**Minutes Of A Meeting Of The Full Board Of Governors Of**

**The Federation Of Boskenwyn And Germoe Schools:**

**Held At Boskenwyn On Wednesday 5th October 2022 At 18:00**

PRESENT:

Dr Russ Monhemius (Chair)

Charlotte Overton (Clerk)

Paula Blackburn (Headteacher)

Nathan Bird

Anita Care

Katie Knight

Naomi Penrose (Vice-Chair)

Denise Rusga

Fliss Spiers

Brian Toney

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|  | Andrew Segal is observing as a potential governor.  Governors introduce themselves and explain their roles. | ACTION |
|  | **APOLOGIES**  Received from Jo Nicholas and accepted by the chair.  Anita Barnett has resigned as a governor.  Andrew Siegal wishes to join the governing board but cannot attend today. |  |
|  | **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**  No governors have anything to declare in addition to what is published on the website. |  |
|  | **MATTERS ARISING / MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**    No matters arising. Slight tweak to be made to the section about papers being lost in the post, this pertains to one child only.  Otherwise all agreed and signed off by the chair. |  |
|  | **HT REPORT**  Numbers on roll:  Boskenwyn 93  Germoe 62  Governors agree there is still work to be done to advertise Germoe and get numbers up.  Quality of education:  There is a focus on grammar and development of English throughout the curriculum. ‘Gramasauraus’ is coming in for staff development and has helped us to re-model the curriculum so that it shows more of the coverage of progression.  Policies:  Mandatory policies have been updated and circulated ahead of the meeting. Staff had a twilight training session recently in a new assessment model. We will be able to track progress more and not just focus on attainment data. The new tracking and assessment tool will be presented to governors at the next meeting.  ICT:  ICT has been problematic as we have moved from servers to Icloud and from Googlemail to Microsoft. Governors discuss the practical problems with learning a new system.  School Based Tutoring:  Denise Rusga is leading on school based tutoring in the morning and covid recovery in the afternoons. School based tutoring must be 12-15 hours per pupil and targets certain groups of children ie pupil premium. The covid recovery programme looks at barriers to learning for children, particularly those who have fallen behind due to the pandemic.  Trips:  We have taken the decision not to continue with skiing as it is too expensive. It has been funded from sports premium and pupil premium funding but the last time we went there were 22 children and it was difficult to manage.  Russ Monhemius asks could we just take year 6 to keep numbers lower?   1. We could do, but we wanted to make it inclusive and the resorts are not that inclusive particularly with dietary requirements. We propose to take a trip to France next year instead as it will be logistically easier to manage. This supports that the classroom learning of French.   Energy Costs:  The increase in energy cost payments is discussed and the increase in teachers salaries. This will need to be covered from school budgets largely. We cannot rule out the chance of strikes.  INSET Days:  Inset days are the same as last year. |  |
|  | **POLICIES TO REVIEW**  The following policies have been circulated ahead of the meeting and read by governors:  Curriculum, Inclusion, Flexi School, Induction, Presentation, Sun Protection.  Governors will take a further 7 days to review and comment. After that time they will be deemed approved and ratified.  Fliss Spiers as the SEN governor will work with Angie Larcombe to have a greater understanding of the SEN provision.  Boskenwyn is due an inspection imminently.  Data is below average but we have a high cohort of SEN children.  Punctuality has improved at Boskenwyn but attendance has not, although a lot of absence has been through genuine illness. Governors discuss that some absences can be authorised if children complete work when they go away. Paula Blackburn explains this has been exploited in the past. The LA have allocated us an attendance officer free of charge and we will have half termly meetings with them. We will discuss families of concern and those that are at risk of becoming persistent absentees and they will chase up.  Governance is a concern and we need to have more regular committee meetings and ensure that governor monitoring is taking place.  The curriculum has been developed year on year and is contributed to by all staff members. We have to be strict on progression of skills. |  |
