



# The Neale-Wade Academy Full Governing Board Minutes

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 at 5.30pm  
Hapi Meeting Room

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| Present:       | A Pugh (Chair), N Jones (Vice-Chair), A Welling (Head of School), A Carlin, A Chandler, M Brown, C Howlett, K Nightingale, J Nicholls, R Watts and D Williams. |
| In attendance: | G Fulcher (Clerk)  |
| Apologies:     | J Wing (Exc. Head) and K Butcher   |

| Agenda Item | Notes<br><b>All relating documents were circulated before the meeting unless stated</b>  | Actions & Agreements               |
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| 1.          | <b>Welcome &amp; Apologies for Absence</b><br>Apologies were received from J Wing and K Butcher.   |                                    |
| 2.          | <b>Declaration of Pecuniary &amp; Non-Pecuniary Interest</b><br>No new declarations were indicated.  |                                    |
| 3.          | <b>Appointment of Vice-Chair for 2017-18</b><br>A Carlin nominated and A Chandler seconded that N Jones continue as Vice-Chair for the next academic year. All were in agreement.  | <b>CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AGREED</b> |
| 4.          | <b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b><br>NJ pointed out the following amendments:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Page 1, Agenda Item 4 – the word ‘fantastic’ be replaced with ‘poignant’ with regards to Rev Sarah Cliff’s ceremony.</li> <li>• Page 2, Agenda Item 5 – the word ‘County’ should be replaced with ‘Country’.</li> <li>• Page 2, Agenda Item 5 – a bullet point should be placed before ‘Total number of exclusions is 18’.</li> </ul> On the proviso that the above amendments are implemented, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted and signed as a true record.<br><b>Matters Arising</b><br>Page 3, Agenda item 9 – staff, student and parent feedback. Notable points included:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overall student statistics would be helpful, but may not be directly comparable due to different categories/levels of data;</li> <li>• Staff Voice no longer operates;</li> <li>• a staff survey is carried out yearly;</li> <li>• staff attendance could be an indication of morale; and</li> <li>• parents’ views are recorded in the Ofsted report;</li> </ul>  |                                    |
| 5.          | <b>Principal’s Report</b><br><i>Students’ Story: A Year 11 student, permanently excluded from Kings School, Peterborough, attained 5 GCSEs in the Summer exams. Statistically only 1 in 100 such students go on to achieve this. A letter received from the student’s parents praised the NWA, in particular Mr Whitney, Mr Nash, Mr Boyce, Mrs Reed and Mr Bradbury for their guidance, consideration and approachability.</i><br><br>AW took the Governors through the most recent Principal’s Report.<br>Key points to be noted include:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PP should to be included on School Characteristics table for the next meeting;</li> <li>• Year 11 smallest year group with 204 students and Year 7 significantly higher with 284;</li> <li>• 6<sup>th</sup> form is currently running at a loss. Total of 148 students across years 12 and 13. To sustain funding this number should be 200.</li> </ul> <b>GOVS: Where are the students going if not to NWA 6<sup>th</sup> Form?</b><br>The Nene Park Academy in Peterborough, for example, offer Level 3 Triple Award in Sport. The NWA PE Department is achieving excellent exam results in Sport and it |                                    |

