



# The Brakenhale School



## Minutes of the Full Governing Body Meeting Held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 at 6:30pm in Conference Room 3

**Present:** Andy Young (Ch)      Mike Beadsley (VCh)      Simon Davies      Pam Dorey  
                  Paul Salter                    Audrey Hobbs            Iain McCracken      Jane Watkins  
                  David Smith

**Clerk:** Stefanie Cooper

**Apologies:** Antoinette Ackuaku      Dale Birch                    Miriam Harvey      Jacky Lamb  
                  Jo Manisier                    Mark Ridgway              Adeniyi Ibronke      Jacqui Day

ITEM	ACTION/DECISION	BY WHOM	DATE
1	<b>Absences and Apologies</b> Apologies were received from 6 Governors. Adeniyi Ibronke was absent. Jacqui Day was absent following her resignation with immediate effect.		
2	<b>Declaration of AOB</b> PMS, JW and PD all expressed AOB.		
3	<b>Declaration of Business Interests</b> None recorded.		
4	<b>Minutes from the last meeting</b> The minutes were signed off as an accurate record of the meeting.		
5	<b>Committee reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum and School Improvement (MB)</b> The meeting was broken down into three parts, the first was a thorough demonstration of the VLE from Huw Thomas and Harriet Smith. The second was discussion of the examination results. The third was discussion of the School Improvement Plan. Following the resignation of Jacqui Day there are vacancies for Vice Chair of C&amp;SI and SEN Governor.</li> <li>• <b>Facilities (IMc)</b> AY stated that since the meeting, the floodlights for the Astro Turf have been installed and are operational. IMc stated that the Trampoline Centre is now completed and the Trampoline Club are delighted with their new home.</li> <li>• <b>Staff and Student Welfare (JW)</b> The committee were delighted with the attendance figures. 4 policies were approved by S&amp;SW and these were ratified by the FGB.</li> <li>• <b>Finance and Policy (AY)</b> The budget monitoring document is easy to read and understand. A signed letter on behalf of the Governing Body was sent to Claude Fenton thanking them for their hard work on the Summer Improvements. The inventories are still being worked on. Significant improvements were made by KS3 and KS5 last year. PMS stated that the Post 16 have gone from Group 9 to the middle of Group 3 which puts it in the top 25% in the country for Value Added.</li> </ul>		



