



## TRUST BOARD LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Learning Committee of the Trust Board of South East Cornwall Multi Academy Regional Trust held at Liskeard School & Community College School on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 5.30 pm

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**Present:** Mrs H Casson  
Mr J Crisp  
Mr R Newton Chance

**Absent:**

**In Attendance:** Mr D Buckley, CEO  
Mrs K Williams, Clerk to Trust Board

13. **Welcome**  
Mr Crisp had advised that he would be late and asked if Mr Newton Chance could chair the meeting tonight. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
14. **Evacuation Procedure**  
The evacuation procedure was explained.
15. **Declaration of Business or Pecuniary Interest and Academy-related parties - update on any changes since completion of written declaration**  
None.
16. **Apologies for Absence**  
Mr Crisp advised that he would be late due unexpected over run of a meeting at work.
17. **Approval of minutes of meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
The minutes of the meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019, having been circulated in advance of the meeting, were agreed as an accurate of the meeting and signed.
18. **Matters Arising**
  - M5. Discussion of Terms of reference**

e) The Clerk will make adjustments to the SoD and circulate for further discussion with the Trustees.  
*Update: Mr Buckley advised that Rachel Yelland is updating and reviewing the KPI's. The SEND KPI's will also need to be included separately. Mrs Yelland is using the Headteacher's report to compile the KPI's. Once this review has been completed, the SoD should be circulated to approval and it was noted that this is a priority.*
  - M6. Headteacher's Reports**

f) Trustees recommend that a narrative is used for the learning sections of the Headteacher's report as it need to be clear what the issues are and what intervention is in place. Mr Buckley will add this comment to the review of the Headteacher's report  
*Update: Boxes for comments were added when the report was reviewed.*
  - M9. Issues from recent OFSTED visit to Looe**  
*Update: See confidential appendix*

Further to the meeting, Mr Newton Chance will arrange to meet the Chair and Headteacher prior to the Peer Review as part of the framing of the review and that this part of the process would be added

19. **Issues raised by LGC's**

a) **Landulph – Data training for governors has been requested.**

The Trustees discussed the request from the Local Governors at Landulph. They noted that governors should be attending the link meetings and any lack of understanding in the data provided should be addressed by the Headteacher.

b) Trustees did agree that the Headteacher's report is data heavy. Mr Buckley advised that governors should be aware of the most critical columns in the Learning sections from training already provided. **A Trustee queried where the ASP data sits within the Governor's review cycle.**

c) **A Trustee asked what are the most important aspects for the governors to focus on.** Mr Buckley advised that governors should be focussed on the progress of pupils. **A Trustee asked how we make governance more effective** and it was discussed that a good governing committee should challenge the information provided by the Headteacher especially that which has been highlighted.

d) As a result of this discussion it was agreed that the following guidance be issued to LGCs:  
*Governors need to focus on the last four columns of the section titled L3 which identify the progress of the pupils. Governors should challenge any of the figures which are not positive and ask what are the reasons for pupils not making expected progress? The Headteachers response should be to explain why there are any numbers below expected progress.*

e) For primary schools – there will be a difference in the data because of cohort size. If there are is a red or yellow area, then this needs to be challenged.

f) Dobwalls – None  
Liskeard - None  
Looe – None  
Saltash – None  
Trewidland – None

20. **Update from Link Meetings – Verbal update from the Clerk**

a) Learning 30.04.2019

The Clerk had attended the Governors Services Conference in March which included workshops on understanding data. The workshops were useful and discussed the data in the IDSR reports (Inspection Data Summary Report). The link meeting focussed on understanding data and the governors reviewed IDSR data which helped triangulate the information provided in the Headteacher's report.

b) The Trustees discussed the SMART schools' performance. It was noted that ASP data could be reviewed by governors once per year so they have an awareness of how their school is performing nationally. Mr Buckley did voice some concern over using IDSR and ASP data as it is not current data. This data was considered by governors in a Link meeting earlier in the year.

Mr Crisp joined the meeting at 18.12.

c) **A Trustee asked if SMART schools have critical friends set up.** Mr Buckley advised that Saltash have been twinned with Ivybridge Community College. Mr Buckley advised that we should be expecting at least the average progress being made. Mr Buckley advised he is in the middle of forming a Maths curriculum across the SMART schools which will be make it easier to assess progress across the schools. Schools will still have their own teaching models. It was noted that

national averages are important and show if schools are making progress or not.

