action by the LA regarding the terrapins was still awaited and this was a cause for concern.

(iii) Curriculum and Achievement Committee: 16th January 2018

Sian Hopkins gave a verbal report. It was noted that there would be two Parents’ evenings and that the Committee would be asking for attendance details.

With regard to the Aberystwyth school trip, it was proposed that an alternative location should be sought for year 8 pupils next year.

The Committee felt that the South Africa trip which would cover a number of sports would provide a good experience for pupils.

The Dubai trip scheduled for the October 2019 half term was agreed in principle but if the trip went ahead, it should be stressed that money paid by parents for this trip was paid “at their own risk”. Steve Williams wished to record his concern that there was no support for this trip from the Rugby Academy. The Committee would require more details of the proposed trip before making a final decision in the matter. A further report would be given by the Committee at the next full Governing Body meeting.

AGREED Future sports trips should be approved by the Department Leader for PE before being submitted to the governors.

The possible involvement of 6th Form pupils in the Public Health Wales/YMCA project had been discussed and further updates would be given at the next full Governing Body meeting.

A proposed trip to Kenya was being considered. Governors would be kept up to date with developments in this matter.

(iv) Finance Committee: 18th January 2018

Full written minutes had been circulated with the agenda and were presented by Denise Kelland. The following matters were considered:-

- Budget 2017/18
- Premises Cost
- Utilities
- Transport Cost
- Supplies and Services
- Service Units
- Income
- Mutual Fund Cost
- Grants
- Predicted Outturn 2017/18
- Private Funds
- Rugby Academy Sustainability
- Budget Forum feedback (Wed 17/01/18) on 2018 to 2019

The decisions made by the Committee and action points were all approved by the Governing Body.



(vi) Service Level Committee

The Headteacher gave an update on current discussions with the Local Authority. A further report regarding developments would be provided.

39 POLICY RATIFICATION

The following policies were received and ratified by the Governing Body:-

- Attendance
- Behaviour and Achievement
- Charging and Remissions
- Child Protection
- Data Protection
- Educational Visits and FAQ's
- Governors Attendance at Parents Evenings
- Health and Safety
- Learning and Teaching and Assessment
- Links with Parents
- Pay Policy
- Publication Scheme
- Pupil Information-Record Keeping
- Restraining
- Sexual Relationships Education
- Traffic Management
- Travel Between Sites Statement

- Twitter
- Whistleblowing
- Redeployment and Redundancy Policy (HR)

The following policies would probably be presented for ratification at the next FGB meeting on 19th March 2018:-

- Bullying
- Curriculum
- Curriculum Cymreig
- Data Protection (Ratified January 2018)
- Discipline Procedures
- Flexible Working Patterns
- Home Learning and Independent Skills
- Job Share (HR)
- Learning Pathways
- Learning Resource Areas
- Mental Health
- Moral and Spiritual Wellbeing through Student Led Assembly/Form Time
- Parental Leave
- Partnership Cluster Assessment for KS3 Standardisation and Moderation
- Publication Scheme (Ratified January 2018)
- Professional Development (CPD merged with ITT and GTT)
- Record Keeping (Ratified January 2018)
- Secondment (HR)
- Substance Misuse
- Taping/Recording of meetings and phone calls
- Time Off for Dependents (HR)

At the suggestion of Governors, the Headteacher undertook to consider the following matters in school policies:-

- The inclusion of a Facebook/General Social Media policy in the Twitter Policy
- Accessibility Plan Policy
- Emergency Plan Policy

40 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE MEETING DATES

There were no matters under AOB.

The future meeting dates were confirmed as follows:-

- Monday 19th March 2018
- Thursday 7th June 2018 (GB meeting with parents)
- Monday 18th June 2018

(Staff Representatives and Associate Governors withdrew from the meeting)

41 HEADTEACHER APPOINTMENT

The Chair explained the interview process for this post. There had been no appointment made to date and the post would be re-advertised shortly.

42 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Minute 33 and Minute 38(v).

Meeting concluded.

43 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18th June 2018 commencing at 7.00pm.

Meeting concluded.

Signed: 

Chair of Governors