



FEDERATION OF STOKE HILL SCHOOLS MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY MEETING 24th March 2023

PRESENT:							
Attendees	Initials			Attendees	Initials		
Yvonne Hammerton Jackson	YHJ	Executive HT		Andy Pheasant	AP		
Simon Jones	SJ	Parent Governor		Daz Low		Via Teams	
Tina Lawton	TL	Parent Governor		Helen Greenhall	HG		
Amy Bickford	AB			Maria Scholey	MS		
Carla Encinas	CE			Zohal Rohani	ZR		
Emma Marsh	EM			Tom Urwin	TU		

Apologies	Initials	Reason

In Attendance	Initials
Dianne Goodwin (Clerk)	DG

Item	Description	Owner/ Decision
1	Welcome and Apologies for Absence: AP welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Rhea Beal and Jade Earle	
2	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: Advice given by governors at this school is incidental to their professional expertise and is not being given in their professional capacity. No interests declared	
	Confirm accuracy of previous minutes and matters arising from the last meeting HG said that she was present in person at the meeting. SJ said he attended via Teams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DG to contact Governor Services to get Constitution of Governing Board amended - completed AP to contact people interested in Governor vacancies - completed Governors to provide photos and pen pictures for the website – only 2 received so far. AP asked all to forward pen pictures and photos to YHJ as soon as possible 	
6	Governor vacancies Constitution has now been amended. 1 vacancy for Co-opted Governor TU term of office ends 27/03. Parent governors 27/04. AP 03/07 AP has been in contact with those people who had expressed an interest. He asked all governors to consider if they	



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	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>SJ gave a brief summary of the recent Resources meeting. /main focus had been Finance and consideration of draft Budget SJ said that credit should be given to MG for her work in trying to reduce the overspend. This had been possible mainly due to a reduction in Supply costs and changes to the Senior Leadership Team. Better use had been made of in house capabilities for training and staff cover.</p> <p>Gas and Electric bills were still awaited for the Junior School. Meter readings have been submitted on time but a change in supplier seems to have caused a delay in the receipt of bills.</p> <p>Repairs – underspend has been carried over to 23-24 to enable repairs to the Boys toilets at SHJS to take place.</p> <p>Pay Awards for 22-23 were higher than anticipated and no extra funding for these had been received. Advice for 23-24 is to allow 3 % for Pay Awards which are yet to be discussed.</p> <p>Overall position for Stoke Hill is good in comparison to a lot of other schools. A balanced budget has been set for Year 1 (23 -24) but difficult to forecast accurately for the 4 following years as there are a number of unknown factors that could have an impact.</p> <p>Pupil numbers – these are showing a fall which will have an impact in future but this is also affecting other schools in Devon.</p> <p>Would a lower rating from OFSTED affect numbers? Difficult to assess the impact of OFSTED.</p> <p>Allocation for School Improvement has been reduced but more money allocated to SEND which will have a beneficial effect on School Improvement</p> <p>Kitchen and School Meals - - Kitchen Manager at SHJS is leaving so will not be replaced. The Kitchen will be run by staff from SHINS. Prices charged for meals also under review. Prices have not been increased since 2018.</p> <p>PPG income could be affected by changes to Universal Income.</p> <p>High Needs Overspend – DCC has huge overspend which will impact on support services to be offered to school. DL asked YHJ - is the school aware of the DCC Ofsted situation in regards to the service failure around SEN, and the rapid improvements they need to make? EHCP training is being provided to DCC staff as it's been lacking. Wondered if the school would be impacted positively by improved EHCP's coming from DCC. SJ said that YHJ had suggested that Stoke Hill could possibly look at becoming a centre for an element such as SALT and offer such a service to other schools. YHJ explained that She said that there were some schools who were in the process of setting up Resources Hubs which could be used by children with SEMH. Such examples could attract extra funding.</p> <p>DL asked if it was possible to consider partnering with the Uni to do English language sessions for children who are part of families coming to the Uni? YHJ said that support was given to EAL children but they often learned English very quickly by being with other children speaking English to them.</p> <p>SFVS Draft circulated previously.</p> <p>TU asked about Benchmarking with other schools, in particular other schools in RELP which was mentioned in q 22. YHJ said that his partnership was no longer in operation. She said that there was no formal sharing of Performance data although there were informal links for other activities. SJ to amend this response (ACTION) Benchmarking data is done nationally by the DfE. Schools can then select other schools to use as a comparison.</p> <p>Health and Safety – 2 incidents reported. H & S Audit to take place on 11th May.</p>	