- d) **A Trustee noted that more moderation is needed and triangulation is vitally important.** Mr Buckley commented that a baseline assessment is a useful but there is a danger of teaching to a test. **A Trustee asked how easy is it to drill into data to find out what the key issues are.** It was noted that Assessment for Teaching is proving positive in Alternative Provisions. The context for changing the way we assess progress is based upon Mr Buckley's work in curriculum intent. Mr Buckley advised that the aim is for every teacher to understand what learning means. The majority of teachers have been deskilled over recent years through no fault of their own. **Trustees queried the reliability of data** and Mr Buckley assured them the primary school data is good and standardised tests were being introduced into the secondary schools in English and Maths to improve comparability.

## 21. KPI's – Headteacher's Reports

The Headteacher's report were circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr Buckley highlighted the key issues for the Trustees.

- a) See confidential appendix
- b) Mr Buckley explained that the Heads of Maths have been brought together this week to form a SMART Maths curriculum. There has been some evidence of lack of consistency in the Maths departments and Mr Buckley is addressing this. The focus for the Heads of Maths is their responsibility for each teacher in their department but the model is yet to be agreed. **A Trustee summarised that any pupil would be able to leave a SMART school and attend another SMART school and they would receive the same Maths curriculum.** Mr Buckley advised impact will be measured once the curriculum is agreed and in place. Trustees agreed that consistency is key.
- c) **A Trustee queried the use of the Headteacher's report** and Mr Buckley explained that governors should be able to visit the school and have lines of inquiry based on the data therein. A Trustee noted that governors should be challenging at the school level. Trustees should be challenging issues which are across the MAT (Multi Academy Trust).
- d) Mr Buckley noted that with the exception of Maths, there are no areas which are causing concern across the whole MAT. Middle leaders are having training using the same processes as the Math leaders.
- e) Mr Buckley advised Trustees that he is interested in collaborative work with organisations outside of the MAT.  
  
Dobwalls Peer Review –
- f) See confidential appendix
- g) **A Trustee asked what progress has been made and what steps have been put into place to address issues.** Mr Buckley advised that good progress have been made since the school joined the Trust. **A Trustee queried the local governors experience and current constitution of the governing committee** and Mr Buckley advised that some of the governors on the committee had resigned when Dobwalls joined the MAT. Mr Buckley summarised the current situation in the LGCs (Local Governing Committees) and particularly Dobwalls where there is good practice. Trustees noted that recruiting and retaining governors is becoming increasingly difficult.
- h) See confidential appendix
- i) See confidential appendix

22. **Saltash Ofsted**

See confidential appendix

23. **Curriculum intent paper**

- a) The Chair noted that this is a major piece of work and the ideas with the document are strong. **A Trustee noted section 3 was not useful** and Mr Buckley explained that this has been removed. Mr Buckley noted that this document is on version 7 and there is a separate version for Maths.
- b) Trustees were very supportive of the thinking expressed in the document. **A Trustee asked how the impact will be measured.** Mr Buckley explained that this will only be evidenced in the classroom. Some deep dives will be completed at Looe as a trial. It was noted that speaking to students would be useful. Trustees discussed soft skills and how valuable they are. **A Trustee asked how the skill areas descriptors have been drafted.** Mr Buckley advised that they are based on detailed work on aggregating definitions of skills from several different sources from around the world.
- c) **A Trustee asked how the Trust intends to build leadership from the bottom up.** Mr Buckley advised that staff will be asked to present at SMART day. Appraisal objectives will also be set under the new appraisal policy. Those staff wishing to aim higher can be included in the level 5 training which is available.
- d) There will be level 5 middle leader training which will be delivered by the Headteacher at Saltash.

24. **Review of Policies**

None

25. **Date of next meetings:** SMART calendar will be circulated once finalised.

The meeting closed at 19.25

<b>Action Summary</b>	
<b>M18. Matters Arising</b> <b>M9. Issues from recent OFSTED visit to Looe</b> Further to the meeting, Mr Newton Chance will arrange to meet the Chair and Headteacher prior to the Peer Review as part of the framing of the review and that this part of the process would be added to all future Peer Reviews.	<b>Action: R Newton Chance</b>