|  | **CURRICULUM UPDATE**  Topics are changed per term for science. Topics in English are linked to the text the children are covering and there is a rolling programme. There are milestones for every subject taught and these are outlined to governors. Subject leaders have worked hard to support teachers on those given subjects and how to attain progress. The curriculum update is on the website.  Naomi Penrose comments that both websites have significantly improved and the hard work put into keeping them current is clear. Parents have commented on the efficacy of the newsletter.  Paula Blackburn confirms the website has now got the updated calendar.  The process of accessing children’s progression is outlined to governors. |  |
|  | **SAFEGUARDING**  Most governors are up to date and current with safeguarding training. Today’s postponed safeguarding training will now take place on Thursday 13th October at 4:30. If governors cannot attend the training then there are online options.  Policies and single central record are all up to date. |  |
|  | **DATA**  Data is still unvalidated for 2022. This will be covered at the next meeting.  Governors ask what needs to happen to validate it?   1. Appeals process to be returned etc. |  |
| 9. | **ATTENDANCE**  See item 4. |  |
| 10. | **SEND**  A full report will be provided at the next meeting. Angie Larcombe is busier than ever with SEND. There are a lot of issues post covid including anxiety and lateness. We have 5 pending EHCP’s and 2 live ones. If approved, we have to fund the first 18 hours of a TA, so there are cost implications especially with the impending pay award. Our SEN figures are far above national average.  Russ Monhemius has been provided with a summary from a parent who has left the school but waned to feed back their comments both positive and negative to the governing board regarding their SEN journey with their child. This will be circulated to governors post meeting. | **Russ Monhemius** |
| 11. | **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**  A finance meeting needs to take place around the time the bursar is next in.  A teaching and learning committee date will be set. Katie Knight and Denise Rusga are on the committee, it would be useful for a non- teacher to join.  Monitoring of the improvement in parental engagement needs to be captured.  Governor monitoring day and teaching and learning committee date is set for Friday 14th October at 1pm.  Updated SDP is to be circulated to governors post meeting. | **Paula Blackburn** |
| 12. | **COMMITTEE MEMBERS REVIEW**  The current vacancies are filled as follows:  Teaching and learning – Nathan Bird  Health & Safety –Andrew Siegal (to be formalised once he is elected at the next meeting) |  |
| 13. | **PUPIL PREMIUM**  There are 14 children at Germoe and 18 at Boskenwyn. They are all receiving school led tutoring. |  |
| 14. | **HEALTH & SAFETY**  Pete has got the schools up to date with property compliance and we are having our 5 year electrical testing at Germoe over October half term. Boskenwyn are current with their testing.  Brian Toney has completed a walkabout at Boskenwyn. |  |
| 15. | **ACADEMY UPDATE**  There has been no update about the Cornwall Council Academy. Local LA schools will be contacted to see if they want to do moderation of children’s work and friendly sporting activities.  There are thoughts that the White Paper could be scrapped so we will not be proactive in pursuing a MAT partnership. |  |
| 16. | **EXTENDING KATIE KNIGHTS TERMS OF OFFICE**  Katie Knights terms of office are extended to 04.10.2026. |  |
| 17. | **URGENT/CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**  None. |  |
| 18. | **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**  Paula Blackburn asks for governor permission for 3 weeks annual leave during term time. She will work additional school holidays to make up the time, as well as being in contact with the school everyday via email when she is away. Governors approve this request.  Nathan Bird asks about the signage for Germoe that was raised at the last meeting. Have we increased our social media presence to try and advertise the school?   1. We have started updating the website to promote the school and we are going to host an open day. A newspaper report about the children going to Romania will be published to highlight the opportunities within the school. The cost benefits of utilising social media is discussed. The signs that used to be there have disappeared. Governors name someone they know who can be approached to supply a sign.   Meeting concludes 20:30 |  |
| 19. | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  To be held at Germoe on 30th November at 18:00. |  |
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