

Minutes of an extra-ordinary meeting of the Trust Board for Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Penrith, held on Monday 20th February 2023 at 3.00pm in school and virtually via Teams for those who could not attend in person.

Present

Ms M Robson (Chair)
Miss R McMann (Clerk)
Mr C Pyle
Rev D Sargent
Mrs S McGrath

Mr D Marchant (Head, Ex-officio)
Mr N Ruddick
Mr M Pannone
Mr N Page

Visitors: Nathan Jeremiah, advisor from (EPI) and representatives from the two MATS making their presentations.

8 Governors in attendance

Quorum per article 114 – 4 Governors
(one half of the governors holding office rounded up to the nearest whole number)

It is noted that this a single item meeting following on from the meeting held on 15th February to further discuss the two presentations from the MATS and potentially make a decision on which to join and begin the public consultation. .

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items

There were no declarations of interest in the agenda item.

3. Presentation follow-up

A matrix has been produced which details each of the Trust's priorities. Each of these was discussed in turn and thereafter, every Trustee was asked to give each of the two MATS a score between 1-5 (5 being the highest and 1 the lowest) to produce an average of scores at the end of the process. However, it is noted that it is important to discuss other 'x' factors that will also contribute to the end decision.

The score sheet produced a clear result and along with the 'x' factors discussed it was proposed that QEGS moves to a public consultation to join the Changing Lives MAT. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to adopt the proposal.

Thanks were given from Mr Marchant and all Trustees to Mr Jeremiah for his hard work, guidance and professionalism during this process.

Agreed action points and next steps are as follows:

- **Monday 27th (first day back after half-term) this will be shared with staff.**
- **Mr Marchant has a call scheduled tomorrow with the DfE to update them on the decision and will advise that will begin the consultation after half-term in order to meet their deadlines.**
- **Mr Marchant, Mr Johnson and Mr Jeremiah to speak and co-ordinate the public consultation with the intention of this beginning on Monday 27th February for a 6 week period.**

Mr Jeremiah left the meeting.

Mr Marchant wished to update Trustees on the feedback from announcing the new school day arrangements, contact time and curriculum allocation. Overall, he reported that this has not been well received and has been a surprise to staff, although it is noted that there is a general acceptance of the reduction in non-contact time.

With regards to curriculum allocation, the increase in time for foundation subjects in KS3 has the biggest impact on English, Maths and Science and there have been concerns raised from these departments. Additionally, Mr Marchant reported that there is also a change.org petition led by students, though it is his intention to speak to the Student Council about this. Mr Marchant welcomes any staff to come and speak to him about this after the half-term break. A meeting will be set up between Mr Marchant and Mr Page as Curriculum Trustee to further discuss the concerns.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm