

**HARRIS CITY ACADEMY CRYSTAL PALACE
GOVERNING BODY
GOVERNORS MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8 JUNE 2010**

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 8 June 2010, commencing at 5.00pm

Those present: Mr Keith Morley – Chairman
Mr Steve Kenning
Ms Emily Barrett
Mr Tony Bayon
Ms Lisa Bradshaw
Mr Andrew Brenson
Ms Joyce Connell
Mr Peter Harris

In attendance: Mr Andrew Barr (Vice Principal)
Mr Will Keown (Acting Vice Principal)
Mr Mike Antoniou (Federation Finance Director)
Mr Henry Africa (Federation Business Manager)
Mrs Debbie McSween (Clerk to the Governors)
Mr Matthew Chandy (Head Boy)
Miss Tamsin Parker (Head Girl)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Dr Dan Moynihan, Mr Phillip Azevedo and Mr Alan Marchant.

Chairman's Opening Remarks

KM welcomed everyone and thanked the Governors for arriving promptly. He introduced Mr Will Keown to the Board.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 25th March 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th March 2010 were incorrect based on a previous template and needed to be amended. The amendments needed to reflect the following; Mr Moynihan and Emily Barrett were in attendance. Mr Andrew Brenson was absent. A signed copy was submitted (subject to the changes on the front page).

3. Matters Arising

There was a discussion on Point 6 of the matters arising of the previous minutes and how it was being dealt with. It was suggested that there needed to be a final screen to see what had been chosen. AB said that the Academy was currently reviewing the Options section of the website.

There were no further matters arising.

4. Principal's Report

SK went through his report to the Governors.

The results were on target with those set. The targets look good. It is a good Year Group this Year 11. We expect A* and A's. We have good teachers in place and a lot of time is spent on teaching and learning.

The predictions look very good. The FFT Target last year was 58% and we achieved 82%.

The prediction is higher this year but we think we will achieve higher. Our current Year 9 is strong. SK went through the predictions in detail.

The Head Boy and Head Girl attended the meeting and KM welcomed them.

The Head Boy and Head Girl introduced themselves. Tamsin Parker has attended Harris CACP for 6 years and Matthew Chandy has attended for 5 years.

They reported on the COA evenings for Year 11 and Year 13, the staff netball, organising rounders and other Academy events.

TB questioned the process for the election of Head Boy and Head Girl. Tamsin explained hustings. TB asked about the criteria and in which year they were appointed. Tamsin said Year 12s were elected. JC asked if they knew why they were chosen. Tamsin said that the more people you know the more that helps towards election. They said that another thing was not to promise things they were not going to deliver.

KM said good luck to them both and thanked them for attending.

The Head Boy and Head Girl left the meeting.

SK said that they were very good students. TB noted that they were remarkably confident.

SK continued with his report. The Academy had widened the curriculum and it was developing well. The IB starts in September and there were approximately 400 applications for Post 16 for the next academic year. SK answered the query relating to dealing with the numbers by saying that some students would be going to other academies within the Federation.

SK reported that the student tracking system is good and we were looking at it getting better for next year. He explained HARS to the Board.

From September parents will be able to access their child's information at home. The attainment and target setting systems were in place. WK was managing the student mentoring programme.

TB asked, if KS3 was no longer in place, how did we deal with assessment. SK said that we used the MIDYS and YELLIS systems. They were being used as prediction analysis based on an assessment.

WK reported that it was a positive decision not to make it uniform across Federation. Using MIDYS and YELLIS meant that we can make adjustments year on year and different schools all assess differently. It changes on a year on year basis. MIDYS and YELLIS are national tests. It gives a national score. The targets we set are set at the top end of the system. We have also accelerated the curriculum so the MIDYS and YELLIS are used for that.

AB said that the tests are not knowledge based more ability based. The teachers are then better informed to plan.

KM said that although they have removed SATs it does not seem to have impacted. AB said that we previously relied heavily on our benchmarking tests so SATs have not had a major impact as we found them to be inaccurate in the past. They were teacher assessments and you could not rely on them being accurate.

EB asked how students view testing. SK said that he think they like being tested because they always strive to do their best and in some cases compete.

SK reported on permanent exclusions. A lot had been put in place to support the students now. The behavioural system has changed. The policy still needs to go back to Governors for review.

There are ASTs in place and the quality of teaching has improved. The VLE is getting better.

KM asked if it could be viewed at next Governors meeting, if a demonstration could be organised. There is a link on our current website. AB said that there was some development work going on at the moment.

SK reported that the Post 16 performance will improve over the next few years. It appears as there would be lots of maths students next year. We have a good reputation.

SK went through the staffing status. We have gained around 24 staff and lost about 18. Of that we are losing 4 members of staff to other Academies. Some to maternity leave and one is moving abroad. Mark Sorrell has been appointed as Acting Head of Communications Faculty and Ruth Hurcombe has been appointed as Assistant Principal with responsibility for Teaching & Learning. Eileen Dye had taken the role of Acting Head of Science and Maths. There are a lot of good middle leaders on the staffing team at the moment. The staffing situation at the moment is good and we are able to give the Federation lots of support.

KM asked if the Board had any questions. There were none.

5. Federation Matters

KM said that there had been no Federation meeting since our last Governor's meeting.

EB asked about the implications of a coalition government for us as an Academy. It was suggested that this be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

TB said that the pupil premium might be the bigger issue. Once the pupil premium is clarified it makes a different impact.

6. Committee Reports – Disciplinary Hearing

SK said that one student had a managed move to South Norwood. We took one and sent one back. The one from South Norwood was doing okay at the moment. There had also been one from Norbury Manor.

7. Financial Matters

The financial position and current figures were fully discussed.

SEF

SK said that we did not complete the SEF last year. He said that it would be finished by the next meeting, as it would be done fairly soon. He reported that each senior team member of staff leads one.

Building Works

SK said that it was a bit behind at the moment. A lot of the IT planning is now in place. It was looking good at present. The road would be done this next week. The whole area will be done by September 2010.

SK said that staff had been patient. SIC have moved to the end of the L Rooms. There will be a crane on back playground soon.

The exams have not been disrupted. There have not been too many moans from staff and the students have been fantastic.

The walkways should be finished by November. We have managed with all the re-rooming. It does affect teaching and learning but it will be good when finished.

At the start of the new academic year there will be a tour arranged for next meeting.

KM asked if there were any questions. There were none.

8. Policies

KM asked if there were any issues with the policies. All were agreed.

9. Any Other Business

KM asked if there was any other business. None was raised.

KM distributed the schedule for the next academic year.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

This would be held on 23rd September 2010.

KM thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed 6.45pm.

Signed:

Mr Keith Morley, Chairman

Date:

Points for Action

- View VLE at next Governors meeting
 - Impact of a coalition government to Academies
 - Tour – at the next meeting
- Mr Steve Kenning
 - Board of Governors
 - Mr Steve Kenning