

PART 1 MINUTES

**TRUST BOARD MEETING
OF
THE LEARNING ALLIANCE (TLA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
HELD online ON MONDAY 23rd May 2022 at 3:15PM.**

Present:

Mr D. Wootton (Chair)
Mr A. Pear (Vice Chair) (AP)
Mrs C. Thomson (CT)
Mr M. Ashcroft (MA)
Mr R. McCluney (RM)
Mr R. Armstrong (RA)
Mrs S. Dempsey (SD)

In Attendance:

Mr M. Cladingbowl, CEO
Mr D. Twambley – COO
Mr A. Howells –Director of Quality

Clerk: Mrs C. Gritton

Absent:

N/A

Part 2

Administration	Action
<p>1. The Chair <u>welcomed</u> everybody to the meeting. There were no <u>Apologies</u> and the meeting was <u>quorate</u>.</p> <p>2. There were no <u>Declarations of Interest</u> for the matters on the Agenda.</p> <p>3. Paper 3.0 The <u>Minutes</u> of the Board meeting held on 21st March 2022, uploaded to Governor Hub (GH) prior to the meeting, were approved and will be signed by the Chair on GH. <u>Matters Arising</u> – The Action Log was updated as noted thereon. The Chair advised that Dr Greenstein had resigned as TLA Trustee as at 19th May 2022 and thanked him for his contributions to the Trust.</p>	
4. Reports (Exception) from Committees	
<p>4.1 <u>Finance and Staffing</u> – Paper 4.1 Finance and Staffing, uploaded to GH prior to the meeting, was received and the contents and actions of the Committee noted as recommended therein. The Chair reported that he was grateful to Trustees who sit on TLA Committees for the work they do. The Chair of the Finance and Staffing Committee reported that the School Resource Management Advisor (SRMA) report had been highly complementary about the Trust’s approach to the financial management of Crewe UTC, which Trustees agreed was a credit to the CEO and COO.</p> <p>4.2 <u>LGB Matters to Share with the Trust Board</u> – Nothing to report.</p> <p>4.3 <u>Digital Strategy Working Group Update</u> – Paper 4.3 Digital Strategy Working Group Update uploaded to GH prior to the meeting, was received and the contents and actions of the Committee noted as recommended therein.</p>	
5. Strategic Matters	
<p>5.1 <u>Proposal to explore changing the name of SWS</u> Paper 5.1 Proposal to explore changing the name of SWS, uploaded to GH prior to the meeting, was received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustees noted that the estimated cost was around £50k and asked what this would cover, asking what help families would receive to help with their costs. It was reported that the £50k figure was the cost for new signs and to provide every SWS student with a new uniform. That uniform would be more affordable for students’ families in the long term. The school signs need replacing whether the name changed or not. Trustees were keen to ensure that a name change was seen as the positive, <i>meaningful</i> change intended and that there were substantive, good reasons for the costs anticipated. Trustees were assured that public messaging would be handled sensitively. The Trust is taking a coordinated approach to its Crewe schools, working with the 	

<p>Local Authority to drive improvement and Trustees noted that The oaks Academy (TOA) was gaining good traction with its current name and achievements.</p> <p>5.1.1 Trustees agreed that the exploratory work linked to a change of school name, and approving of a change of name in principle, should proceed. Governors will be consulted and staff buy-in will be key, so any name brought for approval to Trustees must be suitable, reasonable and have a sense of agreement.</p> <p>5.2. <u>Safeguarding Update</u> – Nothing to report.</p> <p>5.3. <u>Confirmed change of RSC region to Northwest</u> It was reported that TLA would be part of the North West RSC remit as of September 2022.</p>	
6. Operational Matters	
<p>6.1. <u>Finance Update Paper 6.0 trust Reporting Pack P8</u>, uploaded to GH prior to the meeting, was received.</p> <p>7. <u>Feedback from Trust Board to LGBs</u> It was reported that, noting the White Paper emphasis on the importance of LGBs, the CEO report on the White Paper has been provided to LGBs and they have been informed that the Trust Board are discussing the Trust’s future and strategic plans.</p> <p>8. <u>TLA School Visits</u> – Trustees were informed that a date of 21st June has been set for the Trustees’ visit to TLA Congleton and Mow Cop schools.</p> <p>9. AOB ACTION: The CEO/COO will provide an update on the Trust’s White Paper strategy to TLA Members.</p> <p>Trustees offered thanks to the Trust Director of Marketing and Operations, Mr Routes, for his work regarding Ukrainian students at Knutsford Academy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustees asked whether all TLA schools were celebrating the Jubilee. It was reported that they were. The CEO will check finalised details and ensure media coverage is considered. TLA schools have also looked to address different views on the event in a sensitive manner. 	
<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting: Monday 11th July 2022 at 9:00am. Meeting closed at 15:50pm</p>	

ACTIONS From March 2022 Meeting			
ACTION	By When	By Whom	Confirmed Complete
9. The CEO/COO will provide a White Paper strategy update to TLA Members. From 23rd March Meeting	July 2022	CEO/COO	
5.2a The Chair and AH will meet to discuss the governance review in more detail asap.	ASAP	Chair/AH	Complete
5.2b : AH will resend out the Trustee Survey and asked that Trustees complete.	23/05/22	AH/Trustees	Complete
5.3 The CEO will keep Trustees appraised of any changes regarding RSC.	ASAP	CEO	Complete
5.4 A brief update on safeguarding will be disseminated to Trustees.	ASAP	AP	Complete
6.1 Detailed consideration will be given to data and new dashboard utilisation	11/7/22 update	COO/SD/MC? CEO/COO	
8. Trustee visits to TLA schools will be arranged	21 June agreed	AH to assist	
From 31st January Meeting			
5.4 The CEO and COO will give consideration as to whether it might be appropriate to provide the Board with further information about national safeguarding issues such as sexualisation and to provide assurance on recent safeguarding issues arising in schools.	Summer term meeting	Trust Board	Complete

<p>From 18th October Meeting</p> <p>4.1 The Trust Board will seek to appoint a Trustees with extensive financial knowledge and experience to support oversight and challenge in this area.</p>	Ongoing	Set for end 2021 school year
<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 23rd May 2022 Trustee Away Day at 9:30am</p>		