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|    | <p>would be beneficial for NWA to provide Level 3 in Sport in the future. There are more new colleges and 6<sup>th</sup> forms in Cambridge which offer more attractive courses than NWA can offer. In the past, Hills Road Sixth Form College in Cambridge only accepted A Grade students, this is not the case anymore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 2 re-sits are not available at NWA 6<sup>th</sup> Form;</li> <li>• Combining subjects, for example Business and IT, is a consideration;</li> <li>• NWA seeking to widen the KS5 curriculum, but could only afford to diversify with 200 plus students;</li> <li>• Apprenticeships are being pushed over higher education;</li> <li>• NWA Destination Data shows choices students have generally made post 16 other than NWA.</li> </ul> <p>RW advised that Sam Mandley has invited ex-students to support a Post 16 Open Evening with the aim to encourage post 16 attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total of 7 exclusions compared to 10/11 for the same period last year;</li> <li>• There were 4 reported incidents of racial abuse;</li> <li>• Currently 14 LAC students with a further 3 due to start in the coming weeks;</li> <li>• There have been 8 concerns of students under Prevent;</li> <li>• Attendance 95.6%, good in comparison to the same period last year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Results Overview 2017</b><br/>Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS difference from National is -1.4. Current Year 7 baselines are significantly below average;</li> <li>• Year 11 results were disappointing, but not unexpected, with Maths at 53% compared to 67% last year and English at 65.5% compared to 84%.</li> <li>• If more students had sat the new higher paper this year, a pass or grade 4 in GCSE Maths would have been achieved with just 18% of the overall marks. The Head of Maths had considered it to be too much of a risk as the higher paper was more challenging with harder content and longer exam times. Schools nationally who entered more students into the higher paper achieved good results.</li> <li>• A maths review costing £3,500 reported very good leadership and recordkeeping/paperwork. It was recommended NWA adopt method based learning in Maths.</li> <li>• Vocational subjects did very well.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>N Jones left the meeting at 7pm.</i></b></p> |  |
| 6. | <p><b>Committee Reports</b><br/><b>Personnel 18/10/17:</b> 2 new members of staff did not show. There are two vacancies, DT (Construction) and IT.<br/><b>Finance &amp; Premises 18/10/17:</b> No financial reports available as ALT are auditing accounts and this year's budgets are being re-evaluated. A Health &amp; Safety audit will be carried out 19/10/17.<br/><b>Standards Group:</b> Nothing to report.</p>  |  |
| 7. | <p><b>Link Governor Reports</b><br/><b>SEN – 06/07/17 – A Carlin, K Nightingale, A Welling and Kier Dow attended.</b><br/>Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower than national average;</li> <li>• The SENCO works with primary schools. NWA is aware of some SEN and vulnerable students on admission in September;</li> <li>• ACES has been rebranded 7M.</li> </ul> <p><b>Attendance – 05/07/17 – A Carlin, D Williams, A Welling and J Whitney attended.</b><br/>Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last year's Year 11 had historically poor attendance. This Year 11 attendance has improved;</li> <li>• Parental Contract Meetings (PCM) are conducted to avoid legal proceedings against parents and to maintain a positive relationship between families and the Academy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Safeguarding and Child Protection Meeting – 11/07/17 – A Carlin, H Hitch and A Key attended.</b></p>   |  |

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|                                 | <p>Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All CP files are up-to-date;</li> <li>There are currently 493 students on the list;</li> <li>It was recommended that Governors who have completed safer recruitment training should be listed on the Single Central Register.</li> </ul> <p><b>CEIAG – 22/09/17 – R Watts, A Welling and S Mandley attended.</b></p> <p>Notable points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NWA first school in Cambridgeshire to achieve a Quality Standard award in CEIAG;</li> <li>NWA has won a bid from Cambridgeshire Community Fund for £6,000 for pre-apprenticeship programme for Years 11 and 13 site visits.</li> <li>Alumni progressing well with 350 members;</li> <li>Additional funding of £500 per quarter has been awarded from the “take your place project”;</li> <li>Year 10 Employability Day to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> January and the Careers Fair on 21<sup>st</sup> February.</li> <li>The Year 12 Employability Day will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Governors were asked for their support in interviewing.</li> </ul> <p><b>GOVS: Do the students give feedback following their interviews?</b></p> <p>They are given feedback forms following their interviews. No feedback is currently received following College, University or workplace interviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>97% of 6<sup>th</sup> Form students received offers from University applications;</li> <li>Apprenticeships are increasing in numbers with 5-6 being taken on following 6<sup>th</sup> Form.</li> </ul> <p>The Governors discussed current Link Governor positions. It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>each Governor assess their area link role descriptions;</li> <li>Governors attend relevant training courses, if resources allow it;</li> <li>any internal training courses be attended, if appropriate to their Link Governor role;</li> <li>LAC and PP should come under Attendance and SEN. Link Governors for these are KN and DW;</li> <li>CH’s area link should be Disadvantaged.</li> </ul> |  |
| 8.                              | <p><b>Policy &amp; Procedures Updates</b></p> <p>i. <b>ALT – Exclusions Policy and Flowchart.</b> All were in agreement.</p>  |  |
| 10.                             | <p><b>ALT Business</b></p> <p>AP advised that he has been asked if he could help with a new school by Gary Peile. He added that he is unable to at this time due to other commitments.</p>  |  |
| 11.                             | <p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>A card has been received from Kelly Clark of the Young Carer’s Club as a thank you for the help they received.</p> <p>JN requested that draft Minutes be distributed within two weeks following the meetings. All were in agreement.</p>   |  |
| 12.                             | <p><b>Date of Next Meetings</b></p> <p>Standards Group - TBC</p> <p>Committees – 13/12/17 from 5pm in the HAPI Room</p>   |  |
| <b>Meeting closed at 7.05pm</b> |   |  |

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