



Kenwood Academy Council – West Riding Committee
Thursday 16th November 2023 at 15:30
West Riding Campus, Ardsley Road, Worsborough,
Barnsley, S70 4RG

Present:		
Richard Webster	Strategic Transition Lead/Chair	RW
Michelle Sault	Headteacher	MS
Richard Hadfield	Headteacher	RH
Ozlem Mendil	Staff Governor	OM
Donna Saunders-Wild	Parent Governor	DS-W
Kerry James	Staff Governor	KJ
Sacha Schofield	Executive Regional Director	SS
Also Present:		
Joel Hardwick	Assistant CEO – Corporate Affairs	JH
Renata Robins	Governance Clerk	Clerk
Apologies:		
Nathan Wood-Hague	Parent Governor	NW-H

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Actions
1.1. To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from: NW-H.	
1.2. To accept apologies for absence Apologies were accepted from: NW-H.	
2. BEST WE CAN BE AWARDS	
2.1. Best We can Be Awards (if applicable) – to be discussed JH informed the committee that this had resulted from a staff survey of the academies and one of the possible answers was a way for staff recognition. The governors had asked to be involved in that process. Some of the Nexus schools had opted not to do this as they reward staff in other ways of recognising staff. It is up to each school.	

MS to look at this in preparation for the next meeting.	Action: MS 22.02.24
3. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
<p>3.1. Chair to determine any terms of urgent business to be considered</p> <p>JH (as outgoing Chair) gave a brief overview for the benefit of the newly constituted committee and new governors. JH was Chair of Becton School. Sheffield Academy Council was split across Sheffield and Barnsley. One committee for Sheffield and one for West Riding, Barnsley. A year ago, academy committees were reduced from 6 to 3 meetings per year. The focus being on making sure that within the running of the Nexus schools the voice of families, staff, students is heard so that they essentially are holding leadership of the school and leadership of the trust to account against the values that they say they have. The aim is to make the meetings more engaging and to get people more involved in school life throughout the year and to involve pupils in the meetings too. This is a work in progress.</p> <p>3.2. Confirmation of new Staff Governors: Ozlem Mendil and Kerry James, and Parent Governors – Donna Saunders-Wild and Nathan Wood-Hague.</p> <p>Ozlem Mendil and Kerry James (Staff Governors); and Donna Sanders-Wild and Nathan Wood-Hague (Parent Governors) were confirmed as governors of the Kenwood Academy Council – West Riding Committee for four year period from 16 November 2023.</p>	
4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
<p>4.1. Individual Governors to declare any personal, business or other governance interests on any item on the agenda</p> <p>None raised.</p>	
5. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED	
<p>5.1. Headteacher Report</p> <p>MS presented a paper copy of her updated report, previously circulated via GovernorHub.</p> <p>MS to forward updated Headteacher Report to Clerking Services to upload onto GovernorHub.</p> <p>MS was thanked for a comprehensive report and supporting documents.</p> <p>MS provided an overview of the report and provided the following updates:</p> <p>West Riding were using Legend as an assessment recording tool. MS stated that there was probably something more substantial in the way that could be used to record assessment for West Riding to use by either creating themselves or to buy in. MS knew that RH created their own online assessment recording tool at his school.</p>	Action: MS 17.11.23

JH asked RH– 2.1 Was this online?

RH stated that this was an internal assessment system on Bromcom which staff could access online.

RW asked – 2.1.2 - Lisa was the biophilic lady, was she still involved/was it still an ongoing relationship?

MS responded yes that as she designed the extension she was still involved and further meetings had taken place a few weeks ago around furniture, etc, and what that would look like and the design of the classrooms and how that would impact on learning. This was a big piece of work that would be completed for the end of the academic year.

MS stated that right from the start in the portacabins she had introduced the concept of 'Calm Classrooms' and created a situation generally where the sensory room was not needed and saved £30k.

4. Personal Development

MS stated that she would be conducting a survey with parents, pupils and staff before the end of the Autumn half term. As the school was biophilic by design, there was no real evidence out there of the impact on students and their learning, staff, etc. MS felt that it was crucial to have a look at the impact of a building like this around everyone and their wellbeing.

SS asked – 4. Personal Development – Would this feed into any overall research?

MS said that they had a meeting with Dan initially and Natalie from Coppice. Natalie's research would be around staff retention as her direction was into modular build biophilic (staffroom). MS would like to capture the whole picture as West Riding's would be around the school, the learning, the staff, what impact it was having on learning. At the moment we would doing our own.

JH asked - I thought Darren was connecting it with the University of Derby work?

RW stated that there was a lot of variance that could be looked at; and the decision was to look at measurable manageable amounts – staffroom, entrance.

RH asked – 6. Attendance - Had West Riding conducted any analysis on what the young people's attendance was like before they came to the school? This would be a quick data report perhaps.

MS responded that they had not but would welcome any help RH was able to offer around the issue of parents taking students on holiday during term time.

Video created by the students of West Riding:

MS stated that the authors (Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris) of the book, The Lost Words, wrote a song about the words dropped by the Oxford Dictionary, which was the backdrop to the second part of the video. The video has been put together by OM featuring the students at the school. The first part of the video was before the main school structure was being used as a school. The second part had been just now.

RH stated that what came across was a sense of belonging from the students. Governors were overcome with emotion and thanked MS and OM for sharing it with them.	
5.2. School Dashboard Report received. SS explained that at Nexus this dashboard was used to reflect how Ofsted judge schools and divided into four areas based on their framework. If OFSTED were to come in, it would inform OFSTED if the headteacher had an accurate understanding of where the school was at/needed to improve.	
5.3. Budget Report Report received.	
5.4. Teaching Staff appraisal outcome report Report received.	
6. TRUST MATTERS	
6.1 Trust Verbal Update of key issues There would always be somebody from the Trust that would attend to give an update. The Trust central team had moved to offices next to Meadowhall and only using a small part for the central office and the rest of the space was being looked at for some of the Sheffield pupils moving there to create pathways and right options for those young people. Sheffield campus (Kenwood) were housed in two town houses which was never ideal for education and the Trust had been pointed to a grade 1 listed castle by the council to view as an alternative venue? A number of conversations were taking place that could result in further growth for the Trust.	
7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS	
7.1 To consider any other urgent business	
8. CONFIDENTIALITY	
8.1 To consider the confidentiality of any items discussed during the meeting	
9. DATES OF NEXT MEETING	

Thursday 22 nd February 2024	15:30 – 17:30	Kenwood – West Riding Campus
Thursday 23 rd May 2024	15:30 – 17:30	Kenwood – West Riding Campus

Minutes approved

CHAIR	SIGNATURE	DATE