

**Minutes Of A Meeting Of The Full Board Of Governors Of
The Federation Of Boskenwyn And Germoe Schools:**

Held Virtually On Wednesday 7th July 2021 At 18:00

PRESENT:

Dr Russ Monhemius (Chair)
Miss Paula Blackburn (Head teacher)
Charlotte Overton (Clerk)
Naomi Penrose (Vice-Chair)
Nathan Bird
Anita Care
Katie Knight
Tom Richardson
Denise Rusga
Brian Toney

		ACTION
1.	APOLOGIES Received from Jo Nicholas and accepted by the chair.	
2.	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS None.	
3.	MATTERS ARISING / MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING None raised – minutes all agreed and signed off by the chair as an accurate record of the meeting.	
4.	STAFFING STRUCTURE Paula Blackburn advises that a number of resignations have been received this term for various reasons. Lauren Fox is leaving to work with animals. Jules Henry is leaving to look after relatives. Florence Macleod has resigned at the end of her maternity cover. Imogen Blackburn is leaving to work with animals and to pursue a degree. Mary Drew is retiring. Two rounds of interviews have taken place and posts have been offered. A full staffing structure now exists apart from the school secretary for Boskenwyn. Contracts have been offered full time initially for one year.	

	<p>One of the posts is for Lewis Hemsley. He left to train as a teacher, has now qualified but has not found a teaching role. His appointment will be reviewed termly as he may find a full time position in teaching after Christmas.</p> <p>The designated safeguarding lead across both schools is Paula Blackburn. Denise Rusga is the deputy at Boskenwyn, and Angie Larcombe is the deputy at Germoe.</p>	
5.	<p>HT REPORT</p> <p>This will be distributed post meeting and any questions can be sent to the clerk to be dealt with administratively.</p> <p>Governors confirm they agree with the staff decision to maintain bubbles in the classroom until the end of the summer term. This is despite government advice to relinquish bubbles from 19th July.</p> <p>Contact tracing rules will change from 19th July. Those who have been in close contact with a positive case to date have been contacted by the school. The NHS will be taking on this role from 19th July.</p> <p>From 16th August any children under 18 will no longer have to isolate if they are contacted by track and trace if they have been in contact with a positive case.</p> <p>Face masks will not be required to be worn by children or staff in classrooms, communal areas or transport from 19th July.</p> <p>‘Covid keeper strategies’ (strategies that were implemented during the pandemic that have been deemed effective) are outlined for governors. This includes virtual meetings and training. A governor decision will be needed over proposed staggered start times.</p> <p>Governors raise concerns over the lack of mixing between families and the extension of the school day for the younger pupils. It is agreed that when PTA sessions resume this will help the social side of parents mixing outside of their bubbles. The children are enjoying the earlier starts as they have 15 minutes to read, talk with their friends and ease into the school day and play. The same is true at the end of the day - lessons stop at 15:15 and the children have 15 minutes to unwind at the end of the day.</p> <p>Governors unanimously vote for staggered start times to continue.</p>	
6.	<p>SAFEGUARDING</p> <p>Paula Blackbourn confirms that the ‘Train The Trainer’ course date is still outstanding. It is still very difficult to contact anyone at county level due to people working from home and messages not reaching the correct person.</p> <p>A new solicitor partner firm has joined to CAPH called ‘Wolverton’. They are offering an HR package with a discount for schools who are in CAPH. Paula Blackburn is costing this currently to compare against Cornwall Council.</p>	

	<p>S175 for both schools have been completed and sent off. Policies are all up to date regarding safeguarding.</p> <p>'My Concern' is still being implemented and effective. There are no current concerns about safeguarding.</p>	
7.	<p>DATA</p> <p>There is no update currently as there has been no formal testing. 'Ready To Progress' objectives have been used to assess where children were when they returned from school closures versus where they are now. This has been an informal assessment by teachers.</p> <p>A new early years framework will be implemented from September and children will be assessed on entry to the schools. That progress score will be measured again in year 6.</p> <p>It is not yet confirmed if SAT's will continue next year.</p>	
8.	<p>ATTENDANCE</p> <p>No significant updates. Absence is quite high and there have been a lot of requests to remove children for long weekends or staycations. These requests have not been denied given many of the parents are key workers who have had no break in the last 18 months. We have asked that children who are removed from school complete a diary or make a portfolio of where they have visited and present to their classmates to maintain engagement.</p>	
9.	<p>SEND</p> <p>Angie Larcombe has written a short report for governors which will be distributed post meeting.</p>	
10.	<p>FINANCE AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEETINGS</p> <p>Finance Committee: There is a solid forecast reserve at both schools. Germoe has a forecast reserve of £35,000 and Boskenwyn £40,000. There will be an ICT spend across both schools for iboards and laptops. A classroom extension is needed at Boskenwyn and the final cost of that is not currently known.</p> <p>Tom Richardson asks about the previously mentioned additional plan to have an upstairs classroom and wonders if this has been shelved due to covid. Paula Blackburn confirms the cost of that would have been in excess of £60,000 which currently cannot be accommodated. Extending the classroom is more important but it remains an objective to have the classroom upstairs in due course, funds permitting.</p>	
11.	<p>PUPIL PREMIUM</p> <p>See point 9.</p>	

12.	<p>HEALTH & SAFETY</p> <p>The audit at Germoe has now been completed. The premises manager is putting together a health and safety action plan which will be available to governors once completed. The biggest problems are at Germoe where subsidence was previously detected. It is highly likely there are two shafts. It has cost £3420 to drill to perform tests and write the report.</p> <p>Cornwall Council have confirmed that Germoe would need to pay the bill for any works carries out for the forest school space despite appeals from Paula Blackburn. Governors discuss the benefit of MP involvement as well as flagging to John Keeling MBE (the former chair at Germoe) and the local councillor for the area.</p>	
13.	<p>POLICIES FOR REVIEW</p> <p>None.</p>	
14.	<p>GOVERNOR TRAINING / GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT UPDATE</p> <p>There has been no further interest from parents in becoming governors. Paula Blackburn comments that when welcome meetings take place for new parents the opportunity to become a governor can be highlighted then. The opportunity has also been flagged to Germoe parish council.</p> <p>Clerk reiterates the importance for skills audits to be completed by the end of the summer term as well as any training.</p>	
15.	<p>URGENT/CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS</p> <p>None.</p>	
16.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Paula Blackburn advises that there are 5 inset days allocated during the next academic year. In addition there is one extra day to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. The 5 days will remain as planned during the second week of the May bank holiday. The Queen’s birthday will be allocated early and used on 6th September 2021. Therefore, the Autumn term will start on Tuesday 7th September.</p> <p>Nominations for chair and VC and been received ahead of the meeting. Russ Monhemius and Naomi Penrose have both received nominations to continue in their roles. Governors unanimously vote in favour of extending these positions for another year.</p> <p>Natalie Thomas has now stood down as a governor so a replacement English governor needs to be appointed. It is agreed that each governor currently has additional roles, therefore it would be preferable for the English governor role to be allocated to a newly appointed governor next term.</p> <p>Meeting concludes: 19:30pm.</p>	

17.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING 29 th September at Boskenwyn at 18:00 with the option of Zoom dial in also available.	