



## MINUTES OF TRUST BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
 Time: 10.00am  
 Venue: Laurus Trust- Boardroom

Clerk: N Burgess  
 Present: T Little, C Nevin, G Turnpenney, J Crombleholme, A Gilmour, L Woolley, W Mason,  
 S McGill, R Kumar, D Woolley, L Magrath and M Vevers

| Action |  | Initials |
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| 1      | The Clerk to send a request to Trustee to complete their diversity data                | NB       |
| 1      | Trustees to inform the Clerk of any changes to their register of business interests    | All      |
| 1      | To express an interest in the role of Link Trustee SRE to the Chair                    | All      |
| 1      | Trustees are asked to send their completed Record of Visits to the Clerk for retention | All      |

| Agenda – Annual Self Evaluation and Strategic Planning |                                      |   |        |
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| Category   | Item                                 | Notes   | Action |
| 1  | Apologies                            | Apologies were received and accepted from D Brown and D Kershaw.  |        |
|  | Governance Arrangements<br>AOB items | <p>Trustees were given an update on interest from other schools to join the Trust.</p> <p>There has currently been interest expressed from 3 primary schools.</p> <p>One expression of interest is from a primary school in Hazel Grove. The school is 2 form entry. A meeting has taken place to speak to Governors and LM and WM plan to visit the school. LW has already met with the Headteacher. An indication has been made that this school would wish to join the Trust but a vote by Governors has not yet been made.</p> <p>Two further schools have expressed an initial interest which has not yet progressed further.</p> <p><u>Priestnall</u><br/>           WM and LM have been in extensive talks with Stockport LA and have secured funding of £3m for</p> |        |

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|  |   | <p>school improvements to ensure the building is in a safe condition. The school buildings are currently in a poor state.</p> <p>A Fire survey report has been completed and there are over 100 fire doors to be replaced as they do not meet the standard.</p> <p>There are faults on the fire alarm system. A report will be done later this week. It is likely to be recommended that the system will require replacing as parts are no longer available. This is expected to cost in the region of £200k. WM informed Trustees that negotiations are still taking place with Stockport LA.</p> <p>There are a number of internal projects taking place in the school.</p> <p>R Howarth has been appointed as Head of School at Priestnall.</p> <p>K Houghton has been appointed as Head of School at Didsbury.</p> <p>L Brooks has been appointed as Associate Head of School at CHHS.</p> <p>D Woolley has been appointed Director of Education with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.</p> <p>There will be changes made to the Teaching School area over the summer to create more offices and meeting rooms.</p> <p>LW informed Trustees that DfE guidance has changed in that Trusts are now required to publish diversity data for Trustees and Governors. An email will be sent to request the information and Trustees are asked to respond as soon as possible. Trustees were assured that individuals would not be identifiable by the data provided.</p> | NB         |
|  | Register of Interests                   | Trustees are asked to inform the Clerk of any changes to their register of business interests.   | All        |
|  | Minutes of the last Trust Board meeting | <p>Minutes of the meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 were <u>approved</u> as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Actions</u></p> <p>To date there have been no expressions of interest in the vacancy for Link Trustee for SRE</p> <p>Trustees are reminded to send their completed ROV to the Clerk for retention</p>   | All<br>All |

