

**Islington Futures – A Federation of Community Schools
Minutes of the Governing Body Chairs’ Meeting
Tuesday 26 November 2019
8am – 9.30am**

Present:


Jill McLaughlin (JMc)	Chair
Jo Dibb (JDB)	Executive Headteacher
Caspar Woolley (CWO)	Vice Chair
Pauline Edgar (PED)	Chair of the Federal Achievement Committee
Mary Berrisford (MBE)	Chair of the EGA School Committee
Will Garner (WGA)	Chair of the Vittoria School Committee – arrived at 8.25am
Alex Bols (ABO)	Chair of the Beacon High School Committee

Minutes: Hilary Furey

Agenda No.		Action
1.	<p>Apologies and Consent Apologies for absence had been received from David Harrison.</p> <p>Advance apologies for late arrival had been received from Will Garner.</p> <p>Resolved: that consent be given for absence.</p>	
2.	<p>Declaration of Interest There were no declarations of interest</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising Minutes of the meeting on 23 September 2019 had been circulated in advance and were Agreed.</p>	
4.	<p>Action Points from last meeting There were no action points from the previous meeting.</p>	
5.	<p>Chairs’ Committee Terms of Reference The Terms of Reference to be amended as follows:</p> <p>Para.3 – amend to include Vice Chair.</p>	Clerk

	<p>It was agreed that the committee needed Terms of Reference to be properly constituted and have appropriate delegated authority for those items that needed it, and that its role was to be transparent in its decision-making and to lead on process. Due to the strategic nature of many of the discussions where appropriate action points rather than detailed minutes would be recorded.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Feedback from Awayday and Establishing Priorities Committee members discussed the key points highlighted by the Governors' Awayday session:</p> <p>Pupil/Parent Voice - this was an important issue for all schools, with parental engagement a strong area to be addressed. The committee noted that attendance at each school's parent evenings was variable with large numbers at EGA, a growing number at Beacon High and lots at both Vittoria and Copenhagen but no agreed approach across the Federation, and a consideration of ways to communicate with all stakeholders was needed. Florence Wilkinson would provide training for Headteachers/SBMs next week on writing press releases.</p> <p>Action: issues to be picked up for discussion at relevant committees.</p> <p>3-5 year priorities – there was a gap in alignment between School Development Plans and the Federation's priorities, as SDPs varied in format and detail. Headteachers' frustrations had been felt concerning perceived lack of knowledge of their individual schools by others in attendance at the Awayday, and the issue of duplication of presenting information had been expressed in Federation SLT meetings. Committee members agreed that it was important for governors to engage in a better way with Headteachers through school committee meetings in terms of what they wanted to know, and agendas needed to be planned in advance by the Executive Headteacher, Headteacher and Chair so that the purpose of reporting was clear, ie whether for consideration, approval or discussion, etc. A strategic target for the senior School Business Manager was to look ahead at planning to avoid duplication, where possible.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Federation should have its own Development plan, and that the Executive Head would produce a draft for consideration.</p> <p>Action: JD to create draft and circulate to Chairs for comment – no more than 5 points likely to include:</p>	<p>Jo Dibb</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strength in leadership/succession/support 2. Needs of community 3. Wellbeing 4. Use of resources (IT/buildings) 	
7.	<p>Future of the Federation - options Committee members considered the possible growth of the Federation but agreed that this would not happen quickly.</p> <p>Action: a working group to discuss ways of weaving future options into the Federation Development Plan to ensure strength and stability in preparation for any future changes.</p>	JMc to link with work on Fed Dev Plan
8.	<p>Succession Planning A confidential matter was discussed.</p>	
9.	<p>Agenda for FGB</p> <p>Proposed agenda items for the upcoming FGB meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation from LBI on new Ofsted framework (30 mins) • Annual Safeguarding Reports for approval • Priorities of Federation Development Plan • Outline of Executive Head Objectives 	
10.	<p>Chairs' Updates: issues to be escalated A confidential matter was discussed.</p>	
11.	<p>AOB Committee members agreed to rearrange the date of the spring term meeting.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to circulate proposed dates for meeting.</p> <p>There was no other business and the meeting closed at 10.00am</p>	Clerk

Signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting	
Chair's signature	
Chair's name	
Date	

