



ABRIDGED MINUTES OF THE ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD ON THURSDAY 14 MARCH 2019 AT LEEDS EAST ACADEMY, COMMENCING AT 5.30PM

Present: Colin Booth, Lydia Devenny (not present for 18/19.51), Caroline Gruen, Erica Hiorns (present for 18/19.47 – 18/19.49 inclusive), Kate Pearlman-Shaw, Jane Pither (Chair), Darren Shickle, David Strachan and Andrew Whitaker (Executive Principal)

In attendance: Sam Bradley (ABM, Leeds East Academy), Sarah Carrie (Principal, Leeds East Academy), Stuart Jolley (CFO) and Vicki Reynolds (Clerk)

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

18/19.47 The Board noted that Claire Rix and Craig Williams were absent from the meeting. Apologies had been received from Paul Morrissey.

APPOINTMENT OF LEEDS CITY ACADEMY PRINCIPAL

18/19.48 The Executive Principal referred to the recruitment process that had taken place regarding the Leeds City Academy Principal position and identified Richard Chattoe as the preferred candidate. The decision to appoint Richard Chattoe was approved by the Board.

RESOLVED – The decision to appoint Richard Chattoe as Leeds City Academy Principal was approved by the Board.

LEEDS EAST ACADEMY EXPANSION

18/19.49 A detailed presentation regarding the Leeds East Academy expansion plan was jointly delivered by the Executive Principal, the LEA Principal, the CFO and the ABM for LEA.

The following proposals were noted:

- a two-year construction period (two phases)
- a two-storey extension to the building
- the addition of a mezzanine floor to create additional pods to the existing building
- an increased capacity for either 1200 or 1500 students by 2021 (yet to be determined by the Local Authority)
- an additional intake of 30 SEND students.

Elements of the presentation initiated detailed discussions regarding the following matters:

- the risks associated with phased works (i.e. disruption to the Academy and health and safety issues)

- the risks associated with increasing class sizes and the challenge this would present for teachers
- the issues with the existing building if the expansion did not proceed
- the risks relating to the Local Authority funding
- the additional costs in running the school during the construction period
- the implications in taking or not taking the additional SEND students
- utilising expertise from within the Luminare Group.

The Board agreed that the additional provision for thirty SEND students should not be considered until a time when a period of consistent results had been achieved by the Academy.

RESOLVED - that the Academy would not be willing to accept the additional intake of thirty SEND students at this time.

The Board indicated that the expansion would be a good opportunity and was in favour of the expansion plan in principle. It was noted that further consultation was required regarding the numbers currently being considered by the Local Authority and a final decision would be deferred.

A number of actions were agreed

ACTIONS -

- a task and finish group would be set up consisting of Jane Pither, Darren Shickle, Andrew Whitaker, Stuart Jolley, Sarah Carrie and Colin Booth
- the Local Authority's written commitment to funding the expansion would be obtained
- a costings and curriculum plan would be developed, based on both 1200 and 1500 students
- the Local Authority would be invited to attend the Board Meeting on 9 May 2019 to discuss and agree further plans.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18/19.50 a Update on Behaviour at LEA

The LEA Principal provided an update on recent behaviour issues at the Academy, involving attacks on the GRT community.

It was noted that a multi-agency meeting had taken place recently consisting of the Hate Crime team, the Leeds Anti-social Behaviour team, the Youth Service and the Police.

The Principal explained that there was a stronger police presence at the end of the day and the Academy had been assigned a police officer. The recruitment of a Safer Schools Officer, starting on 20 March, was also noted.

The Principal explained that despite a general improvement, there had been another unprovoked attack on a GRT student earlier in the week, resulting in a permanent exclusion for the perpetrator.

It was suggested that the policy should be reviewed regarding permanent exclusions. Following an indication regarding the possibility of the Year 11 student finishing his education at Leeds City Academy, a concern was raised regarding the risks to LCA and their GRT community if that should happen.

ACTION – The Permanent Exclusion Policy would be reviewed and the Local Authority would be consulted.

18/19.51 a Exclusion Panel Meetings

A number of issues experienced by LAB members relating to Exclusion Panel hearings were raised.

ACTION – The Executive Principal would ensure that the issues raised would be addressed and resolved.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.