

Tuesday 3rd October 2023

Dear New Wave Federation Families,

### **ELECTION OF FEDERATION PARENT GOVERNORS**

I refer to my previous letter regarding the Parent Governor Election for New Wave Federation. I have received nomination forms for seven parents who would like to serve as a parent governor on the newly constituted board. Due to the number of nominations received, it is therefore necessary to hold a ballot. I have listed below the names of the candidates from school alongside their personal statement.

Shacklewell Primary School - **Saadet Jesper-Mir**

Grazebrook Primary School - **Dora Costa and Mena Rani**

Woodberry Down Primary School - **Kofo David, Corina Barsa, Shanu Asha Henry and Sohail Khan**

Please may I ask that ballot papers be returned to any school in the federation no later than **Tuesday 10th October 2023 by 4.00pm**. There are two vacancies across the federation which means you can vote for up to two candidates. If you vote for more than the number of vacancies, or if you mark the paper in any way, the ballot paper will be declared void.

To vote in the election a parent/carer must be the legal guardian of a registered pupil at the school at the date of election. Each parent/carer may vote once regardless of the number of children attending the school. Please place your completed ballot paper on **Page 4** in an envelope and post it in the ballot box which is available at the front desk. This should then be sealed and you should sign your name across the sealed flap. The envelope will be opened in the presence of a witness.

Finally, please see overleaf statements written by each candidate in support of their nomination.

Alia Choudhry  
Returning Officer

### **Statement of nominated Governors**

**Saadet Jesper-Mir (Parent at Shacklewell)** - I wish to nominate myself to serve on the newly formed Governing Board for New Wave Federation as a parent governor. My son is in class year one at Shacklewell Primary School, and I am invested in both the educational journey and the journey of all children at the school. I previously have sat as a Local Authority Governor at The R J Mitchell Primary School, so I understand the commitment this role demands. My professional career interpreting data and developing strategy alongside senior business leaders has equipped me with the experience and skillset to contribute effectively to the core functions of the governing body. Alongside this experience, I have lived in the Shacklewell area for almost a decade, providing me with an understanding of the changing environment and how the schools of the federation fit into the local community. I am prepared to dedicate the necessary time and I am keen to actively participate, ensuring New Wave Federation continues to excel.

**Dora Costa (Parent at Grazebrook)** - I am interested in the position as I have a keen interest in Grazebrook Primary School and its pupils. I am currently the school's Parent School Association (PSA) secretary. Our mission is to connect the home, school, and community and to enrich every child's learning experience. In this role, I prepare for and help run meetings. I also maintain the PSA records, minutes and legal documents. I believe that there is also a synergy between the parent governor role and my current day job. I am a qualified commercial solicitor with over 13 years of post-qualification experience. My job as an in-house solicitor includes reading reports, carrying out research and interpreting data (financial or otherwise). I also support and challenge my company's senior leaders when advising them on the commercial challenges faced by the company and how to find workable solutions around them. I believe this would be a useful skill in the event my nomination was accepted. Finally, I fully embrace the diversity of the school which reflects my own international upbringing. I had the opportunity to study at Waterford Kamhlaba (WK), the first multiracial school in southern Africa which was born in direct opposition to the apartheid regime. WK is part of the United World Colleges (UWC), an international network of schools and educational programmes with the shared aim of "making education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future." The organisation was founded to promote intercultural understanding. I am confident that my global experience and values will allow me to contribute in a fulfilling and culturally sensitive way to the functioning of the Governing Board for New Wave Federation as a parent governor.

**Mena Rani (Parent at Grazebrook)** - I would like to nominate myself as a parent governor as a parent to my two children who attend Grazebrook, reception and year 5, this caught my attention as I have a keen interest in the school. Having attended Grazebrook myself many years ago, it has a special place in my heart. I feel its vibrancy and investment in its pupils truly shines bright. I have had the pleasure of experiencing this on many occasions from the celebration assemblies to morning breakfast reading to the summer fair. I have been working for the NHS as a senior Dental Nurse for almost 16 years and have recently qualified as a Learning Skills teacher Level 5 apprenticeship at university of Sunderland. This would be an exciting opportunity for me, and this would work alongside my own work commitments. I feel I have acquired skills in my career which would be transferable within this role should I be appointed. My current role involves clinical and non-clinical aspects, attending and organising internal audits, clinical update meetings, clinical governance meetings, participating and organising training and development activities for staff. I feel this role would be interesting and challenging, in a positive way, it would be interesting to exchange ideas and concepts in how we drive innovation forward from different experiences.

