

Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2022 at 8am online via Microsoft Teams

| Present | | In attendance | | Apologies | |
|--------------------------------------|----|---|----|-------------|----|
| Maria Ashurst (Chair of Trustees) | MA | Matthew Symonds (Chief Financial Officer) | MS | Sally Crabb | SC |
| Judith Goodchild | JG | Julia Stoneman (Clerk) | JS | | |
| Rebecca Evans | RE | | | | |
| Jane McFall (Vice Chair of Trustees) | JM | | | | |
| Adrian Massey (Chief Executive) | AM | | | | |
| Nick Hart | NH | | | | |

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| Acronyms: GAG – General Annual Grant SRMA – School Resource Management Advisor ESFA – Education and Skills Funding Agency DFC – Devolved Formula Capital | KCSIE – Keeping Children Safe in Education RI – Requires Improvement CIF – Condition Improvement Fund NJC – National Joint Council |
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| 1. Welcome and apologies for absence | Apologies were received and accepted from Sally Crabb. | |
| 2. Opportunity to declare an additional interest | The register of interests had been circulated. MA to send the clerk an updated form to include the South West Trust Leaders' Network and rugby coaching. | |
| 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 nd September | Subject to some amendments under the finance section, the minutes of the meeting held on 22 nd September were taken as a true and accurate record of proceedings. | |
| 4. Any matters arising/action tracker | Under 5b, INSET days were to be reconsidered to tie in with the Royal Cornwall Show. AM explained that this was not possible as the heads of school had already set the dates and the plan had been communicated to all parents, it would be too complicated to change. | |
| 5. Finance update | Trustees confirmed that they had received the P1 Summary Report. From this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Income is ahead of target now that grants have come in. b. <i>See confidential appendix.</i> c. It was agreed that trustees would receive the regular monthly finance reports, as well as MA. | 1 AM MS |
| 6. CEO Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Trustees received the April NJC rates showing the agreed changes of salaries for all the different pay grades. Trustees agreed the rates. b. Trustees received the school census paper. AM explained that there is a national issue where there was a bulge in primary numbers 4 years ago. These children are now moving to secondary school, and it will affect next year's budget. This is on top of the increase in costs. The Confederation of School Trusts (CST) is building lots of strong relationships on behalf of all multi academies nationally. If there is a change in government it is hopeful that they will continue to invest in the academies sector and further understand the pressures faced by schools. c. <i>See confidential appendix</i> d. Trustees received the Trust Improvement Capacity Framework Document. Overall, most areas are green and the Trust is in a strong category. e. Trustees received information on the age range change at Delaware and Gunnislake. Gunnislake is down to 16 on roll. It is hoped that a decision will be reached on this soon. An automatic transfer will be given to Delaware parents in any new admissions process. f. A pack has been put together for a Deputy CEO. It would be an internal appointment so not a huge cost. A trustee asked AM to sum up why this is a critical role. AM explained that it would strengthen the organisation to move forward. When working with other trusts they look at the internal leadership structure. This would enable Bridge to take the | |

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| | <p>next step in growth by adding capacity. There are many talented people in the Trust, and this will provide more opportunities. It is a step forward in terms of succession planning. Trustees agreed for AM to go ahead with this. KH confirmed that it would also get the support of members.</p> <p>g. Trustees had received the Ofsted response to the recent Polruan inspection. Although the school given an overall judgement of ‘requires improvement’, not a single parent has asked about the report. Jane Wills is a good head of school and popular with parents. It is clear that the school has improved and changed. The timing of the inspection was very unfortunate. We will address the issues raised. Regarding geography and the wider curriculum.</p> <p>h. <i>RE left the meeting.</i></p> <p>i. Trustees were updated on the Lorne Stewart asbestos claim. A decision should be made by Easter. It was noted that Rhian Roberts has done an excellent job in managing this claim, as robust systems were in place to retrieve-all the information.</p> <p>j. Trustees received an update on local governance, including the LGB agenda and welcome letter for the new merged governing bodies. Going forward it will be important that each set of minutes clearly identifies each school, so that information can be easily pulled out. The main role for the LGB is monitoring and making sure that the Trust provides the best education for the children.</p> <p>k. AM thanked NH for attending the INSET day.</p> <p>l. AM told trustees about a whole Trust arts event at Carnglaze Caverns on Thu 24th Nov. All of the schools have selected children to do a performance on stage for an invited parent audience all trustees welcome.</p> <p>m. A trustee pointed out that the Cornish Gorsedh is a good way to celebrate the children’s work.</p> | |
| 7. MAT self-evaluation | It was agreed to repeat the exercise and compare the results. | 2 Clerk |
| 8. Immersive technology | NH told trustees about a project that primary schools could become involved with. Falmouth and Plymouth University are working with immersive technology and have set up a project to make immersive films. Research has shown that compared to other forms of learning, virtual reality is streaks ahead in what people are learning and able to retain. It would be very useful in the classroom for swapping cultures for example. It was agreed for NH to follow this up to provide contact details and try to get the children involved in the immersive technology project. | 3 NH |
| 9. Next meeting | It was suggested that the next Board meeting on 15 th December is in person or possibly a hybrid meeting. The clerk to find out a preferred time. | 4 Clerk |
| In order to evidence that trustees are providing challenge to the leaders, these questions are highlighted in the minutes | | |

The meeting was closed at 10am

| Action Point | Governor/Clerk | Action point to be addressed | When | Action update |
|---|----------------|--|---------------------|---------------|
| Actions from this meeting: 10th November 2022 | | | | |
| 1 | Adrian/Matthew | All trustees to receive the monthly accounts | Ongoing | |
| 2 | Clerk | Resend the self-evaluation link | Before next meeting | |
| 3 | Nick | Follow up immersive technology project | | |
| 4 | Clerk | Work out best time for meeting on 15 th December | | |
| 5 | Adrian/Matthew | More information on the iTrent decision for the Audit and Risk committee | Next meeting | |