

MEETING OF BALLAUGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY
Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 17:45

Attendees:

Mrs Jan Bale (JB)	Teacher Governor
Mr Barry Cowin (BC)	Co-Opted Governor
Mr Steven Bevan (SB)	DESC Education Council representative (Chair)
Dr Graeme Cushnie (GC)	Headteacher
Mrs Laura Mylchreest (LM)	Clerk to Governors

SB kindly agreed to Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Meeting opened at 17:45.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs Tracey Radcliffe (TR) has given her apologies

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 6th July 2021

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by SB.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Publishing Minutes – GC noted that the minutes were to be put on school website

4. ELECTION/RE-ELECTION

BC current term as co-opted governor has come to an end, BC confirmed he was willing to complete another term and it was decided that he would be re-elected. GC reminded everyone that JB has permission to continue as Teacher Governor. TR's term as parent governor is due up in December. GC will inform TR of this.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs Mylchreest shared the current financial figures.

6. HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

This was shared with the governors, points to note:

Pupil Attendance – Attendance is currently as expected, there have been very few children going off island. Illness is however starting to increase with several children presenting with COVID 19 symptoms but then receiving negative Lateral Flow or PCR Tests. The improved ventilation and hand-washing routines in school is expected to help reduce the number of other seasonal illnesses.

Building Maintenance - the wooden ramp at the rear of the mobile is currently being replaced, as the work is ongoing the door, which is also a fire exit, is not usable.

Curriculum – The National Curriculum is used by the school. The school needs a simple solution for tracking the coverage of this curriculum as the document is so large.

Finance – following receipt of the SEN budget in September we will need to ringfence this amount and evidence how this budget is spent, GC advised this will likely be on additional support staffing at Level 2 or Level 3

Health and Safety – GC advised he is continually monitoring the COVID situation, the CO2 monitor provided has been recalibrated but still does not appear to be working correctly. As much ventilation as possible is provided until we can assess CO₂ levels and therefore gauge if the ventilation is sufficient. The purpose of the monitor is to indicate acceptable ventilation levels which would not only mitigate against C19 spread also have a positive impact on learning as

elevated CO₂ are known to affect learning. An anonymous message was received from a concerned parent about the parking at School drop off, GC sent a text message to all parents and the police were invited to patrol and speak with parents, the situation seems to have improved.

Leadership & Management – All relevant checks and references were received in time to allow our new administrator to take up the position at the start of term. BC thanked GC for completing the recruitment and BC was thanked for his assistance carrying out the interviews. School improvement areas will include: Special Education Needs (SEN). GC explained the reasons for the increase in children being identified as requiring support. External Quality Assurance - GC is waiting to see what form this will take. The school will therefore carry out its own QA. The School Vision needs to reflect current world, following the pandemic and the need to prepare children for the future. Development of the curriculum to meet children's current needs, as well as tracking, will also feature.

Pupil Standards – As per the headteacher's report. The school attained higher than many of the All Island measures and was inline with the others. The impact of the lockdowns is significant. GC also highlighted that during, and after, 3 lockdowns the teachers were all doing an excellent job.

Department Matters – A Freedom of Information request was received by GC to provide the number of staff who have been absent from work

Other News –Class 4B began the new school year with a team building trip run by the Venture Centre, they have also visited the Grove Museum and carried out an active travel survey during Active Travel week. All classes received road safety sessions during this week too. JB advised 4B are also taking a tour of the village with Ian Radcliffe to look at the Victorian buildings and are taking part in the Hollentide Fair. The Mhelliah of Friday was a success raising £1,700 to be split between the school and Isle Listen. Technology in school was also discussed.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Tuesday 7th December at 17.30

The meeting closed at 18:50

Read and approved :

Date :