



**THE GOVERNING BODY OF SACKS MORASHA JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON**

**WEDNESDAY 30 May 2018**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**LA GOVERNORS**

\*Irene Mansfield

**STAFF GOVERNOR**

\*Sarah Woodward

**FOUNDATION GOVERNORS**

\*Jason Marantz (Chairman)

\*Leonie Sher

\*Annabel Ries

\*Chavi Abeles

\*Mark Nicolaides

\*Simone Gershon

\*Naomi Samuels

Leonard Klahr

**PARENT GOVERNORS**

\*Ben Morris

\*Elliott Goodman

\*Scott Aaron

**HEADTEACHER**

\*Hayley Gross (Headteacher)

\*denotes member present

**In attendance**

Justin Kett (Deputy Head)

Miriam Kaye (Deputy Head)

Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence (Honorary Principal)

**Part I**

**18/46 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

JM explained that Barnet will not be providing clerking services after August and will be refunding the payment made for this service. He has had no other recent support from them and so the minutes were sent out late.

**ACTION:** JM to investigate further how meetings will be clerked.

18/47 **DVAR TORAH – WHAT IT MEANS TO ME**

The Chairman thanked Elliot Goodman for sharing his thoughts.

18/48 **ACCEPTANCE/NON ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted on behalf of Leonard Klahr.

18/49 **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no pecuniary interests declared by Governors in the current agenda.

18/50 **MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2018, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were **CONFIRMED**, initialled and signed by the Chairman, subject to minor amendments, including:

- 18/33: dates 2017 to be changed to 2018
- 18.37: Gershwin to change to Gershon

18/51 **MATTERS ARISING**

**18/10 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

Mark Nicolaidis outlined the further progress of the GDPR working party and noted that he would be meet again with the Senior Leadership Team to resolve the outstanding issues and apply to the ICO to be a data processor. Material for parents will be distributed to governors at the earliest possible meeting to take this forward.

A governor asked if Ofsted will have an interest in GDPR, under the topic of 'Leadership and Management'.

**ACTION:** JM will ask Ofsted regarding GDPR.

**ACTION:** MN to continue this project.

The Chair thanked MN and the working group for their work on this.

**18/35 Attendance**

**ACTION:** MK to circulate term dates for 2019–20 in advance of the next meeting.

**18/37 Structure – Roles and responsibilities**

We need to replace Chavi Abeles as Admissions Governor once we have done a skills audit. HG expressed a preference for the governor to be someone with educational experience and not necessarily a parent in the school.

**ACTION:** All Governors to consider suitable candidates.

### **18/39 School Security**

**ACTION:** JM to circulate EG's security report.

#### **MOTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

*RESOLVED that, because of its nature, the business to be transacted be treated as confidential and not for publication. The meeting reverted to Part II.*

### 18/52 **REPORT OF THE HEADTEACHER**

#### **a) Early Years**

#### **MOTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

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The senior leadership team (SLT) reported that Reception is learning very well.

JM reported that data for our reception cohort is very good compared to other schools.

Questions were raised about how the school communicated issues to parents.

#### **b) School ethos**

Questions were raised about how parents behave with respect to the ethos of the school. SLT expressed great concern about how parents and students relate to the ethos, in terms of dress code, derech erez, Shabbat and kashrut observance, attitudes about the curriculum, etc.

Governors discussed the ethos and the responsibilities of parents and governors. Ideas were raised about how to present our values to parents.

**ACTION:** Governors to discuss these issues as a priority at the July meeting, by reviewing the following papers:

- ethos statement
- admissions policy
- home/school agreement (and the corresponding governors' code of conduct and the staff code of conduct).

We also have to discuss **how to implement this** with parents.

A governor suggested an approach to deal with this large issue:

- symptoms
- causes

- actions

in a smaller group of staff, rabbi and governors. The Governing Body approved of this suggestion as a way to proceed with this complex and sensitive issue.

**ACTION:** SG to convene this sub-group and lead the process.

### **c) School development plan**

HG presented the School development plan, which the SLT recently reviewed and updated.

Questions were raised about **happiness and wellbeing**, both of students and staff. This is being very well done by the SLT but information may need to be captured better in the next update of the SDP.

**d) School website:** The website was reviewed by Helen Morris (Barnet LA inspector) last September, and updates have been made by HG, and this external review will be happiness and wellbeing repeated in September 2018.

A suggestion was made to add information about **EAL children** to the SDP.

**ACTION:** HG to consider these points when she next updates the SDP.

## **18/53 EARLY CLOSING TIMES FOR EVEV SHABBAT AND CHAGIM**

JK and MK had circulated a draft list of early closing times. They proposed ending the school day slightly earlier on Fridays throughout the year. Their overriding concern was that, by having a full day on summer Fridays, Shabbat was not 'protected' enough. Early closing would show how special Shabbat is to children and their families. It would also have a great benefit to staff and thus would be useful for recruitment.

Governors questioned several specific timings and the list was agreed.

**ACTION:** MK to circulate the list to families, ensuring it is accompanied by appropriate messaging to portray the positive aspects of early closing, in line with the school's ethos.

## **18/54 SEF for LIMMUDEI KODESH**

The SEF had been updated by Justin Kett and circulated the previous day.

Ben Morris briefly outlined his learning walk for LK and thanked JK, Rabbi Tepper, Mrs Sacofsky for their time and cooperation. He pointed out the **key strengths:**

- a professional team with the majority being qualified teachers
- clear integration with the whole-school national curriculum
- similar high standards to the 'chol' side of teaching and learning.

BM raised the following **concerns** as points for future discussion:

- recruitment and future staffing, considering there is a small talent pool in the UK

- assessment is still developing in some areas
- need more Hebrew reading volunteers
- limited opportunities for staff training (most INSET time is spent on operational issues)
- relationship with Ivrit is important but currently difficult to implement
- must also look at what we **don't** teach (eg Nach, Jewish history) and wh, with relation to the school's values and ethos.

JK outlined the very positive staffing situation for the next academic year.

A governor asked about the how the grades were reached on the SEF. It was explained that JK had set them against the Pikuach framework, and discussed them with the Headteacher. He is confident that the school is heading towards Outstanding.

## 18/55 MAT

### **MOTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

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## 18/56 CHAIR'S ROLE

Governors were invited to send nominations for a new Chair to JM after the previous meeting, and two names were proposed. One declined and the other was Mark Nicolaides, who accepted the nomination – on the condition that he receives the full support of the Governing Body and JM.

JM invited governors to vote on MN's nomination and he was elected unanimously.

As is done currently, the chair will be elected on an annual basis.

**ACTION:** JM and MN to discuss the timing of MN's succession to the role of Chair.

**ACTION:** All Governors to consider suitable candidates for a new Finance Governor, to replace MN (and see 18/37 above). HG expressed a preference for the governor to be someone with educational experience and not necessarily a parent in the school.

## 18/57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

## 18/58 DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting scheduled for 11 July 2018 needs to be changed.

**ACTION:** MK to email SG some possible dates for the next meeting and SG will conduct a Doodle poll with all Governors.

*There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10 pm.*

***[Signed copy held in School office]***