

**Minutes of a meeting of the Education and Standards Committee of the
Governors of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Penrith, held on Wednesday
4th July 2018 at 6.00pm.**

Present:

Mr C Hansford (in the Chair: items 6ff), Dr Tyrone Castles (in the Chair: items 1-5), Mrs Tine Boving-Foster, Mr Paul Buckland, Dr E Mawson, Mr Alastair Worth and Mr M Baur.

In Attendance: Mr David L Brown (deputy Clerk to Governors) and Mrs Rebecca Chapman (representing the Senior Management Team)

5 Governors in Attendance

Quorum per Terms of Reference-4

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted for Mrs J Nichol, Mrs J Mills and Mr R Shephard (absent owing to work commitments); Mr Hansford apologized for his late arrival owing to his train being delayed, so that he missed items 1-5.

2. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items

None

3. Minutes of the meeting on 25th April 2018

These were approved, after correction to show 7 governors present and "QEGS" (not "QUEGS") in para 4.

4. Matters Arising-

All governors are apparently not receiving the minutes of all sub-committee meetings. The Clerk is asked to ensure there is full circulation

5. Anti-Bullying Policy

The latest draft (May 2018) has been circulated and Mrs Chapman recommended its approval. Mr Baur asked if the reference to "protected characteristics" in the Introduction (first paragraph of Section 1) could be amended in line with the Equality Act 2010, to read "age, disability, gender classification, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity". Also he suggested that "Harassment" be included in the title. With these amendments, which Mrs Chapman agreed to make, the Policy Statement was approved.

6. The Headteacher's Report

Mr Buckland gave an oral report.

The recent public exams had gone well. There was a national issue with one maths question which had received prior publicity; one pupil missed the exam time when his train was held up but it has been arranged that he will be given an estimated grade.

Financial matters will come before the full governors' meetings but will affect the work of this committee, he said. His summary was largely that which he had provided to the Finance and Pay Committee at its last meeting. He wanted it put on record how helpful all members of staff had been in finding or accepting cuts in budget areas which had a bearing on their subject interests. The SMT had been able to reduce Capitation for the 2018/19 budget from £100k to £50k.

Dr Mawson had timetabled the new academic year and was currently working on rooming. The assumption is that the new building will not be ready for full use at the start of 2018/19. A saving of c£30k in staffing costs has been found, but no provision has been made for any unfunded increase in teaching salaries, in excess of the 1% included in the budget for 2018/19. The national pay award has not yet been announced by DFe.

To balance teachers' extra timetable burdens (which are likely to increase from the present 85% to nearer the DFe maximum of 90%), the Head is considering eliminating the need for teachers' written comments in pupils' reports: the English Department is currently piloting a "flash marking" scheme (which would reduce the time teachers have to take in marking pupil's work); it might be a means of reducing teachers' burdens for other subjects, he felt.

He summarized the members of staff leaving or arriving.

He also reported that the Activities Week arranged this year from 11th to 15th June had gone well. For the first time the week was arranged for all year groups. Mr Shepherd had co-ordinated the various activities and the staff involved had responded well. The year 7 activity for summer 2019 is under consideration; one in which all the year group can take part is sought.

Applications for the available 150 places is at a record of 323; Mrs Chapman and her team deserve special thanks; they have been very effective in promoting the School to prospective pupils and their parents: the extra expense on advertising the school's attractions has, he believes, paid off.

7. Additional Items to be added to the Next Agenda

None identified

8. Date of next committee meeting

Thursday 27th September 2018 -6pm

Meeting closed 6.50pm