

## **GENERAL MINUTES**

Budget Meeting of the  
**GOVERNING BOARD**

Mon 28 Nov 2022

Google Meet

<b>GOVERNORS PRESENT</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
COG	Mr C Howard	<i>Chair of the Full Governing Board</i>
EHT	Ms N Reid	<i>Executive Headteacher, New Wave Federation &amp; Thomas Fairchild School</i>
MT	Mr M Trahair	<i>Headteacher</i>
DY	Mr D Young	<i>Co-opted Governor</i>
LL	Mr L Laverick	<i>LA Governor</i>
MN	Ms M Nasrallah	<i>Parent Governor</i>
BD	Ms B Dickenson	<i>Staff Governor</i>

<b>OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
CLK	Mr D M Laird	<i>Clerk to Governors</i>

<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
OK	Ms O Koyuncu	<i>Parent Governor</i>
DH	Ms D Henriques	<i>Co-opted Governor</i>

<b>ABSENT</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>

**ACTION WORKSHEET**  
**28 NOVEMBER 2022**

NO	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION	Responsible PERSON	STATUS
<b>GB1</b>	4	Review policies and submit any feedback or other queries to Executive Headteacher.	Govs	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>GB2</b>	5.6	Update ón discussion regarding proposed incorporation into federation with New Wave Federation to be disseminated to govns not present during meeting.	Chair of Govs	<b>OPEN</b>

**LEGEND**

- Green** – Completed
- Red** – Pending (URGENT)
- Black** – Pending (NOT URGENT)
- Blue** – OPEN

# RECORD OF MEETING

## 1. Opening Formalities

### **1.1 Welcome**

The Chair of the Governing Board convened the autumn term meeting of the Thomas Fairchild Community School (in partnership with New Wave Federation) Governing Board. The meeting started at 5pm.

### **1.2 Apologies & Absence**

As recorded above.

### **1.3 Declarations of Interests**

No declarations recorded and no changes to existing written declarations.

### **1.4 Notification of any other Business not on Agenda**

None tabled

## 2. Headteacher's Report

The Board reviewed and extensively discussed the report from the Headteacher on the following areas:

School Context & Pupil Progress Update

SATs Update

Catch-up Provision

SIP Visits

Safeguarding & Education Welfare

COVID-19 Risk Management Update Personnel & Staffing Update

Premises & Buildings Update (including general health & safety update)

The following points from the Headteacher's report were highlighted:

- Autumn term and the start of the new academic year has been positive.
- The new school values have been embraced by the community with children responding positively to a recent pupil survey.
- The senior leadership team has remained consistent with the deputy headteacher and SENCo remaining in their roles from last year. In addition, the leadership team has been joined by an assistant headteacher who leads on EYFS and mathematics.
- Two new teachers have joined the school since September and currently teach in Nursery and Year 4. There is also a training teacher and an ECT 2, who are both supported by a mentor.
- The school continues to offer an exciting and engaging curriculum including swimming lessons, music tuition, Spanish, technology, PSHE, RE, and art. Pupils also benefit from regular enrichment opportunities including educational trips, visits and weekly sports tournaments.
- The school continues to be in the Intensive Support' category, as identified by the local authority. In response to this, the school continues to prioritise;
  - Termly support from London North East Maths Hub and Mathematics Mastery
  - Termly support from English Hub Literacy Specialist and RWI Consultant Trainers
  - Additional external monitoring
- Current pupil attendance is 94.5% with 18.1% of persistent absence. We are aiming for all pupils to be above 96%.
- There are currently 15 pupils with EHCPs. There are a further two pupils for whom we are expecting to receive draft EHCPs during the autumn term.
- The number of pupils on roll has increased from 187 to 202. We continue to have spaces in Nursery, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 4, although all these year groups have more pupils than in September. Many of the children arriving at the school have additional needs or are in the early stages of learning English.
- The end of 2022 data is compared with 2022 national averages where available:

KS2 Combined	62%
KS1 Combined	71%

- The targets for 2023 are:

KS2 Combined	73%
KS1 Combined	70%

- The pupil premium funding for 2021/22 was £155,120 which was used to raise and sustain higher achievement for disadvantaged pupils. The funding will drive this group of pupils to attain at least as well, if not better, than non-disadvantaged pupils nationally in all areas of the curriculum and at both the expected and greater depth standards in reading, writing and mathematics
- The school works in partnership with a number of external agencies including Young Hackney, Hackney Reengagement Unit and WAMHs. In addition, the school has support from Hackney & City SaLT, Hackney school nursing service, occupational therapists, specialist SEN teacher and an Educational Psychologist. The school also works with Ruth Miskin Training and New Wave English Hub for termly early reading support. External support to further develop our maths provision is also provided by Maths Mastery and the London North East Maths Hub.
- A Review of the LRU found that senior leaders are ambitious for all pupils to succeed” and that the leadership of SEND is exemplary. A SIP visit has affirmed that the school is on the right track and in a good position for an Ofsted visit.

