

**SACKS MORASHA PRIMARY SCHOOL  
LOCAL GOVERNING BODY MEETING MINUTES**

15<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**PRESENT**

Mark Nicolaides	CHAIR
Simone Gershon	Vice Chair
Annabel Ries	Vice Chair
Chaja Green	
Ben Morris	
Elliot Goodman	
Leonie Sher	
Irene Mansfield	
Hayley Gross	HT
Sarah Woodward	Staff Governor
Miriam Kaye	Deputy HT
Justin Kett	HOK/DHT
Eleonora Holyanova	Minute Clerk

**APOLOGIES**

Scott Aaron  
Naomi Samuels  
Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence  
Kirsten Jowett

**The meeting began at 7:40pm**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from RJL, SA, KJ and NS.

**2. DVAR TORAH**

The Chair gave Dvar Torah.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Governors were reminded that they should declare any interest relating to items on the agenda.

The following was declared:

BM: Partner at Mazars LLP (accountancy firm) since 2012 to present; children attend SM

JK: Trustee at Jewish Educational Tech since September 2010 to present

These were not considered to conflict with agenda items to be discussed.

**4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

**5. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN/HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT**

a) Summary of the past year: HG informed all the Governors that the past year has been hard but with many positive aspects:

- SM mental health programme is being upgraded
- Staff retention is high (only 1 teacher has left)
- MK has been named Head teacher at Miriam Marks School commencing September 2019
- Writing and Reading overall have improved
- Moderation has been successful.
- There have been challenges with regards to the office staff. In response to a Governor's question, HG replied that it has been difficult to recruit an additional person to help M in the office. However, there is a candidate who has been offered the position and is due to start working part-time from September 2019.
- PTA has been fantastic over the past year.

<b>ACTION</b>	HG to speak to KJ in order to resolve the issues in the office
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b) Y6 incident in school – In response to a Governor's question regarding the incident, HG explained that it was unfounded and therefore will not go on the record. Everything was settled and resolved quickly by MK.

**6. JCAT CENTRAL UPDATE**

It was not discussed at this meeting as KJ was not present.

**7. STANDARDS DATA**

MK gave an in-depth data report.

a) Reception – overall good level of development and data were better than last year. There are no discrepancies across the average score, however the boys achieved less than the girls. Improving the boys' results will be set out as a goal in the new SDP for

2019/2020. SM has always been above the national average and HG confirmed that the current scores are realistic. However, Barnet is yet to release their official data (the data will be released to the governors once received from Barnet).

- b) Year 1 – overall good level of development with only one SEN child who missed Phonics; there are no discrepancies between boys` and girls` results.
- c) KS1 – overall score is good but progress is not as desired. The results are likely cohort related. The teaching team is working on that through morning interventions in Maths, Reading and Writing 3 times a week.
  - (i) Allocating additional teachers - HG explained that a decision needs to be made where to allocate additional teachers. This decision will be based on which class or year group will benefit more. She reminded everyone that there is a fine line between setting higher targets for certain pupils and putting them off studies. Therefore, it is important to find the balance.
  - (ii) Progress in Writing - There was a discussion on progress in Writing and HG explained that Writing is known to be hard to get right. However, a lot of children were very close to passing on to the next level and missed by 1 or 2 points. After Sukkot there will be weekly insets meetings with all teachers assessing each year group`s Writing in order to train teachers to understand what makes a WA or a WGD piece of writing in each year group.
- d) KS2 – overall score is above national average in all areas; high percentage of children are Working at Greater Depth in all areas and all above national average, girls are better than boys in writing this year at this level, in Maths there are no discrepancies between boys and girls.  
HG and MK were disappointed with the results – two pupils missed the reading by one point each.
- e) SATs – In response to a Governor`s question regarding the distress SATs can cause to Y6 children, HG expressed her opinion that parents are usually the ones to put more pressure on children than the school does by sending them to more exams and paying for additional tutoring very close to the SATs. She also added that sending the children to early exams affects both attendance and the rest of the pupils. These issues occur even though meetings with Y5 parents currently take place to educate them on the criteria that their child has to meet in order to be accepted in the desired high school. The SLT will review the exam schedule and attendance, and will consider requiring pupils to attend school before or after an exam to reduce disruption.
- c) Y5 visits to high schools - In response to a Governor`s question JK replied that the school takes Y5 pupils to JFS and Immanuel, but Hasmonian wants parents to take their children there for open days too.