**Kofo David (Parent at Woodberry Down)** - I would like to be a Governor in Woodberry Down Primary School because I feel I have a lot to contribute. My child attends the school and naturally it is something I am passionate about and willing to give my time to. I am an unregistered barrister, an advanced paralegal and an Arbitrator. I have the experience of being a Governor of the East London NHS Foundation Trust and St Mary Primary School. I have been an Associate Hospital Manager in ELFT. I have lots of other skills to bring to the table. I will really appreciate the opportunity to serve as a Governor and give back to the community.

**Corina Barsa (Parent at Woodberry Down)** - I have been a resident of Hackney for almost 15 years and am committed to making a contribution to our vibrant community wherever I can. I have chosen Woodberry Down School specifically for my children because of its diversity and mix of nationalities. It is such a privilege to be studying in a mixed cultural and socio economic environment. There is so much to get inspired and learn from. I believe good state school education is a human right but also imperative for having a resilient, well-educated society ready to face the challenges of the future and move humanity forward. I also believe we have the power as members of the community to help steer the public sector where resources and skills fall short. I believe we are stronger together. As a financial services lawyer, I am comfortable browsing through financial and other reports, identifying the areas that work and the areas of concern. It is part of my daily job to process and analyse large amounts of information, challenge things that don't work and have constructive discussions to make improvements. I would like to put myself forward for the role of parent governor in order to bring my experience to the table, represent a holistic parents' view and try to make things better than I find them.

**Shanu Asha Henry (Parent at Woodberry Down)** - I have two children currently in the school, one in year 3 who is diagnosed with autism and a language disorder, and one, who has just started reception but has been with the school from two years of age in the two-year-old provision, and 18 months of full-time nursery. Another child has just left the school to attend secondary but achieved fantastic SATs results. I have worked in schools for six years, including academies, trusts and local authority schools. I began as a teaching assistant, Learning Support Assistant, one-to-one support, and finally progressed to a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant. I am currently in my final year of a Psychology degree and have taken a year to focus on this and ensure career progression after graduation. I possess several transferable skills that will align with school governance, helping the school analyse the attainment gaps between groups of children, recognise barriers such as SEN, and suggest ways whereby the school can improve and support these children effectively. Moreover, through my degree, I have studied modules focusing on children and the policies that govern their lives within schools and beyond. Subsequently, my degree provides me with valuable skills to support the policies the school adheres to, ensuring that they are transparent, clear, and understandable to all who access them. My current circumstances have allowed me to commit to a demanding volunteer role and have the time to support school governance. Therefore, I can attend meetings, governor training and visit the schools during the day. I am passionate about fulfilling children's potential, irrespective of their backgrounds, and upholding the safeguarding of all children. In addition, I am confident in asking difficult questions, if necessary, on behalf of the service users (children) that the hub of schools within the New Wave Federation seeks to serve. I am particularly mindful of the support the school, and the dedicated staff require to ensure that the schools operate and deliver the ethos and vision it aims to instil within the children and wider community. Currently, I do not have experience in school governance; however, my vast experience working in a range of schools, working with different children, senior leadership, a range of teachers, external agencies and parents provides me with a solid foundation in supporting the holistic approach the New Wave Federation adopts to support all involved within the school community.

**Sohail Khan (Parent at Woodberry Down)** - I like to involve myself in community projects and have a strong interest in education. I have a background in legal, finance and customer service. I completed an A level in Law (grade B) and also have over 20 years experience in Procurement. I am a keen reader, pay close attention to detail and my job involves analysis, stakeholder management and problem solving. I have worked at the House of Commons amongst many others. I have completed a marathon (including London). Health is an important aspect for me and exercise plays a key part. I would love to work with the board to assist being a school governor and contributing to the growth and continued improvement of the schools.

## BALLOT FORM – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The following candidates have been nominated for parent governorship at the federation. The period of office will be 4 years, unless the elected parent resigns within that period. There are 2 vacancies across the federation. If you vote for more than the number of vacancies, or if you mark the paper in any way, the ballot paper will be declared void.

Please place your completed ballot paper (FOLDED) and in an envelope and hand it in at the school office where a ballot box will be available. This should then be sealed and you should sign your name across the sealed flap. The envelope will be opened in the presence of a witness.

### BALLOT FORM

| Name of Candidate                 | Please mark box with an X<br>You can select up to two candidates. |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Saadat Jesper- Mir - Shacklewell  |   |
| Dora Costa - Grazebrook           |   |
| Mena Rani – Grazebrook            |   |
| Kofo David – Woodberry Down       |   |
| Corina Barsa – Woodberry Down     |   |
| Shanu Asha Henry – Woodberry Down |   |
| Sohail Khan – Woodberry Down      |   |