

MINUTES

Minutes of the James Rennie School Local Advisory Board Meeting held at James Rennie School, California Road, Carlisle CA3 0BU and on Zoom on 19th January 2023 starting at 1:15pm.

Attendance:

Jonty Hanlon	JH	LAB Member
Rachel Woolley	RW	LAB Member
Lisa Battersby	LB	LAB Member
Jackie Hudson	JH	LAB Member
Kerry Dunbobbin	KD	Head of School
Lisa Hollywood	LH	Business Manager
Michael Manley	MM	LAB Chair
Also present		
Emma McDermott	EM	Clerk
Kris Williams*	KW	Regional Director

* Indicates those members attending remotely

Apologies:

Nicola McInnes	NM	LAB Member
Sarah Edgar	SE	LAB Member
Arthur Paynter	AP	LAB Member

Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action
1/2022-23	Welcome, introductions and apologies Apologies were received from Sarah Edgar and Nicola McInnes.	
2/2022-23	Declaration of interests and offer/receipt of gifts or hospitality There were no new declarations.	
3/2022-23	Minutes and actions from the last meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 20/10/2022 were agreed.	

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Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action
4/2022-23	Head's report <u>School Development plan:</u> KD started with an update for the St Edmunds site. This will now be pushed back to September 2023. KD pointed out the school development plan and the targets that are set on there. The school is on course for most targets. The school is in green for all targets apart from the St Edmunds one. School's attendance has gone up and the school is now in a green area for this. <u>Nativities:</u> This year the school had 2 separate nativities. Lower school did two sittings of 'Ooopsie Daisy Angel' in the school hall and Upper school did 'The Greatest Snowman' at St. Cuthbert's church. Both shows were brilliant and had lots of positive feedback from parents and families that came to watch. By splitting the two shows the church performance was a lot more manageable and the parents got to interact with their children a lot more than in previous years. <u>Staffing and staff wellbeing:</u> Staffing has continued to be challenging over Autumn, especially with cases of Covid, Colds and Flu. The school did have a week's period where they had 20 staff members off with Covid, luckily the school did manage to stay open and was able to cover classes where needed. Oliver is looking to get the staff wellbeing group up and running again. Following on from the staff wellbeing survey the school has introduced increased teaching assistant hours, regular teaching assistant meetings and all staff now have access to the Eden academy training online. KD has also met with union reps to discuss any issues, one scheme the school has come up with is a schedule on weekend emails so none are sent after 6pm on a Friday and before 7.30am on a Monday. The school is still short on midday supervisors however a few positions have been filled including a few from parents which is great as they all have the correct skill set and the hours work for them. The Eden Academy as a whole are rated as good with staff in school. Teachers and Teaching assistants have found it really beneficial being able to liaise with other staff in the academy for help and support. The academy has really helped move forward a lot of opportunities for staff such as training and professional development. Staff feel that there is no pressure to make any decisions and that everyone has a voice. From a LAB point of view, the academy encourages the LAB to have an input and LAB members feel that it is taken seriously?	

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	<u>Early Intervention programme:</u> Sophie Dowling is now co-ordinating this project. The roll out is due to happen this term and Sophie will be stating to attend panel meetings to decide which primary schools will be prioritised for support. <u>Student teachers:</u> The school has had 20 secondary trainee teachers in for 2 days, this went really well and the school has received really positive feedback from this. The school was able to really showcase what it is that they do. <u>Pupils:</u> U Dance is starting again this year. It will be a mixed age group of students who will be performing at the Sands Centre alongside other schools, this will take place in March. The school also has a group of students that are taking place in a gymnastics competition. The school has worked closely with Jessie's Fund this last year and a lot of pupils featured in their videos. The feedback from this was amazing.	
5/2022-23	Finance update LH provided finance update. Budgets have been submitted for this year. There has been a huge uplift in utility costs across the school. This was to be expected especially with the additional portacabins. All class budgets are still in place and classes have been sticking to them. Additional children will bring positive funding. A lot of schools across the country are in a similar position with their finance due to staff pay rises.	
6/2022-23	Feedback from LAB Liaison All positive feedback.	
7/2022-23	Any other business No other business	

Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action

The meeting closed at 14:45pm

Dates of the next meetings:

- Thursday 19th January 2023
- Thursday 9th March 2023
- Thursday 15th June 2023

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ACTION SUMMARY

Agenda item xx/2022-23	Action	Who

MAN