

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

19<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**PRESENT**

Mark Nicolaides	Chair	Elisa Angel	
Simone Gershon		Dean Jayson	
Chaja Green		Kirsten Jowett	CEO JCAT
Hayley Gross	HT	Irene Mansfield	
Justin Kett	DHT/Head JS	Chris Jacobs	SIP
Elliot Goodman	Finance Gov		
Scott Aaron		Mel Lawson	Clerk
Luci Joseph			
Sarah Woodward		<b>Absent</b>	
Daniel Dahan		Rabbi Lawrence	

The meeting started at 7.00pm on Zoom.

Chris Jacobs joined the meeting to explain his role as School Improvement Partner. In his 35 years in education he has been a teacher, SLT and head teacher and worked in behavioural support for local authorities. He started an education company in 2003 delivering contracts for DfE and taking interim management roles. He has been a lead inspector. Three years ago, he set up the Sutton Education Trust. He was attracted to JCAT with its bigger top slice and chance to work in depth with fewer schools. He said there was much to do, and HG had been very helpful. When asked by the Chair what he was currently doing for Sacks Morasha he said he was working with a member of staff with behavioural issues and on inset training with staff.

CJ left at 7.06pm

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed all Governors present.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Governors were reminded that they should declare any interest relating to items on the agenda. No interest was declared.

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

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020 were agreed. They could not be signed as the meeting was held by Zoom due to Coronavirus.

Governors were reminded that they needed to check JCAT emails for meeting communications. ML can reset passwords if forgotten. DD offered to help set up JCAT email accounts on governors' phones.

**4. HT UPDATE ON**

- a) Staffing/absence – documents were sent to governors prior to the meeting. Today a Year 2 teacher tripped on the premises and broke her ankle. The Ivrit teacher is back after 3 weeks sickness. The school is trying to avoid taking on supply staff. HG reported that it was quiet and muted in school.

- b) Remote learning plan – the policy is displayed on the website. No bubbles have had to close. The new Year 6 teacher is coming from Canada in mid-November and is helping now with insets and documentation. EA asked about Google Classroom problems and was told they were due to parents not reading instructions. All such technical problems are being resolved while the situation is calm.
- c) Risk assessment – this is being regularly reviewed according to emerging guidance. Keeping children safe in the new environment has been key and staff are constantly being reminded of their responsibilities. Governors expressed appreciation for the efforts of all staff.  
SA asked what the school policy was on wearing masks. HG said staff had not been asked to wear them except when they are all together. Those teaching across bubbles wear visors. These are cleaned with soap or spray at the end of the day.
- d) Narrowing the gap – A baseline assessment was done after 2/3 weeks of term starting. There was an intensive pupil progress session with planning. There are extra reading interventions for those who need it. More subjects other than core will be introduced after half term. The School more recently conducted a second pupil assessment based on teacher assessment. All assessments have been analysed with pupil progress meetings and actions from these meetings.  
EG asked about the new classes and was told they were going well but some parents were not supportive of the new families. New teachers are adapting with plenty of support from Dena Shmuel. Both new classes with 17 children are weak as children originate from other schools.  
LJ asked about the Year 3 children who should have taken SATS last year and was told they were sitting them this week to see how they might have done.  
LJ asked about SENCO duties as the SENCO is on maternity leave and not due back until January. HG is monitoring SEN children, meeting with parents and putting support in place. SLT understands the children and their targets. One full EHCP is working well with their 1:1.  
MN asked if extra resources were needed. HG said social skills groups were in place and there will be a wellbeing club after half term. Teachers PPA was reduced to enable them time to do personal tutoring and have 1:1 time with children. They are using the resources they have.

<b>ACTION</b>	Small group to meet to discuss resources after assessment week	HG/MN
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- e) SIP – this was screen shared with governors. An addendum was added to the SDP in red up to December 2020. MN flagged the marking policy and was told it was changed as it did not give adequate feedback. The Moriah/Wolfson Hillel system was introduced last week in all subjects with some additional next steps. Effective marking is to be balanced with teachers’ available time. KJ said that CJ will drive forward more of these ideas and the headteachers meetings will be used to focus on priorities.

**5. SAFEGUARDING**

There have been no issues since the last meeting. SA, the safeguarding governor, asked if governor training needs regular updating and was told Dena could run a new safeguarding training for them.

<b>ACTION</b>	Arrange safeguarding training for governors	SA/DS
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**6. BUDGET 2020-21**

Governors were informed that HG set the budget and some adjustments were necessary for staffing and income. The outturn budget 19-20 will be set by November. Governors will be able to review this and see actuals for this year. All finances have been forensically analysed by Miriam Hill, the new CFO. Report on VCs is not needed but JCAT is requesting the percentage drop in VC's These are understood to have been collected as usual during lockdown.

**7. ADMISSIONS 2021-22**

- CG reported that there were 202 on roll with another Reception child coming but stuck in South Africa at present.
- There is a big push on promotions with a Zoom event planned. MN thanked her, LJ, DD and one other for their work.
- There have been many FB hits and email queries about places with 4 potential applications higher up the school. All new families have been welcomed by EA and they have been impressed by academic standards, leadership and nurturing. All feedback has been positive.

**8. JCAT UPDATE**

- KJ shared details of the new JCAT central team which will be circulated to governors

<b>ACTION</b>	Circulate JCAT central team organigram	ML
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- Orders are now being processed very quickly.
- Jason Golding, new Operations Manager is meeting and supporting site managers on all sites.
- Bookkeeping is being done as and when needed.
- MN said he was looking forward to getting to know and working with the new team.
- Term dates – KJ stated that all JCAT schools will have the same dates, and then asked whether Sacks Morasha wanted to be open or closed next Succot. HG said they would be open. Consistent start and end dates will be worked out in the headteacher group (providing 190 teaching days) then sent to Trustees to be signed off. IM asked if these dates would be correlated with Jewish secondary schools and was told they could not be compared with all schools and were matched as closely as possible to national holidays for non-Jewish staff. Because of the early Rosh Hashanah dates there was some discussion when to start school and when to have inset days necessary for specific training.

**9. AOB**

- ML was asked to circulate future LGB dates when final.

The meeting ended at 8.09pm

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

Agenda item	ACTION	By whom
4	Small group to meet to discuss resources after assessment week	HG/MN
5	Arrange safeguarding training for governors	SA/DS
8/9	Circulate JCAT central team organigram and future LGB dates	ML

**Date:** .....

**Signature:** .....

**/ Chair /**