



**The Neale-Wade Academy**  
**Full Governing Board**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 5pm**  
**Hapi Meeting Room**

Present:	J Wing (Exc. Head), A Pugh (Chair), N Jones (Vice), J Nickall, A Chandler, R Watts, A Carlin, C Howlett, M Brown and K Butcher
In attendance:	G Fulcher (Clerk)
Apologies:	

Agenda Item	Notes	Actions & Agreements
<b>All relating documents were circulated before the meeting unless stated</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Apologies for Absence</b> All members were present.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of Pecuniary &amp; Non-Pecuniary Interest</b> No new declarations were indicated.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting 14/12/16</b> The minutes of the last meeting were accepted and signed as a true record. <b>Matters Arising</b> 4) PP percentage to be put on the website and included in the School Characteristics table in future Principal's Reports. 9) Parent Governor election letter and ballot paper will be sent to parents for voting after half term.	<b>G Fulcher Clerk</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Principals Report</b> The Principal took governors through the most recent school data and answered questions: <b>GOVS: the statistics overall are similar to the last report except verbal abuse/threatening behaviour towards staff and racial abuse, is there a reason for this?</b> There is no specific reason for the increase, the number of incidents reported varies week to week. <b>GOVS: how serious does an incident need to be before it is reported?</b> Staff are encouraged to report any abuse towards them, whatever the severity.  A spate of fire alarms being set off has been dealt with.  Discussions have been held with SLT regarding pupil power. Some students have asked, and been given authority, to use computers out of school hours and two students have organised a 'wear something orange' day to raise money for a local search and rescue. The students are happy that their voices are being heard.  Revision guides entitled 'Passport to Success' have been given to all Year 11 students. A stamp is obtained for each revision session attended and, once the passport is full, the student will receive a reward.  Careers Day was outstanding with more than 30 businesses, colleges and universities attending. The Governors expressed their appreciation of improved media coverage. <b>GOVS: has any feedback been received about the day?</b> Everybody who attended expressed how much they enjoyed it and the students' behaviour was exceptional during the drop-ins. OFSTED saw this area as one of the school's strengths and it should be built on and made an annual event.	

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<p>4.</p> <p>(taken out of order)</p>	<p><b>Committee Reports</b> Governors reviewed the minutes of the meeting.</p> <p><b>Finance &amp; Premises 25/01/17:</b> A short discussion was held regarding the impact the new state of the art sports facilities at Estover playing field will have on the sports hall.</p> <p>The Governors were advised that Stephen Barclay MP is to form a Head Teachers' Area Board for Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>The Government has granted additional funding to grow the network of Research Schools, with East Cambridgeshire and Fenland being designated one of 12 'Social Mobility Opportunity Areas' able to apply.</p> <p><b>GOVS: What are Research and Training schools and how would they benefit the school?</b> Research Schools bridge between education research and everyday classroom practice. Benefits would include training on how to improve teaching and learning. Research Schools are funded.</p> <p>The role of Training schools is to work with others to provide high-quality training and support for school improvement in their local area. To become a teaching school, a school must be judged outstanding and have a proven track record of delivering ITT and supporting other schools resulting in good prestige for the school.</p> <p><b>Personnel 25/01/17</b> Governors were advised that ALT are bringing in new terms and conditions for support staff to allow parity of roles across all schools/local authorities. Staff have the option to stay on their current T&amp;Cs and have until Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 to accept or decline the proposal.</p> <p><b>GOVS: will there be drawbacks in the future?</b> It has been viewed with a lot of suspicion and staff are concerned they will have to reapply for their jobs in the future.</p> <p><b>Standards Group 25/01/17:</b> <b>KS3 Data</b> – all strengths and weaknesses were summarised and KS3 development plan is in place. Options to be brought forward for year 8s. Following the good Ofsted report, two separate external reviews, one by former HMI Ian Seath and the second by Dame Sally Coates of United Learning Trust, will be carried out in February and June respectively.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Link Governor Reports</b> School Funding - RW reported on a recent governor briefing he attended which focused on school funding. Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017/18 funding increase of £54 per pupil base.</li> <li>• Apprenticeship levy and national funding reforms increasing for some but not others.</li> </ul> <p>Other points noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push for wider collaboration between the local authority and ALT.</li> <li>• Educational performance weakest in Fenland but best in Cambridgeshire.</li> <li>• 16 incidents of Cambridgeshire schools having not carried out DBA checks or risk assessments.</li> </ul> <p>RW advocated access to the Learn Together Hub.</p> <p>Recruitment and Retention – recruitment in Fenland is particularly challenging. Teaching school status would allow the school to utilise teacher internships. NWA have seen two maths teachers qualify whilst at the school.</p> <p>Employability Day – KB was in attendance and advised that it had been a great success, with students embracing the day. He added that an area for improvement would be to build on the students' confidence and that they were more engaged when the interviewer showed an interest in them. Year 12 Mock Interviews are to be carried out on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. The students will be asked to think of a question to ask the</p>	

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	<p>interviewer in the morning before their interview in the afternoon. Several students expressed an interested in apprenticeships rather than moving away to university.</p> <p>Health and Safety – AP advised that two outside fire escape steps were slippery and needed cleaning. The work was carried out promptly. MB alerted the Governors to the fact that the floor of the ladies’ staff toilets near the atrium is often too wet and that three members of staff have almost slipped over in the past week.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews will be held at NWA on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2017, for various vacancies at Littleport Secondary School.</li> </ul>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meetings</b></p> <p>Standards Group - TBC</p> <p>Committees – 15/3/17 from 5pm in the Atrium Meeting Room</p> <p>Full LGB – 29/03/17 5pm in the HAPI Room</p>	
<b>Meeting closed at 6.40pm</b>		

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