



## **GENERAL MINUTES**

Scheduled Meeting of the  
**GOVERNING BOARD**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Google Meet

<b>GOVERNORS PRESENT</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
CH	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>
DH	Ms D Henriques	<i>Co-opted Governor</i>
LL	Mr L Laverick	<i>LA Governor</i>
BD	Ms B Dickinson	<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>
BUR	Mr I Fokerd	<i>Bursar</i>

<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ROLE</b>
MN	Ms M Nasrallah	<i>Parent Governor</i>

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

**ACTION WORKSHEET**  
**13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

NO	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION	Responsible PERSON	STATUS
<b>GB1</b>	6.2	Provide an update on progress with the considerations to join the New Wave Federation.	Chair	<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 spring 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:

[Data Drop for Year 6, Year 2, PSC and MTC](#)  
[Quality of Education](#)  
[Year 6 Transition](#)  
[Admissions for Sept 2023](#)  
[Personnel & Staffing Update \(including recruitment for Sept 2023\)](#)  
[SIP Visits and One Day Reviews](#)  
[Safeguarding & Education Welfare Report](#)

During his submission, the following was highlighted or otherwise reported to Govs:

- Spring term has been highly positive as the school continues to focus on making progress towards its priorities. Local authority monitoring visits have acknowledged many achievements and also provided valuable opportunities to further refine and develop our provision.
- Since our last governing body meeting the structure of the leadership team has altered. We have recruited an Assistant Headteacher leading on English and Curriculum.
- This term the school has continued to prioritise parental engagement through Reading Teas, Parent WAMHS sessions, coffee mornings, and EYFS Family Fridays.
- The school continues to offer an exciting and engaging curriculum and has relaunched after-school clubs.
- The school has recently sent out surveys to staff and parents to seek their views and to collect feedback to ensure we are continually improving our offer for the community.
- The school continues to receive intensive support.
- The school has made progress with improving attendance and persistent absence figures. The school's attendance is currently 94.2%. 19.3% of pupils have been persistently absent from school since the start of term and 5 penalty notice letters have been issued to date.
- The school currently has 15 children with EHC plans. There are a further 2 pupils for whom we are expecting to receive draft EHC plans during this term.
- Nursery and Reception numbers remains a key focus.
- The 6 school priorities are part of the school development plan and self-evaluation.
- PUMA and PERI assessments will be completed this term and will be measures against the assessments in the autumn term. Year 4 will a particular focus in reading writing and maths. 73.3% of pupils are working as expected in KS2 and 70% in KS1 combined. 77% of pupils are on track in regard to the multiplication check.
- One teacher is being supported by the Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher to demonstrate progress against targets on her support plan around behaviour management, assessment for learning and direction of support staff.
- Citizen Advise Bureau are considering the school as one of their hubs in giving confidential advice to families. We will also be working with the NHS on nutrition and physical activity linked to obesity and we have received funding to work with a company that encourages physical activity for girls through football.

**Q. Will the school be offering clubs during the holidays specifically targeting the toddler groups?**

**A.** We are currently doing leaflet drops and toddler sessions, but do not, as yet offer sessions during the holidays.

The Board reviewed and noted the Safeguarding Report.

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

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

Govs reviewed and noted the positive School Improvement Partner (SIP) Visit Report. The Board further noted the collective effort of the team to drive the improvement of the school.

Govs also acknowledged the Governor Visit Report which focussed on teaching and learning across the school, lesson visits and Pupil Voice. There were no questions arising therefrom.

### **4. Policy Review**

There were no policies to review or approve.

### **5. Minutes –Governing Board Meeting (28 November 2022)**

#### **5.1 Corrections**

None recorded

#### **5.2 Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Governing Board meeting held on 28 November 2022 was approved as the true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### **5.3 Matters Arising from Minutes of the Gov Board Meeting held on 28 November 2022**

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

### **6. Governing Board Business**

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

There was nothing to report on this item.

#### **6.2 Future Plans for the Governing Board Membership & Recruitment**

The Chair advised that the New Wave Federation Governing Board unanimously agreed to consider a proposal to have a hard federation with Thomas Fairchild and have started negotiations with the local authority. It was discussed and noted that the Thomas Fairchild Governing Board will now submit a formal proposal on what they feel the federation should look like.

Govs were informed that it is envisaged that the hard federation will commence from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 following a consultation period with a range of stakeholders. Govs noted that although the school has a deficit, this has not deterred New Wave Federation's Governing Board from their in-principle decision.

It was highlighted that the partnership with Comet will have to be rebrokered because the agreement is with Thomas Fairchild Governing Board and not New Wave Federation Governing Board.

#### **Q. Is there an opportunity to extend the soft federation to the end of the academic year?**

**A.** This is an ongoing process of transition into a more formal partnership. The LA have committed £100k and New Wave are keen on a hard federation despite the deficit. There is also a risk of Thomas Fairchild having to close or amalgamate with another school due to reducing pupil numbers, being in a hard federation would mitigate this.

#### **Q. What is the criteria for co-opting parents as governors?**

**A.** If there is vacancy they would be co-opted in the usual way.

It was noted that there are no changes to the current board membership.

#### **6.3 Report from the Resources Committee**

The Board received summary reports from the Chair of the Resources Committee. The mins from its recent meeting were noted.

## **DECISION**

On the advice of the Resources Committee, the Board approved the School Financial Value Standard (SFVS).

### **6.4 Governors' Training Updates**

No training has taken place since the last meeting.

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

There was nothing to report.

## **7. Any other Business**

With no other business for discussion, the meeting ended at 5:55pm.

Approved for (and on behalf of) the

**GOVERNING BOARD**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chair of Governing Board*  
*(or Chair of Meeting)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*