## 8. SAFEGUARDING

### a) Safeguarding and Pastoral Update

- 0 Complaints;
- 0 Child Protection (Safeguarding) referrals to social care;
- 0 Allegations against staff reported to the Lead Officer for Child Protection;
- 0 Reported racial Incidents;

- 0 Reported serious bullying Incidents;
- 0 Significant safeguarding issue, whether to do with sexual behaviours;
- 0 Radicalisation or any other form of threat or risk to young people

b) Y6 incident – discussed in the HT’s Report.

MK explained that it took longer than it should have for children to come forward with the incident which is both teachers` and parents` responsibility equally.

<b>ACTION</b>	Meetings with parents to be set up in order to improve communication related to safeguarding issues
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**9. JEWISH WAY OF LIFE**

a) Generation Sinai - JK informed everyone that Generation Sinai was well attended.

<b>ACTION</b>	To increase parents` and grandparents` attendance at family learning events in each year group in order to show that SM values learning, targeting the Rosh Chodesh Minyan 8:40am-9:45am
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b) Staffing for Kodesh teachers – SM has a full Kodesh team for September 2019; there have been newly-employed Kodesh teachers in the past year and they are now fully integrated. Everyone agreed that the Kodesh team is amazing and in response to a Governor`s question about how this can be maintained, JK replied that this can be achieved by building them up and giving them more responsibilities in the future.

c) Curriculum – there have been some changes in the way Reading and Writing have been assessed; there has also been a change in teaching Mishna – Y5 and Y6 classes have been split into two groups: group 1 – pupils who need more nurturing for Mishna, and group 2 – pupils who are ready for learning Mishna.

d) Science classes to incorporate knowledge of Israeli companies – the Chair suggested that this should be done as RJPS has successfully implemented it. HG confirmed that SM will now start doing that as they have only recently been classified as an academy.

e) Shinshinim – bringing high school graduates through this programme can be expensive. However, JK explained that 2 girls will be coming full-time to SM to support Ivrit and Kodesh studies and they will be living at Kinloss in order to be cost-effective.

<b>ACTION</b>	JK to report to all the Governors how the Shinshinim girls are doing in supporting Ivrit and Kodesh studies during the next academic year.
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**10. FINANCE**

The Chair and EG met last week to discuss the budget and the Chair informed everyone present that currently the budget shows £60,000 surplus compared to £10,000 last year. However, there will be a separate discussion after these figures have been confirmed.

**11. PTA/ LOCAL EVENTS/ FUNDRAISING**

The work of the PTA over the past year has been amazing. However, they need to do a handover and there is a need for volunteers.

<b>ACTION</b>	Chair to email the PTA and thank them for their hard work over the past year.
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**12. POLICY UPDATES**

None

**13. GOVERNING BODY ORGANIZATION**

BS has been elected as a new member of the SM LGB.

HC has been invited by the Chair to be a Teaching and learning Governor. HC is currently DHT at JFS and has no children at SM.

EG left at 9:15pm.

**14. ADMISSIONS (SIBLING DEFINITION AND PARENTS MEETINGS)**

CG explained that some of the classes have been expanded to make up for the low number of children in Reception (currently 22 pupils with one more offer extended to a child coming from Israel), Y1 – 31 pupils, Y2 – 31 pupils, Y3 – 29 pupils, Y4 – 31 pupils, Y5 – 30 pupils, Y6 – 31 pupils. The total number of pupils for the new academic year is expected to be 207. This means SM will still be 3 children short in terms of financial sustainability.

HG suggested that those teachers who have additional children in their class should take 1 day in lieu for the year and the Chair agreed.

**15. AOB**

Governors stepping down: The Chair announced that both LS and AR are stepping down from their roles as Governors and thanked them on behalf of everyone for their hard work over the years.

**Meeting ended at 9:25 pm**

**Date:** .....

**Signature:**.....

**/ Chair /**

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>
<b>5. a)</b>	HG to speak to KJ in order to resolve the issues in the office	<b>HG</b>
<b>8. b)</b>	Meetings with parents to be set up in order to improve communication related to safeguarding issues	<b>SM Staff</b>
<b>9. a)</b>	To increase parents` and grandparents` attendance to family learning events in each year group in order to show that SM values learning targeting the Rosh Hodesh Minyan 8:40am-9:45am	<b>SM Staff</b>
<b>9. e)</b>	JK to report to all the Governors how the Shinshinim girls are doing in supporting Ivrit and Kodesh studies during the next academic year.	<b>JK</b>
<b>11.</b>	Chair to email the PTA and thank them for their hard work over the past year.	<b>Chair</b>