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15th

June 2023

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 09th March 2023 starting at 13:15pm.

Attendance:

Arthur Paynter	AP	LAB member
Lisa Battersby	LB	Class Teacher
Jonty Hanlon	JH	LAB member
Kerry Dunbobbin	KD	Head of School
Jackie Hudson	JHU	Teaching Assistant
Michael Manley	MM	LAB Chair
Sarah Edgar	SE	LAB member
Rachel Wooley	RW	Class Teacher
Emma McDermott	EM	Clerk

* Indicates those members attending remotely

Apologies:

Kris Williams	KW	Regional Director
Brian Eaton	BE	Trustee & LAB member
Lisa Hollywood	LH	Business Manager

Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action
1/2022-23	<u>Welcome, introductions and apologies:</u> Apologies were received from KW, BE and LH.	
2/2022-23	<u>Declaration of interests and offer/receipt of gifts or hospitality:</u> There were no new declarations.	
3/2022-23	<u>Minutes and actions from the last meeting:</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 19th Jan 2023 were agreed.	

Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action
4/2022-23	<u>Head's report:</u> <u>St Edmunds:</u> Nothing to update on the St Edmunds front. Meetings to take place this week to discuss progress. The school has 10 leavers this year, so currently has space for 10 new starters. The school has a large amount of applications coming through but can only take students on the provision that St Edmunds will be open. <u>Staff wellbeing:</u> Oliver has met with the staff welfare group and is going to arrange regular meetings to look at the way they can proactively support well-being. Kindness Friday has re-started, staff really like this idea and it is a great morale booster. Staffing is still an issue, school still have a few staff that are signed off sick long term, which has been a challenge. When these staff members do return to school then they are usually put on limited duties, this can then add more pressure to staff. A recent well-being questionnaire went out to all staff. Staff were able to give feedback on certain things and teachers and teaching assistants do feel that they were listened to and that the senior leadership team are trying their best to come up with solutions. The Senior Leadership team always try their best to put a plan in place for staffing if they know some staff will be absent however unexpected things such as childcare and sickness do happen. JHU and LB both said that they do feel supported and the whole of James Rennie do pull together as a team to make things work. The school has received good feedback from the National Autistic Accreditation on the new class teachers in school. The school received advanced status last time round in the accreditation and since then have been going out into the local community to offer help and support to other schools. The school will continue to do this to hopefully work towards Beacon status. <u>Teacher Strikes:</u> Two teacher strikes have taken place recently and two more are due to go ahead this month. The school has closed seven classes so far. Parents are aware of what is going on with the strikes and the school has communicated any information they have in order to cause the least amount of disruption. <u>Pupil Bits:</u> U dance is taking place this month, it is a mixed age group and they will be performing at the Sands Centre. All students are really excited. The group will also be performing it at school and all LAB members are invited. School recently had groups attend a Gymnastics and Table Cricket competition These were both a huge success. The school currently have a group of students on a residential trip to Calvert Trust. The group seem to be having a fab time and have sent some lovely photos back to their friends in classes.	

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	<u>Parent Updates:</u> Creative play sessions in lower school have been a huge success. Lots of parents have attended and gave really positive feedback. Key stage 2 are putting together ideas of how they can replicate this. The PTFA have set up a clothing swap. Parents can send in old uniform and pick up anything they need from school. This was a huge success. <u>LAB Involvement:</u> Whole school festival is taking place on 7th July. This will be 'GlastoRennie'. LAB members are invited to the event. There will be stalls offering hair braiding, face painting, food and drinks and the 6th form students are getting involved in making the programmes. Anita in post 16 is putting together a Careers group. She is working on identifying what a career means to pupils aged 3-19. School have also had a few students attend work experience, which has been a huge success. Post 16 career days have also taken place where external providers have come in to talk about what services they can offer the students. The school have also had former students come in to talk about life after James Rennie. <u>External Scrutiny:</u> All the staff are extremely proud of the recent Outstanding OFSTED rating however; they all remain open to any external scrutiny. They still have the school development plan in place and are always continuing to improve and strive for more. No information to be added by BE or AP from the trust's perspective.	
5/2022-23	<u>New LAB Member:</u> KD mentioned a possible new LAB member. The new member has done a lot of head teacher and deputy head work, she has a lot of educational background and she will be invited to the next meeting.	
6/2022-23	<u>Feedback from LAB Liaison:</u> Nothing new to add from AP.	
7/2022-23	<u>Any other business:</u>	

Ref.	Discussions and decisions	Action
	No other business to add.	

The meeting closed at 14:00pm.

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

