

<b>Rastrick High School Academy Trust Minutes of the Trust Board meeting</b>		
<b>Date / Time: Thursday 18 March 2021 at 5:00pm via Teams</b>		
<b>Present:</b> Mr I Philp (IP), Mr D Brundell (DB), Mr S Evans (SE), Mr A Tatham (AT), Ms S Priestley (SP) Mr John Sharp (JS), Mr Nick Midgley (NM) & Mrs Helen Hemingway (HH).		
<b>Observers:</b> Mr M Crowther (MC), Mr M Williams (MW), Mr Leo Timmins (LT), Ms Sarah Laverick (SL) and Ms Rachel Bailey (RB).		
<b>Clerk:</b> Mr D Whitehead (DW)		
<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE &amp; CONSENT TO ABSENCES</b>	DB welcomed all to the meeting, There were apologies for absence from Mr P Cockcroft which were accepted.
<b>2</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF BUSINESS OR PECUNIARY INTEREST</b>	There were no declarations of interest for items on this agenda.
<b>3</b>	<b>NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	Date for diaries – a Safeguarding training day for Directors on 6 <sup>th</sup> May is planned for 5pm via Teams. Details will be forwarded prior to the date.
<b>4</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE BOARD MEETING 24 SEPTEMBER 2020, FINANCE &amp; RESOURCE MEETING 17 DECEMBER 2020 AND STANDARDS MEETING 21 JANUARY 2021 2020</b>	<p><u>AGM</u> Agenda item 1 – AT joined the meeting via teams. Subject to the above, the minutes were approved as a true record.</p> <p><b>Proposed: HH    Seconded: IP</b> <u>Finance &amp; Resources</u> These were approved at the committee meeting held immediately prior to this.</p> <p><u>Standards</u> The detailed minutes were noted by AT. He advised that the committee did feel that the results from the monitoring were better than might have been expected. Thanks were given to staff for their efforts.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>UPDATE ON POLARIS MULTI ACADEMY TRUST</b>	<p>DB noted the previous conversations held on moving to a MAT and collaborating with Brighter Futures and this is now taking place. The report which had been circulated to Directors detailed the model structures to be put in place and an example of the governance structure which could be established was included. The role of Governors on an LGB is similar to that on the Board at present. SE stressed the importance of the stability of the Governance structure moving forward. The timeline shown is flexible if there are concerns/questions from Directors then he welcomed these to be emailed.</p> <p>AT noted the structure of the MAT where RHS is large secondary school amongst 3 small primary schools. It could be easy for these to feel insignificant in respect</p>

of representation.

SE advised that places on the Board have been offered to Brighter Futures. There is a need for more depth in Governance at Brighter Futures and this will be an area which will be discussed in detail with them.

IP noted that this is a partnership and not a take over and this needs to be promoted to staff, parents and students of the 3 schools involved.

It is hoped that the proposal will be presented to the Headteacher Board in April and immediately after, communication will be sent out confirming the existence of the Polaris MAT. A consultation process will also be undertaken including the unions.

SE explained that has met with the Headteachers of the primary schools concerned.

How this may be covered in the local press was also discussed.

The confidentiality of the proposal until this is officially announced was stressed.

SP noted the time commitment and the creation of a broader remit for Directors which will be required.

**Q - Will the schools feel detached from the decision making body comprised of people they don't see or know and who they feel do not have much involvement in their school?**

A - SE outlined the roles of the Trust and LGB in a MAT.

We will be running events for LGBs to enable them to meet across the Trust. He acknowledged the differences at Board level.

The culture at each school will be developed and communication between the Trust and the Headteachers is a key area.

The different governance structure which will be in place was explained. Conversations already held with the Brighter Futures Trust were noted.

There is also scope to increase the numbers on the Trust Board to accommodate suitable candidates. The Governance Structure is a recommended one from the DfE.

**Q - How will the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee work on a practical level? How the finances of each school will be dealt with, does the MAT have a budget? Where does capital spending come in this, similarly HR & H&S? What does the leadership structure of Trust look like?**

A - The committee will work very much like it does now, except it will consider and evaluate information from schools across the Trust. For example, the Committee will receive a Health and Safety report that covers key performance indicators (set centrally) for all schools in the Trust, likewise in HR. The Committee has delegated authority for the Board to take decisions and to make recommendations to the Trust Board.

School's will set their delegated budgets, these budgets will be assessed by the CFO and then shared with the Committee (very much like they are now for RHS). The Committee will receive management accounts very much like it does now, accept these accounts will be consolidated for each school and include an overarching account for the Trust.


Capital spending will be evaluated and agreed by the Committee, taking recommendations and contextual information from the CEO and CFO.

		<p><b>Directors unanimously accepted the Trust Governance and Executive Management structures detailed in the report.</b></p> <p><b>Proposed: JS    Seconded: SP</b></p>
<b>6</b>	<b>ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b>	<p>None for this meeting.</p> <p><u>Items for next agenda.</u></p> <p>Project plan update MAT update School Improvement Partner report</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>DATE &amp; TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b>	Thursday 13 May 2021 at 5.00pm
<b>The meeting closed at 6.10pm and DB thanked all for attending.</b>		
<b>Signed:</b>		
<b>Date:</b>		

**Clerk to the Governing Body:**

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