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	<p>Budget and SFVS Approval What is IDACI? – Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (DLUHC Open Data : i. Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)) Lettings – is there any scope to increase income from these? Current lettings are long standing arrangements. Extra costs associated with caretaking for lettings might outweigh the benefits at present. Budget for 23-24 was approved by all present SFVS Agreed subject to amendment to response for q22. AP thanked SJ and MG for their work in preparing the Budget and SFVS</p>	
	<p>Executive HT Report and Feedback from SHINS visit Numbers of pupils increasing across the school. Separate report circulated. A number of these have complex SEND needs. This will mean extra funding for the school but will also require extra resources. TL asked if any research was carried out to find out why pupils left mid-year. She said it could be useful to ask questions such as what they had liked about the school and what it had done well. YHJ said that information such as this is collected. She said if there were any concerns then these would be shared with governors. Attendance showing some improvement from last year although levels of sickness in SHINS are higher. This could be due to lack of exposure to childhood illnesses during lockdown. Regular attendance meetings taking place every half term to monitor attendance and make sure processes are being followed consistently DL asked YHJ - is the school aware of the DCC Ofsted situation in regards to the service failure around SEN, and the rapid improvements they need to make? EHCP training is being provided to DCC staff as it's been lacking. Wondered if the school would be impacted positively by improved EHCP's coming from DCC. YHJ said that SEND was a very big area of the School Improvement Plan because of the level of need within both schools and also because of the lack of support for staff. She said that she wanted to try and improve the quality of teaching of SEND. She said that newer teachers seemed to have more experience of teaching across different phases and key stages which helped with this whereas more experienced teachers seemed to need more support in adapting to new ways of teaching. There are currently 8 children who are waiting for places in specialist provision. Behaviour Some patterns in behaviour are starting to emerge. At SHJS there are concerns related to Defiance. The project around behaviour support at the Junior School is having an impact (see report circulated earlier) At SHINS concerns are still mainly about behaviours for learning and staying safe at playtimes. During the summer term year groups will be working on transition behaviours for children, this is especially important for the EYFS to Year 1 transition where classrooms and expectations can be very different. The EYFS team to be working alongside KS1 teams to highlight and develop behaviours of 'year 1 readiness'. These can be anything from listening skills to independent organisation skills for learning. There have been 2 racist and 1 homophobic incidents reported in this period and 2 fixed term exclusions. Safeguarding AP noted the report from Jo McCarthy and asked if it was the responsibility of the school to be doing all of the interventions that she is doing. YHJ noted these concerns. She said that some of these actions should be the responsibility of other agencies but a lot of these were also suffering from funding and staffing shortfalls. She said that for a lot of families school</p>	



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	<p>was perhaps the only common element and that school holidays were often a concern and contact could be lost.</p> <p>MS asked about Jo McCarthy's own wellbeing. YHJ said that the SLT were very mindful of this. AP asked if there were any ways in which the wider school community could support Jo's work. AB said that this could be difficult as Jo will have built up trust with these families and also there could be issues related to confidentiality. She asked about support mechanisms for Jo. YHJ said that Wellbeing sessions were being offered to the SLT and Jo and Vicky Absalom were included in these.</p> <p>(ZR left the meeting)</p> <p>School Improvement</p> <p>Report on SHINS circulated earlier. CE said she was pleased to see the positive feedback from Julie Stevens and Julie Paddick. YHJ said that there was a good foundation in place but there was still a lot of work to be done and action plans to work on points that had been identified were already in place.</p> <p>SHJS Part 2)</p> <p>Wellbeing</p> <p>Lots of work has been done to consider Wellbeing for pupils. Focus in Summer Term will be Wellbeing for adults at Stoke Hill.</p> <p>MS asked about requests for money. She cited the recent collections that had taken place in aid of Comic Relief and expressed concerns for those children who were unable to contribute. AP raised a related issue of asking for payments for Year 6 Leavers Jumpers. He felt that something like this should be provided for all.</p>	
	<p>Strike Action</p> <p>YHJ gave brief summary.</p> <p>No further strike action planned at the moment as discussions are ongoing. NAS/NUWT is holding a new ballot of its membership</p>	
	<p>AOB</p> <p>AP asked if there were any plans to hold a Governor Day following the successful event held in 2022. YHJ said that she was happy to arrange this if governors wished. It was agreed that June 23rd would be a suitable day. YHJ said she would check the School Calendar (ACTION)</p>	
	<p>Dates of next meetings</p> <p>27th April Teaching and Learning</p> <p>25th May FGB</p> <p>All meetings will be at SHJS</p>	
	<p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ALL - Profile photos – please send to Yvonne a profile photo that can be uploaded to the school website. 2. ALL - Please provide AP with an indication of how long you wanted to continue as Governor. We have a number of vacancies coming up and the intention is just to manage changes in the governing body so that we do not end up in the position we were a few years ago when most left within a short period of time leaving us with low numbers. For example, this may be that you were hoping to step back within the next year, wanted to continue for a couple of years or are happy to continue to be involved without firm idea of when that may end at the moment. You won't be held to it and can change your mind! 	



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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="268 499 1198 528">3. Simon / Andy – SFVS - to update the SFVS at Q22 and finalise the SFVS.<li data-bbox="268 562 1278 651">4. Andy / Helen / Maria / Tom – Ofsted lessons learnt - to reflect on the Ofsted inspection around what went well, what could be done differently to build this into the self-evaluation prepared by Simon.<li data-bbox="268 685 1289 745">5. Yvonne – Governor Day - to confirm that 23 June 2023 would be the best date for the Federation.<li data-bbox="268 779 1262 840">6. ALL – Governor Day - all to confirm whether they are free to attend on 23 June 2023 (once confirmed by Yvonne).	