**Q. Is there any particular patterns in regard to the persistent absence figures?**

A. Particular families are under the 90% benchmark. We acknowledge the challenges these families have and are working with them managing to get some of them into breakfast. Letters are sent regularly to parents alerting them to the fact that they could receive a penalty notice.

**Q. Are you tracking the reading data for Year 6?**

A. Yes, and we are confident that they will make progress.

**Govs thanked the Headteacher for his detailed report.**

**3. School Improvement Plan (SIP) & Self-Evaluation (SEF)**

Govs reviewed and acknowledged the School Improvement Plan and the SEF.

**3. Policy Review**

The Board reviewed and approved the following policies:

**All HR Policies which have been approved by the unions.**

**Teaching & Learning Policy**

**Behaviour**

**Complaints**

**Emergency Management Plan**

**Equalities**

**Health and Safety**

**4. Minutes –Governing Board Meeting (13 June 2022)**

**4.1 Corrections**

None recorded

**4.2 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Governing Board meeting held on 13 June 2022 was approved as the true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **4.3 Matters Arising from Minutes of the Gov Board Meeting held on 13 June 2022**

All items reported as completed or marked as c/f for future meetings. No other matters arising from previous minutes.

## **5. Governing Board Business**

### **5.1 Clerk's Statutory and Governance Update**

There was nothing to report on this item.

### **5.2 Governing Board Membership & Recruitment**

There were no changes to the Governing Board or its Committee/s.

### **5.3 Report from Committees & Gov Monitoring Visits**

The Board received summary reports from the Chairs of the respective Committees and Link Gobs:

#### **5.3.1 Resource Committee**

It was reported by the Chair of the Resources Committee that:

- The deficit projection has increased to £425k due to the unfunded staff pay increases, needs of the school, agency costs and lower Nursery numbers than anticipated.
- The Executive Headteacher and members of the Finance Committee reviewed the budget, and the current anticipated projection is £335k.
- A good financial audit report was received from the local authority.
- Gobs discussed the impact the deficit is having on the delivery of teaching and learning

## **DECISION**

The Board **approved** the virement of moving £151k from one budget line to another as recommend by the Resources Committee.

#### **5.3.2 Teaching & Learning Link Gov**

Gobs received and noted the update from the Teaching & Learning Gov:

*"Indepth review of the curriculum and carried out learning walks in EYFS. The pupils were focused on their learning particularly in Reception. The playground has been organised around learning. A learning walk was conducted across the whole school where a range of teaching and well engaged pupils were observed."*

### **5.4 Governors' Training Updates**

- Ms L Laverick reported that she attended safeguarding training delivered by the local authority.
- Mr C Howard reported that he had attended training on understanding the ethical legislations, regulations and statutory guidance that underpins the exclusion process which gave him an insight into the and percentage of exclusions and the support the LA are delivering.

### **5.5 Chair's Actions and Correspondence**

There was nothing to report.

### **5.6 Partnership with New Wave Federation**

The Chair advised that the New Wave Federation Governing Board will be making a decision in respect of Thomas Fairchild. Gobs acknowledged the benefits and discussed the continuation of the partnership which officially ends in February 2023. The Headteacher advised that the staff are in full support of the partnership to continue, and parents were positive about the changes that have taken place since the partnership. Gobs considered that if they were incorporated into the New Wave Federation, it would be important that at least one parent from Thomas Fairchild was on the Governing Board.

## **DECISION**

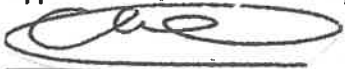
The Board expressed a positive desire incorporated into the New Wave Federation and would be keen to contribute to any transition plan. It was noted that should the federation incorporation not happen, as a Board they would initiate plans on what this meant for the school.

### **6. Any other Business**

No other business for discussion.

**Meeting ends at 6.10pm**

Approved for (and on behalf of) the **GOVERNING BOARD**



**Chair of Full Governing Board  
(or Chair of Meeting)**

13/3/2023  
**Date**