

MINUTES of a meeting of the Full Governing Board of the Federation of Boskenwyn and Germoe Schools held at Germoe School on 8th February 2017 at 6.00pm

PRESENT: Mrs Claudia Hiscott-Walsh  
Mrs Jo Nicholas  
Mrs Paula Quinney (Head)  
Dr Russell Monhemius (Chair)  
Mrs Wendy Jones  
Mr Brian Toney  
Miss Sam Prescott  
Mrs Denise Rusga

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Simon Hague (South Crofty MAT CEO)  
Mr Luke Haslam (Clerk)

		ACTION
1.	<p><b>COLLABORATIVE WORKING UPDATE (INC CO-OP)</b></p> <p>The Head introduced Simon Hague to the board.</p> <p>Mr Hague presented governors with an overview of South Crofty and their journey to becoming a Multi-Academy Trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previously a long standing co-operative trust with a shared vision statement.</li> <li>• Governors and Heads in developed strong working relationships through the co-operative trust.</li> <li>• Staff and Heads shared a clear mission: every child gets good lessons every day and everything else builds from there.</li> <li>• Core values of Resilience, Trust, Creativity, Positivity and Collaboration.</li> <li>• The group wanted to continue developing existing relationship and values/culture and make best use of shrinking resources.</li> <li>• Improving outcomes for children remains key.</li> <li>• School improvement was a real strength within the co-operative trust when they looked at existing MATs.</li> <li>• Collective decision making comes from the Trust Board (chairs of each school).</li> <li>• Scheme of Delegation came from the NGA model and lends individual schools maximum autonomy.</li> <li>• Governing Boards were retained within each school as an oversight and decision making body.</li> <li>• Benefits in the form of shared purchasing power, including SIMS.net, staff supply insurance, general insurances, HR and Legal support.</li> <li>• Strategic estates and ICT support across the MAT.</li> <li>• LGPS employer contributions have dramatically increased for the new business as a result of brexit, more schools will see this impact as their LGPS charges are reviewed.</li> </ul> <p>Governors asked questions of Mr Hague around MAT size, funding and the impact on staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six schools, one more expected to join. Varying from 120 on roll to 400+.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heads/Governors are delegated the majority of the budget for their school, challenges or projects can seek the assistance of wider MAT staff (estates manager etc).</li> <li>• Staff have responded positively to the MAT, it built on existing relationships and has a strong culture of wellbeing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Co-op update</b> Governors were advised other schools within the SPCET had postponed conversion to 1st April and that there would be opportunities to join the trust board.</p> <p>Governors discussed the financial implications of joining a MAT, the Head advised that around 3% of schools' budget currently went to the LA before it reached the school with fewer benefits being seen.</p> <p>Governors discussed sports provision, greater linking with local clubs suggested as a possibility for development. Staff are signposting by linking with Helston sports centre, raising awareness of cheap family swim sessions for example.</p>	
2.	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs Stevens, Mrs Bennetts and Miss Easterbrook.</p>	
3.	<p><b>DECLARATION OF BUSINESS AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS</b></p> <p>No new declarations were made at this board meeting.</p>	
4.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING 23.11.2016</b></p> <p>Governors approved the previous minutes with a minor correction and the chair signed them as a true record.</p>	
5.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES</b></p> <p>Governor training day to be discussed.</p>	
6.	<p><b>GOVERNOR REGISTER FOR KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION</b></p> <p>Circulated and completed by those present.</p>	
7.	<p><b>HEAD'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Governors discussed and questioned the head relating to her report.</p> <p>Burning issues with Russell Hobby - this was a workshop at a CAPH conference from the NAHT updating on policy, politics, coasting schools, ofsted and accountability.</p>	

	<p><b>Governors queried punctuality figures on page 3</b>, staff advised that this related to a particular child and they were taking steps to improve attendance.</p> <p>The Head expanded on how enquiry based learning was being utilised across both schools and an application that had been made for €30,000 to undertake research into closing the gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils. Noted Finland as a model for the smallest gap in the world between these groups and how they heavily utilise enquiry based learning.</p> <p>An application would be made for a pupil participation project later this year. Tromso international school remain a link and working with them again is a goal, possible link with Reykjavik also raised.</p> <p>Governors raised the possibility of linking with european schools through Skype or similar software, staff suggested the pupil participation project may involve an element of this.</p>	
8.	<p><b>OFSTED VISIT TO BOSKENWYN SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Governors discussed outcomes from the inspection report and points for improvement following the meeting with the inspector. The Head thanked staff and governors for their involvement.</p>	
9.	<p><b>FLEXI-SCHOOL AGREEMENTS</b></p> <p>Governors discussed Flexi-school arrangements in both schools, noting there were five children at Germoe and two at Boskenwyn with agreements in place. Governors and staff agreed that supporting the right to home-educate was a strength for the federation, providing the secondary provision was suitable and effective.</p> <p>Flexi-schooling contracts with the school are now required to be renewed termly, staff are reluctant to support more than two days provision outside mainstream schooling. Accepting applications for flexi-schooling is at the head's discretion.</p>	
10.	<p><b>DATA &amp; ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>Governors discussed the Autumn data headlines presented in the head's report and noted autumn progress indicators could have been stronger. Staff responded they were conscious of this and felt the long gap between summer and autumn assessments contributed to this, baseline testing in September being considered.</p> <p>In discussing tracking of high achievers governors asked that data on this specific group be included in the next data drop.</p>	PQ
11.	<p><b>CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>Previously mentioned euro grant ties into staff CPD, wellbeing focus is continuing and twilights are being used to develop enquiry based learning.</p>	
12.	<p><b>NURTURE GROUP/ARB</b></p>	

	Nurture group is now established at Germoe, group from Boskenwyn travel to Germoe. Advice from Behaviour Support is to keep the group in a single location for consistency and resources.	
13.	<b>SAFEGUARDING</b>  The Chair and Mrs Nicholas agreed to meet and review the Single Central Records of both schools.	RM/JN
	<b>PUPIL &amp; SPORTS PREMIUM</b>  The Head advised governors staff were developing tracking forms for pupil premium pupils, their progress/attainment and impact of interventions and Pupil Premium, anonymised versions may be shared with the board.	
	<b>POLICIES</b>  Governors <b>RESOLVED</b> to approved the Revised Pick up and drop off Policy that had been circulated prior to the meeting.	
	<b>CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS</b>  Governors discussed exclusion procedure and the circumstances that would lead to the head deciding to implement a fixed-term exclusion (formerly called suspensions).	
	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>  The Head thanked Mrs Hiscott-Walsh for her support with administration at Germoe.  Governors <b>RESOLVED</b> to support the appointment of Mrs Susan Evans as a Foundation Governor.  A prospective parent governor was to be invited to the next board meeting.	
	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>  Governor Development Day - Postponed pending Head's full return. Finance Committee - to be arranged around next LFS tech visit. Full Board Meeting - 22nd March 2017, 6.00pm @ Boskenwyn School.	

The meeting concluded at 8.10pm

<b>Summary of Action Points</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors request next data drop include group data for progress of high achieving pupils.</li> <li>• Dr Monhemius and Mrs Nicholas to review SCR in both schools.</li> <li>• Prospective parent governor to be invited to next board meeting.</li> </ul>

SIGNED .....

Chair's Initials.....

DATED.....

Chair's Initials.....