

THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL
Minutes of the Board of Governors' Meeting
Monday 5th February 2018

Time: 6 pm
Place: The Hub
Present: David Whewell (chair), Mike Gunston, Toby Corden, Debbie Youngs, Andy Williams, Jo Trigg, Andrew Hawkins, Liz Summerson, Jordan Mockett, Kevin Eames, Pete Gear, Sally Andrews, Sarah Bergg, Pamela Raymond-Heath, Sarb Gill, Eleanor Shergold (clerk)
Advisers: Ben Rhodes, Louise Hamilton, Ellie Green
Apologies: Helen Thorne

Agenda Item	Actions Agreed	Who
32/18	Governors to be updated on T&L at the March Board meeting	LHA
32/18	Safer handling training to be discussed further by S&C	DY
33/18	SLA to be discussed further by Resources and S&C	TC/DY/MGU
33/18	PP review to be further discussed in committees	ALL
34/18	DY to re-circulate dates, governors to let clerk know re availability to attend school events	ALL
34/18	Provision for more able to be discussed further by CLES	KE
35/18	Chair to send an information email and confirm arrangements for 19 th February	DW
36/18	SEND information report - to feedback to VMA re vertical tutoring	ES

29/18 Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were agreed and accepted.

30/18 Declaration of Business Interests

Governors were reminded to declare business interests and to update them as necessary.

31/18 Headteacher Recruitment

Confidential item discussed.

32/18 Minutes and Matters Arising

24/18 Governors to be updated on T&L at the March Board meeting
 25/18 - Link governor PSHE and mental health - PG is now the link governor for Healthy Schools
 25/18 - Turtle flooring/Wingfield Fire escape - there are no easy solutions, flooring is a major project
 25/18 Safer handling training to be discussed further by S&C

The minutes of 11th December were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

33/18 Head Teacher's Report

Numbers on roll - students having to commit to two years for A Levels instead of AS entry is impacting student numbers. Other schools are reporting the same.

Exclusions - remain low but are higher than this time last year. There have been four instances this year of physical contact from students towards staff. This is new, each instance independent of the others.

Appointments - academic mentors have been appointed.

School Improvement

SIP Priority 6 - Increase the impact of leadership on student outcomes at all levels

Report circulated re leadership CPD. The school benefits from the school improvement projects that form part of leadership CPD. Governors asked how these initiatives are managed and how training is funded. LHA - the school tries to tie projects in with the SIP and funds CPD, a useful retention tool.

Governors were impressed with the package of training offered and asked if it is a feature in the recruitment pack currently being designed. There will be a CPD menu included.

Visits to other schools continues to be a popular and high-impact form of CPD. Senior and middle leaders are given opportunities to visit colleagues who have had impact in JOG areas for improvement.

Governors asked how T4W is progressing. Alan Sedgley SIA will be carrying out a review in March. There is a further staff briefing coming up and Julia Strong will revisit. ABA is monitoring where the gaps are, school is seeing increased evidence of its impact.

SIP Priority 1 - Increase whole school attendance, including Post-16, so that learning time is maximised

Progress has been made but there is still more work to be done. Governors asked which interventions are making a difference. MGU - many students have multiple needs requiring more than one intervention. ZPE's role is making a difference.

Priority 4 - Ensure behaviour allows lessons to flow uninterrupted

Continues to be on the agenda in response to concerns raised by staff. After school detention and restorative measures currently being explored. Governors asked about student voice regarding behaviour management. MGU - ESP regularly discusses this with students, not specific to detention, but general behaviour.

Alternative provision - the new 'Include' provision is providing a stable base. JoG purchased 5 places initially and an additional place has used contingency funds. Service agreement runs out September 2019. Governors will need to review the school's position early in case a change is required.

Action - to be discussed further by Resources and S&C

TC/DY/MGU

2016/17 Ofsted Dashboard (IDSR)

Ofsted inspection data summary and ELY summary analysis on KS4 achievement circulated in advance of the meeting. Conversation to be followed up in CLES. The dashboard has not shown anything new. There are lots of positives.

Key groups to focus on are students with low KS2 scores, disadvantaged students, SEN action students, especially for students in more than one of these groups. Governor Saturday - will include discussion re data, moving on to current data.

SIP priority 2 - Raise achievement across KS2-4, especially low prior attaining students, disadvantaged, SEN and boys

Feedback from Pupil Premium review with NGR, National Leader of Education - report circulated in advance of the meeting.

Action - PP review to be further discussed in committees

ALL

NGR challenged after school football with 6th form/staff. This is still a school activity therefore putting staff/school at risk. MGU has discussed this with colleagues who have also given the same advice. This has now stopped until a workable solution is found due to concerns around safeguarding.

Spending plan - the amount spent on personnel is evidence of the time and energy that goes into supporting good quality T&L. Also evidence that progress of its disadvantaged students is a key priority for the school, supporting key barriers to learning.

Governors asked about the impact of academic mentors in comparison with expenditure on English, maths and science intervention. MGU - teachers teach lots of students. Academic mentors work with a small group. It is difficult to draw a direct link.

Governors asked for clarification on NGR's feedback on the role of academic mentor.

DS P8 - comparison between 2016 and 2017 shows that intervention is working.

34/18 Reports from Committees

S&C

Raising the profile of the GB - dates have been circulated re school events for governors to attend.

Action - DY to re-circulate dates, governors to let clerk know re availability to attend

ALL

Student leadership feedback - StLT are exploring options re how to make PSHE more relevant. Expressed concern re provision for the more able, feeling that this has lost visibility in school. Governors - there is a need to highlight and demonstrate provision. Concern expressed that students are recognising that there may be a deficit.

Action - provision for more able to be discussed further by CLES

KE

Resources

CIF bids for later this year - will focus on replacement heating and extending the canteen.

Lead practitioner in English - there were two strong candidates for the post, both were appointed.

Finance - management accounts show a £155k in year deficit. The 3 year forecast is more positive with funding changes. Resources agreed that there should be no large investments until the Finance and Business manager is in post.

Staff survey circulated in advance of Board meeting. Dealing effectively with bullying - MGU will ask HKE to explore this further

CLES

KE highlighted examples of governor challenge from the meeting.

Year 7 - baseline assessments and initial reflections - governors questioned where 100% of students were on or above target in certain areas. This was explored further and governors were satisfied with ESP's explanation. Governors also asked about systems in place for moderation and confidence in judgements being made.

35/18 Chairs Report

19th Feb chairs meeting - this will take place to further discuss H/T recruitment. The meeting will be at 6pm and may be an EO Board meeting - to be confirmed.

Action - DW will send an information email

DW

36/18 Policies

SEN Policy
Homework
Feedback
Curriculum
Admissions

LS proposed acceptance of all policies. PG seconded the proposal.

Action - SEND information report - to feedback to VMA re vertical tutoring

ES

37/18 AOB

Friends of JoG quiz night promoted.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm. Date of next Board meeting - Monday 26th March 2018

Signed: _____ Date: _____