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|  |  |  | <p>WM clarified the membership of committees – Pay and Audit &amp; Risk must be made up of non-executive Trustees. Finance and Resources can be an executive Trustee but cannot be CFO, and non-executive Trustees must be the majority</p> <p>A copy of the Wellbeing Award application has been sent to AG</p> <p>Sixth Form brochures are available to Trustees at this meeting</p> <p>ZG will attend the AF&amp;R meeting in July to provide Trustees with an update on Marketing and social media followers</p> <p>Trust Development Plan will be reviewed as part of this meeting</p> <p>Support to the Heads of School after an Ofsted inspection was discussed</p> <p>TL has written to Heads of School following their Ofsted inspection</p> <p>QA and Safeguarding will be agenda items for the July Trust Board meeting and will include Safer Recruitment</p> |  |
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| 2 | Being strategic : | Annual Strategic Planning | <p>The last version of the Trust Development Plan was for 2021-2023 and this meeting will be for Trustees to work in subgroups to review themes/priorities within the plan.</p> <p>LM talked Trustees through the key changes in the education sector. The publication of the white paper was met with excitement in March 2022 when indications were that all schools should become part of a MAT by 2030. The Trust have adapted the succession planning and growth strategy accordingly.</p> <p>There have since been many changes within central government in the last year which have impacted on schools. There is a recruitment crisis ongoing in that the number of trainee teachers recruited to secondary ITT is below half of the government target. There are more teachers leaving the profession and fewer coming in.</p> <p>In terms of recruitment to our schools this has been the hardest year ever and this is also a national issue.</p> <p>The impetus which was raised by the publication of the white paper has now been lost. The question is how do we position the Trust going forward in the current climate.</p> <p>The TDP was circulated prior to the meeting, along with some pre-reading.</p> <p>TL, GT and JC were assigned as lead for each of the 3 sub groups. Trustees worked together to review their specific priority, the ambition and the indicators of success. Trustees are invited to contribute suggestions for additional themes within the TDP.</p> <p>Trustees reconvened to summarise the proposed additions/amendments to the TDP for 2023-2025.</p> <p><u>Unashamedly academic</u><br/>TL fed back to Trustees on the discussions which had taken place within the sub group. Trustees had had a good and far-reaching conversation within the group. It was felt that that there was a need to revisit the phrase ‘unashamedly academic’ to be seen in the context of what academic will mean in the future. It was suggested that the them unashamedly academic be expanded to include uncompromising standards and unapologetically aspirational.</p> |
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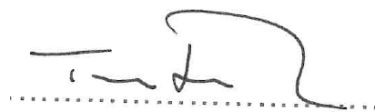
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|  |  |  | <p>It was felt that a fourth priority, Enrichment, should be added to the plan. Suggestions were made to update the wording on some of the indicators of success. IT strategy was discussed and the need to ensure the strategy supports the education of all students ongoing.</p> <p>Trustees also felt that Link Visits by Trustees should feed into indicators of success, to allow Trustees to engage as part of the process.</p> <p>To summarise Trustees overall feeling was that the TDP was a good document which clearly reflected the vision and the plan.</p> <p><u>Influence</u><br/>Trustees in the sub group felt that the theme of influence would be more encompassing as “recognised for excellence”. The ambition being to be one of the most successful MATs in the country. That schools are perceived as collaborative by all stakeholders and that outstanding outcomes are delivered for all students and pupils in a Trust school. Key indicators for success are that all schools remain number one for parental choice and that parents/carers become ambassadors for the schools and the Trust.</p> <p>Trustees also discussed building Trust capacity and it was felt this needed to be a separate theme within the plan.</p> <p>To summarise, Trustees felt there was a need to review some of the terminology within the statements, whilst still retaining the unashamedly ambitious.</p> <p><u>People</u><br/>Trustees in the sub group had had a good discussion around the theme of our people.</p> <p>It was felt that the theme should be refined into 2 priorities: Attraction and recruitment, and valuing and investing.</p> <p>In terms of attraction and recruitment an ambition would be we are the employer of choice and a suggested indicator of success would be that the workforce reflects the community.</p> <p>For valuing and investing the ambition is clear to retain the best employees by providing opportunities for progression and also professional learning. In addition</p> |
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|   |                |                        | <p>to sustain the pipeline of talent within the Trust. A suggested indicator of success would be that those who leave the Trust do so for progression.</p> <p>To summarise the sub group felt that the priority and ambitions were clear and the indicators of success would need further clarification to be able to capture all aspects.</p> <p><b>Q – Will the revised TDP be an agenda item for TBM6?</b><br/>A – Yes.</p> <p><b>Q – Where are we in the whole process?</b><br/>A – The Executive Team will now work on the plan following the valuable input from Trustees at this meeting and will present back to Trustees at the next meeting. There is some work to be done to add more detail to the indicators of success without the restriction of specifying figures.</p> <p>Feedback from new Trustees was that the TDP is a very useful and well planned document and that this time for review, and to allow Trustee input, is invaluable going forward.</p> <p><b>Q – What do you now need from us as Trustees?</b><br/>A – We will take away from today your input and work on revising the TDP, to be presented back at the next meeting for review and approval.</p> <p>Trustees were thanked of their time and contribution to reviewing the TDP.</p> |  |
|   |                | Policies               | There were no policies for approval at this meeting.  |  |
| 5 | AOB            |                        | There were no additional items of business to discuss.  |  |
|   | Meeting Dates: | Meeting dates to note: | TBM6 Wednesday 05.07.2023 at 10.00am<br><br>Please could Trustees advise the Clerk, at the earliest opportunity, if they are unable to attend a meeting.  |  |

#### Impact of Meeting / Key Outcomes

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| Trustees were given an update of expressions of interest from other schools to join the Trust |
| Trustees were updated on the progress of Priestnall School joining the Trust                  |
| Updates of newly appointed Heads of School were given to Trustees                             |
| Diversity data will be requested from Trustees, to be published in line with DfE guidance     |
| Support to Heads of School after an Ofsted inspection was discussed                           |
| Trustees worked in sub groups to review the update the Trust Development Plan                 |

Meeting closed at 12.15pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'T Little', written over a horizontal dotted line.

T Little  
Chair of Trustees  
05.07.2023