



Minutes of the Meeting of the Academy Improvement Board Held on 4pm on 10th July 2019 at Morecambe Bay Academy

Apologies: Mr R Gittins
Mrs L Newby

Present: Mr P Bell - Chair
Mrs L Nicholls -
Mrs V Michael - Principal
Mr G Gomersall
Mrs L Winston
Mrs D Blezard
Professor J Crewdson
Mrs C Marney – Clerk to the Board

In Attendance:

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr R Gittins and Mrs L Newby.

2. Minutes and Matters arising

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June, having been circulated have been approved and signed by the chair as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Exclusion information will be available at the next AIB meeting

3. Meeting Schedule for 2019/2020

Dates were suggested for the AIB meetings for 2019/2020. The members agreed the dates and also agreed a programme of Agenda's and topics to be discussed at each meeting. The board agreed that any Safeguarding Incidents should be reported to the members at the next meeting following any such incident. The members agreed that the Chair would be the Safeguarding representative on the AIB. The Principal will also report at every meeting on the rapid and sustained progress within all areas of the Action Plan and on the performance of all aspects of the Academy in order to monitor progress and agree new actions if needed.

Wednesday 9th October 2019

Wednesday 11th December 2019

Wednesday 12th February 2020

Wednesday 1st April 2020

Wednesday 20th May 2020

Wednesday 24th June 2020



4. Principals Report

The Principal shared her report with the board. There were lots of student achievements both in Sport and local competitions. A Student in Year 7 has become second in England girls for table tennis; the year 7 boys have won the Lancashire cup and two of the Academy's athletes became County Champions in Blackpool last week. Year 9 scientists won the local annual hovercraft competition, beating teams from both grammar schools. The board suggested putting these accomplishments in the local newspaper.

The school production of Bugsy will be on the 16th and 17th July, children from local primary schools will be coming to the performances on these days. The students and staff involved have been working extremely hard.

The summer work is now almost scheduled and will be challenging. This is owing to the simultaneous nature of most of the work in the main building. The hope is that students will return to a completely refreshed ground floor and work starting upstairs.

Some new lettings have been secured for Saturdays and the Academy will become host for the 10 class Polish School, currently in Lancaster town centre and will become the home ground for Morecambe's girls' football. The income from these long term lets will be welcome. The Academy has been approached by the Local Free Methodist Church about a long term Sunday let. Should this letting come to fruition then the Academy will require a lettings manager/caretaker for the weekends.

Action: VMI to arrange to advertise lettings on the website

At the time of writing, the Academy is fully staffed for teaching with the exception of 4 hours of Spanish teaching which is required for the next academic year.

With regards to support staff, the Academy is advertising for: TA apprenticeships (19+), Trainee Business Manager, DT Technician and Intervention casual tutoring for English and Mathematics.

The Year 11 Prom was also well attended and was a lovely evening. The students looked fantastic and many families and friends attended to see them enter the venue.

There has been a very mixed examinations season. On the most part, the examinations were extremely well run well attended. The Academy passed the JCQ examination inspection with flying colours. There were however some issues and the Principal has asked the Vice Principal to carry out a review of Academy exams practice and procedures. Coursework/equivalences quality assurance is included in the Academy development plan.

Outdoor Education

Staffing for the Primary Outdoor Ed programme was discussed by the board. The Academies Primary Leader has handed in her resignation and the board considered whether to advertise to



replace her. A member of the board asked if the Primary Schools could offer this service to their student; they can approach Borwick Hall themselves and arrange the programme. Given the issues faced by the Academy at this time it was considered that the Principal should focus her attention elsewhere. The principal will write to the Primary Schools and inform them of the Board's decision.

5. Overview of Budget

The Academy's number on role is changing every week. This will have a natural end point, but predominately, the Academy student numbers are gradually increasing from out of the area or from a local secondary school in all year groups. A cautious budget has been produced for the board because it is impossible to predict accurately.

6. Schedule of Summer Works

Only a partial schedule was available at the time of the meeting. Planning permission for the new Music and Art block has been submitted. All fire doors will be fitted. Legionella work will be completed and the ground floor will have been decorated. There should be new vinyls for the walls and the intention is that the art work will be up before the Open Evening on the 12th September. The Board asked if there could be some artist impressions of the new block displayed for Open Evening.

Action: The Principal to speak with Business Manager and arrange Artist Impression of new Art and Music Block for display.

IT Infrastructure

The core infrastructure at Morecambe Bay Academy is aged and unreliable. Financial accounts show that the majority of investment for Network Switches and Fibre Cabling between buildings took place between approximately 2005 and 2007. At best this makes the main school infrastructure 12 years old and was recommended for upgrade in the Bay Learning Trust due diligence report.

It is proposed that the whole of the infrastructure will be upgraded/replaced, and that this will be done in phases.

7. Final draft of the School Development Plan

The Principal shared the Final Draft of the School Development Plan with the Board and asked how best they would like to see progress monitored. A discussion followed and the question was asked how can we monitor this. It was agreed that it would be an easier document to read if it was RAG Rated. The Principal agreed to do this for each meeting.

8. Confidential Items

None



Morecambe Bay
Academy

9. AOB

100 Year Celebrations - There are lots of things going on in the school at the moment and there are going to be a lot of contractors on site. It was that the occasion should not go unrecognised and so there will be something to commemorate this in September. It may be possible to combine this with the Open Evening.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th October at 4pm to be held at Morecambe Bay Academy

The meeting closed at 5.20pm