

THE GOVERNING BODY OF ROYDS HALL HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body held at 7.00 pm at the School on Thursday, 8 July 2010.

PRESENT

Mr A Scott (chair), Mr J Bostock, Mr B Castle, Ms L Corion, Ms R Cruise, Mr A Czolacz, Mr K Fielding, Mr J Lally, Mrs C Palmer, Ms C Pattison, Mr B Richards, Mr M Usman, Mrs F Walshaw, Ms M Williams, Mr J Wright.

In Attendance

Mrs H Dobson (Minute Clerk)
Mr J Haigh (Associate Head)
Ms S Renshaw (Assistant Head Teacher)

1921. THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

A group of the newly elected senior students were introduced to governors: Ifeanyi Ugada, Head Boy, Parampal Singh, Assistant Head Boy, Khadija Badri, Head Girl, Jordan Hamilton, Assistant Head Girl, Zoulikha Boukhatem, Assistant Head Girl. Ms Williams praised the students for their excellent applications for the positions and the high level of interest shown by students in the roles. (Students then left the meeting).

It was announced that interviews had taken place for Associate Assistant Headteachers and both Louise Cull (Head of Mathematics) and Jonathon Schofield (Head of PE) had been successful. Ms Cull would lead on student leadership and Mr Schofield on behaviour and learning in the classroom as well as working with Ms Renshaw on the curriculum.

Mr Schofield informed governors that the under 13 cricket team had reached the final against Holmfirth and that through his work with Paddock cricket club the school had been awarded the Youth Sports Trust Yorkshire and Humberside innovation award for school club links. In October the school would find out whether it had won the national award at the National Sports Partnership Conference which Mr Schofield would present at.

Ms Cull gave a short presentation to governors about her role on student voice informing governors of the various areas where there would be representatives for Royds Hall voice to pool ideas, having a termly focus.

Mr Scott thanked Ms Cull for her presentation and both she and Mr Schofield left the meeting.

RESOLVED: That previous senior students be sent a letter of thanks from the Governors.

1922. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received, without consent, from Mr M Caufield, Mr K Giles, Ms G Kelly and Mr D Morgan.

There were no declarations of interest.

1923. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following items were notified to be raised under Any Other Business:

- Staff feedback (under stakeholders' questions).
- Mr Scott had an item he wished to raise.

1924. REPRESENTATION

(a) The following matter of representation was noted:

End of Term of Office

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
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The following governor would shortly be coming to their end of term of office

Mr K Giles	LA	31.08.10
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RESOLVED: That Mr Scott discuss renewal with Mr Giles as he was absent from this meeting.

(b) Appointment of a Community Governor

RESOLVED: That a Community Governor should still be sought.

1925. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 27 MAY 2010

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2010 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

1926. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

1927. ANNUAL GOVERNING BODY SELF REVIEW

Mr Scott suggested that this item be delayed until the next full governors meeting after the AGM in September.

RESOLVED: That Governors agree to carry out activities connected with the Self Evaluation document at the first meeting following the AGM.

1928. HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT AND GOVERNORS' QUESTIONS

The Head Teacher spoke to her report which was circulated to Governors by the School. The following matters were highlighted:-

(a) Admissions

Ms Williams reported that numbers of students on roll had increased significantly. 822 students were confirmed for September with numbers potentially rising to 858-860. Three appeals were due to be heard over the summer; there had been 38 new starters and 29 leavers over the year.

(b) Attendance

Ms Williams reported that this had been very positive with the target of 95% set last September being achieved. Despite many holiday requests from parents, these were not being approved and fines were being given. The future focus would be on medical absences.

(c) Staff Changes

Ms Williams mentioned a number of staff departures including Mr Ashmore to join Moorend's SLT, Ms Allen had retired, Ms Adams was joining Crossley Heath and Ms Ellam was leaving but would return to do some consultancy work. As well as the staffing changes concerning Ms Cull and Mr Schofield, Ms Palmer became Educational Teaching Assistant Manager and Ms Wilson became Senior Achievement Manager.

Ms Lunness and Ms Renshaw would job share the post of Associate Deputy Head. Ms Renshaw confirmed that the additional needs department would come under one umbrella rather than SEN and RP being separate. Three Teaching Assistants were being sought. Governors were given details of the new senior team's responsibilities

(d) School Development Plan

Ms Williams gave governors details of the school development plan for the next twelve months, suggesting that the next Ofsted inspection might be due around November 2011. GCSE predictions were on target. Mr Haigh added that these were for 73% 5 A-C grades and 54% 5 A-C grades including Mathematics and English.

(e) Summer Works

Ms Williams reported to governors that a slope by the performance hall would be created to make it more accessible and a container for storage would be sited there. Costings for the refurbishment of the ladies toilets and the main reception area were being obtained. A pilot health and safety inspection had taken place in the Design Technology department but this would need to be re-visited.

