WSAPC Extraordinary Full Governing Body Meeting

Wednesday 15th February 2017

Venue: **WSAPC LANCING,** Freshbrook Centre, Grinstead Lane, Lancing, West Sussex BN15 9FL  
Tel: 01903 270460  
4.45pm – 5.45pm

**FGB present: Vicki Illingworth (VI), Stevie Crowther (SCC), Maggi Bruce (MB), Cathy Meyer (CM), Doug Thomas (DT), Lisa Guiel (LG), Nick Dowling (ND)**

**Also present: Sheila Carroll – associate member (SMC), Sam Channon - School Business Manager**

**Louisa Rydon (LR): Clerk to the Committee**

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|  | **MINUTES** |  |
|  | **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**  Apologies were received and accepted from Candy Reece, Bob Smytherman, Jackie Shepheard and Chris Woodcock. Kelly Wilson sent apologies by email which were picked up after the meeting. |  |
|  | 1. **Declaration of Interests** 2. None. |  |
|  | **Academisation update and review of next steps**  VI thanked governors for attending the extraordinary meeting to discuss Academisation and the feedback from meetings with WSCC.  Governors were disappointed that Olive Academies had understandably had to withdraw from supporting WSAPC at this stage. Following the presentations, they believed Olive were the right organisation for WSAPC and felt they should await further developments. However, they were mindful that the current work undertaken with WSCC might give WSAPC other options.  VI confirmed that Deborah Myers (DM) and Avril Wilson (AW) had made it clear that WSCC were not supporting academy conversions or grammar schools but that WSAPC had informed them it remained an opportunity for them.  DM had asked whether a management committee would be more appropriate for WSAPC. VI had responded that it was a governing body level decision and that at this stage governors were looking at providing what most suited WSAPC.  SCC clarified that as a school, WSAPC required a governing body and all governors were happy for representatives nominated by WSCC to attend the meetings. Governors reiterated that WSCC had made WSAPC a school and the correct governance was currently in place, though they were aware of the need to explore all their options for the best needs of the provision. |  |
|  | **Outcomes of recent Local Authority commissioned review and next steps**  DT/SMC reported on the feedback received and the report which had been sent to DM first without giving WSAPC any opportunity for comment. DT/SMC commented that on the whole it was a reasonable report, though noted an Ofsted inspector would have alternative provision knowledge.  DT/SMC expressed their concerns that individuals could be identified in the report and DM had now confirmed the report would not be circulated outside WSAPC.  Governors discussed the recommendations and CM confirmed that the templates now in place were working well. They had also noted the new work scrutiny guidance.  DT updated governors on the situation at Chichester and that Ruth McDonald from Lancing was working there in support. Governors agreed with DT’s recommendations to keep the strong team at Lancing together and DT reported on the number of avenues being explored to recruit at Chichester. Governor Priorities  Governors highlighted the importance of the learning and standards committee interrogating the data arising from the work scrutinys. They were aware of the ongoing work to raise attendance and the strategies in place. They agreed that case studies continued to be valuable evidence and that there was merit in making comparisons with other alternative provision attendance figures.  They asked that Nina Thair attended the next learning and standards meeting to report on the curriculum opportunities for pupils across the centres and the strategies in place to demonstrate pupil progress.  Governors thanked VI/DT/SMC for attending meetings with WSCC and ND for representing WSAPC at the Schools’ Forum and West Sussex Governors’ Association. SMC/DT commented on the benefit of having the WSCC report in readiness for Ofsted and the value of Miriam Hill’s ongoing support with the promise of meetings at least fortnightly. | **L&S 9/3/17**  **L&S 9/3/17** |
|  | **Update on meeting with WSCC on 6th February 2017 (VI, DT,SMC)**  VI, SMC, DT had felt positive about the meetings with DM/AW and that they had stressed their support for WSAPC whilst acknowledging the authority’s past mistakes. DM had confirmed they were working on a restructure for the Education and Skills Directorate and were creating a principal adviser role for inclusion. Miriam Hill was now WSAPC’s link adviser and school improvement partner. Governors were pleased that she had experience working in alternative provision and DT/SMC noted her interesting ideas and willingness to listen.  Beechfield  The opening time for Beechfield was scheduled for May and SMC confirmed Miriam Hill had been working with Margaret **Mckechnie** on an SLA. There were concerns this specified an educational provision for 48 weeks per year with teachers solely responsible for the young people during the school day. The governors noted these as challenges which would need careful addressing to see if they could be overcome. They appreciated the current plan was for a single sex unit, but were still concerned that the laudable aim to only accept approved pupils might be unrealistic. SMC understood there was discussion taking place on bed numbers having been informed it had been originally built for 10 but governors clarified that 6 was the optimum number without using the bungalow.  Governors agreed to wait for the details contained in the SLA and asked SMC to continue to ensure staff were being fully utilised across the centres. | **SMC 27/3/17** |
|  | **AOB**   1. Co-opted governor vacancy   Governors were delighted to learn, Mike Garlick, head teacher at The Regis School had agreed to become a headteacher representative on the governing body and unanimously approved his appointment. |  |
|  | **Date of next meetings**  Resources Working Group: Wednesday, 8th March, 10am, Burgess Hill  Learning & Standards: Thursday 9th March, 4pm Lancing  Extraordinary FGB: Monday, 13th March, 6pm, Lancing  FGB: Monday, 27th March, 3pm Lancing |  |

SIGNED…………Vicki Illingworth……………………………………… DATE………27/3/17……….