<p>6</p>	<p><b>Headteacher's report</b></p> <p>PMS stated that there are still 48 students on the waiting list for year 7, which is currently full. There are now 51 students in Post 16. The school anticipate a full cohort for year 7 next year. The Pupil Admission Number will go up to 203 in 2011.</p> <p>The Local Authority attendance target is 92.1%, the school has had their highest ever level of attendance at 92.7%. JJM and her team are working on the persistent absentees. The year 11 attendance figure is low but is an improvement on last year. With regard to exclusions, they are an improvement on last year and the permanent exclusion was carried over from last term.</p> <p>AY stated that the Governing Body are appreciative of the figures, it shows an improved behaviour culture within the school.</p> <p>PMS stated that this year, when a student gets a call out from a lesson their parent/guardian is phoned immediately. Having spoken to long serving colleagues PMS stated that the school is far calmer this Autumn Term than it has been in previous years. When the budget permits, PMS would like more money to be put into Staff Training.</p> <p>SPD stated that now the school has more Study Supervisors teaching staff are rarely used for cover. It also means that there is less need for external supply teachers, not one was needed in September.</p> <p>AY asked if there were training blockages to do with financial or cover restraints.</p> <p>PMS stated that both put a restraint on training. There is a possibility of organising training on site.</p> <p>PMS outlined the events which have taken place since the last FGB meeting. The Performing Arts Evening showcased student's talents within the school, especially dance. The Summer Awards Evening was a celebration of student's progress, a positive end to the academic year.</p> <p>AY stated that it was nice to see the students so supportive of each other.</p> <p>PMS stated that there is a culture of support and celebration assemblies feature at the end of each term.</p> <p>The year 8 Transition Evening was successful, including VLE training. Positive feedback has been received. The Open Evening had a higher turnout than last year. The School Tours of prospective parents were successful, one tour contained 130 parents. Parents' still considering Brakenhale as their first choice shows strong support. The REME Band performed with Gifted &amp; Talented students (from Brakenhale and other schools in the local area). A fantastic evening which will be better marketed.</p> <p>Jeff Dawkins, a PiXL associate, visited with DRS.</p> <p>DRS stated that PiXL support curriculum areas, Maths and English. One strategy implemented is for 15 students to be entered for their Maths GCSE early so they can concentrate on English, which is their poorer subject. Looking to enter another cohort in the January exams. Support has also been given to Science and PE who are now offering BTechs. Support has been given so that handling and evaluating data is more effective, making predicted grades more accurate. Alternative courses have also been found online, giving a level 2 qualification the equivalent of a GCSE. There is also lots of support being</p>		
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	<p>received from the Local Authority. Abigail Hanworth (National Challenge) is supporting the Heads of Department for History and Geography. Looking into BTechs for Music, Art and Media. PMS stated that in year 11 the additional admissions make up 33% of the year group. In year 7 the additional admissions make up 1% of the year group making KS3 very stable. IMc asked how long the students remain on the waiting list for year 7. PMS stated that they could be waiting a year or more. All 194 of the students in year 7 are from the local catchment area. AY stated that this shows the confidence of the local community.</p>		
<b>7</b>	<p><b>SIP monitoring and progress</b></p> <p>PMS stated that this is the final version of the School Improvement Plan and it will be reported on in the next cycle of meetings.</p> <p>Key Objective 1 focuses on KS4 and is a major priority.</p> <p>Key Objective 2 focuses on Teaching &amp; Learning (OFSTED Key Issue 1).</p> <p>Key Objective 3 (focuses on OFSTED Key Issue 2) demonstrates that BTechs in Science and PE offer our students better access to the curriculum.</p> <p>Key Objective 4 focuses on OFSTED Key Issue 3 stating the need to improve the use of data in the school which feeds in to the NC RAP.</p> <p>Key Objective 5 focuses on middle leadership in the form of Heads of Department who are young and inexperienced but have great potential.</p> <p>PMS will present a progress report at the next cycle of meetings.</p> <p>PMS then introduced the National Challenge Raising Attainment Plan to the Full Governing Body.</p> <p>The National Challenge works in conjunction with the Local Authority as the school's results dropped below the floor target.</p> <p>Objective 1 focuses on Teaching &amp; Learning. C&amp;SI identified the issue with the core subjects. The NC RAP meeting was attended by the Heads of Department of the core subjects.</p> <p>Objective 2 calls for a coherent and comprehensive training programme for middle management colleagues.</p> <p>Objective 3 focuses on KS4.</p> <p>Objective 4 is being acted on with the introduction of 1-2-1 tuition in Maths and English and SLT mentoring Year 11 students.</p> <p>Objective 5 focuses on the core subjects for KS4.</p> <p>PMS stated that the school has been allocated an outside professional to work with the school, Helen Hutchings who is a former Headteacher. She is to be the school's National Challenge Advisor and is allocated 15 days to work with the school.</p> <p>The NC RAP committee will meet every half term. Those on the NC RAP committee include PMS, SLT, Heads of Department (core), the Chief Advisor, the NC Advisor, Andy Young and Mike Beadsley.</p> <p>At the next Full Governing Body meeting PMS will report on the SIP and the NC RAP.</p>		
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Discussion of AOB</b></p> <p>PD stated that the Seville Trip included 24 students and 3 members of staff.</p>		



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	<p>PMS stated that the trip was very successful. JW stated that she attended a course entitled "Monitoring and Evaluating Extended Services". PMS stated that the Brakenhale Sports Facilities will be opened by the Mayor of Bracknell at 9:15am on the 25<sup>th</sup> November and all Governors are invited.</p>		
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Meeting closed at 18:05