(f) Achievements

Ms Williams reported to governors the school's main achievements included the award of the Artsmark gold award at the first attempt, the school being selected for the SSAT leadership and innovation hub run by Ms Lunness which would lead to opportunities for all staff, consolidating CPD outreach into a manageable programme. Mr Haigh had presented at various conferences regarding Jesson data and some schools had visited the school with very positive feedback. Colne Valley High School had also adopted Jesson forecasting after a training session from Mr Haigh.

(g) Community Cohesion

It was reported that students from the partner school in Cologne had visited recently; Ms Williams had travelled to Ethiopia in April to visit the Mekele School for the Blind. Four awards were presented to Royds Hall staff at the annual Kirklees support staff conference. At the Specialist College Awards

Night, Sheela Macwan, Senior Lecturer in Radiotherapy and Oncology at Sheffield Hallam University made a very good speech and Richard Dodd, Headteacher at Paddock School and Nigel Clibbens and Andy Booth from Huddersfield Town Football Club both presented awards at the Whole School Celebration event in June. Barry Gibson, Senior Caretaker was also presented with a retirement gift.

Governors were circulated a selection of press cuttings from the Huddersfield Examiner newspaper where Royds Hall have made the news. The aim was for the school's profile to be kept high with an article every week or fortnight.

(h) Best Value Statement

Ms Williams referred to the 2010-2011 document that required approval and acceptance by governors.

Ms Pattison proposed acceptance of the best value statement and this was seconded by Mr Richards and agreed unanimously by governors.

RESOLVED: That the best value statement be agreed by the Governing Body.

Mr Scott signed the document

1929. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(a) Staffing and Curriculum Committee

In Mr Caufield's absence, Mr Castle summarised June's Staffing Committee meeting confirming that three of the Advanced Skills Teachers (ASTs) presented to governors about their curriculum areas of Mathematics, English and Science. An update on the Specialist College status was given referring to the Operational Management Plan (OMG) and a third presentation was given by Patricia Muramatsu from the Primary Care Trust.

(b) Business Management Committee

Ms Pattison reported that the budget had been submitted to the Local Authority. An FMSiS inspection had taken place and had been successfully achieved. The School Fund was ok thanks to Mr Owen and Mr Fielding. With regard to premises, priority works were being looked at; the slope would be done outside the Performance Hall.

(c) Trust Committee

Mr Scott confirmed that the Trust committee had met on 21st June following a union meeting. The structure and consultation period were discussed as well as the shape of the Trust: conventional/co-operative. Visits to schools were due to take place over the coming weeks, also involving consultation with the wider community. Mr Haigh commented that he had attended the Co-operative Trust conference in London which had been useful.

RESOLVED: That further feedback on Trust Schools would be provided at the next governors meeting in September.

Mr Castle and Ms Pattison were thanked for their reports.

(d) Student Achievement Committee

The committee looked at behaviour and an attendance meeting was held prior to the 8th July full governors meeting where a number of parents and students were invited to attend to discuss ways in which their attendance could be improved.

A general discussion followed about changes taking place in education since the new Government took over.

1930. GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

There was nothing to report.

1931. EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Governors were presented with information about school visits, most being day visits but two were residential.

RESOLVED: That the visits' figures illustrate the frequency of visits by particular student groups.

1932. STAKEHOLDERS' QUESTIONS

Mr Usman referred to a number of points mentioned by staff:

- Concerns over future budget cuts.
- Request for exam results analysis.
- Better analysis of school trips.
- Trust status.
- Formalise mechanism for staff voice.
- Minutes to be published.

Ms Walshaw added that staff could email the staff governors with any queries and were invited to meet with staff governors before a full governors meeting. With regard to parents' questions, it was suggested that the parents' survey undertaken at parents' evening could be put in the school magazine with the suggestion of a random sample questionnaire being distributed.

RESOLVED: That staff can raise any concerns through 'Stakeholders' questions'. Parents' questions would also be promoted via the school website and a possible survey.

1933. ANY OTHER BUSINESSThanks from Chair

Mr Scott commented on how challenging and interesting his first year as Chair had been and thanked the two previous Chairs for the work they had contributed and understood just how much time, effort and energy the two previous Chairs must have devoted to the role. He formally thanked the previous Chair, Mr Bostock who had faced many challenges as Chair. Mr Scott presented Mr Bostock with a gift. Ms Williams added her thanks to Mr Bostock at a time when she was new to post and his support had been invaluable.

1934. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meetings of the Governing Body would be held at 7.00 pm at the School on:

Thursday, 16 September 2010

Thursday, 21 October 2010.

1935. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of these minutes, agenda or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the School.