



THE GOVERNING BODY OF SACKS MORASHA JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON

WEDNESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2019

MEMBERSHIP

LA GOVERNORS

*Irene Mansfield

STAFF GOVERNOR

Sarah Woodward

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

*Mark Nicolaides (Chairman)

*Simone Gershon

*Naomi Samuels

*Leonard Klahr

*Annabel Ries

*Jason Marantz

*Leonie Sher

*Chaja Green

PARENT GOVERNORS

Ben Morris

Elliott Goodman

*Scott Aaron

HON PRINCIPAL

*Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence

HEADTEACHER

*Hayley Gross (Headteacher)

*denotes member present

In Attendance

Justin Kett (Deputy Head)

Miriam Kaye (Deputy Head)

Madhu Nambiar (Clerk)

19/01 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

19/02 DVAR TORAH

The Governors thanked the Headteacher for sharing her thoughts.

19/03 ACCEPTANCE/NON-ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted on behalf of Ben Morris Sarah Woodward.

19/04 MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2018

It was noted that the apologies submitted by Jason Marantz had been omitted from the Minutes.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2018, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were **CONFIRMED**.

19/05 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not covering in the meeting.

19/06 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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

19/07 DEPUTY HEADTEACHER'S DATA REPORT

The December 2018 report was tabled and arising from the ensuing discussions:

- On being questioned by the Governors the Deputy Headteacher explained how differentiation was carried out for those who required extra support.
- A Governor asked what would Ofsted be looking for in the data. It was explained that the inspectors would look at the data which is presented to them and would not ask for anything specific. The School were aware that Ofsted would be looking at how the children were being challenged
- On being asked about what was being done to improve reading, the Headteacher said that they were working with the subject leader to set benchmarks against standardised scoring.
- Year 5 data was markedly different at there were fewer SEN children in the year and more children had responded better than other years to maths interventions that had been introduced.

The results had been publicised and the leadership were asked how they had responded to remarks. As the reporting had not been accurate, the School had decided not to comment and had not been asked to respond.

The Governors thanked the Deputy Headteacher for her report.

19/08 HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

The Headteacher presented her verbal report to Governors:

Pupil numbers

- There would be 209 children in the School following a child leaving in the coming weeks.

Attendance

- The attendance rate was at 96.2% which was above national average and satisfactory and the Headteacher explained the reasons for why it was not as high as their target due to acceptable reasons.

Teaching and Learning

- The teaching had been observed to be consistently good and the Headteacher provided an account of how the teaching had been monitored.
- Moriah would be doing moderation as part of the MAT's system of schools supporting each other and went on to describe what they would be looking at.

Behaviour, welfare and safety

- Behaviour was satisfactory overall but there were pockets of children who needed to be encouraged to engage in a positive way and the schemes in place were showing encouraging results. There followed a brief discussion about how their behaviour might impact other children but the Headteacher was confident that all the children's needs were being met.
- There was a Healthy Mind, Healthy Body week planned which boosted the children's welfare programme. The School were also working with families to advise about how to help their children with social media issues among other activities aimed at supporting children with mental health and wellbeing.
- Staff welfare was being addressed by someone coming in to talk to them about how to look after themselves.
- The Headteacher described the online system which records all safeguarding issues which was working effectively. The Headteacher had walked round with the Facilities manager and although the School was secure and safe, there issues with the heating system which did not work consistently throughout the building.

Leadership and Management

- There was an update on staff movement and the training they had been receiving. The School was in good shape for staffing in September.

GDPR

- There had been an audit and an action plan to rectify the minor issues found, had been created.

Moriah placement

- The Headteacher continued to go to the school twice a week and the Headteacher remarked that there were cultural differences between the schools she had to negotiate but was finding it manageable.
- The deputy heads were asked if they were coping with the situation and the Governors were assured that there had not been any unresolved problems to date. The Chairman asked them to speak to the Governors at any time if there were any issues with the arrangement.
- The Headteacher noted that she had asked the MAT executives for a formal letter stating the terms and timeline of her working between the two schools as well as a review of her work at Moriah.
- It was noted that there reciprocal arrangements for all three schools to provide mentorship opportunities which were of benefit to the schools.

The Governors thanked the Headteacher for her report.

19/09 CHAIR'S REPORT ON GOVERNING BODY ORGANISATION

The Chairman tabled the list of proposed members of the Governing Body of the MAT.

Some of the main points regarding movements on the Board were highlighted. The Governors were asked to submit any suggestions for non-parent governors to the Chairman.

The Governors joined the Chairman in thanking Jason Marantz for his hard work and commitment to the School as a previous Chairman and for steering the School through the MAT process.

The Governors also joined the Chairman in acknowledging and appreciating the efforts and dedication of Leonard Klahr who had resigned from the Board.

19/10 JCAT UPDATE

The Chairman provided a summary of the meeting with the Chief Rabbi; there remained some uncertainty about the full impact on the School but the School Leadership were asked to contact the Governors with any concerns once the MAT was live. There would be reporting to the MAT trustees as they would have the overarching responsibility for the children in the School.

A Governor voiced the concerns of parents who had asked about policies being affected by the MAT. The Chairman reiterated that his understanding was that the School policies would not be influenced by the MAT.

The Chairman clarified that there would not be an automatic Ofsted conversion from a S5 to S8 because the School was now part of a MAT as this question had been raised previously - it would be a S5 as before. The School could ask for an inspection which would have to be paid for, however it was recommended that they should wait till the autumn term to see if they were on Ofsted's list.

19/11 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Chagigat Chumash celebration

The Deputy Headteacher announced that the play would be taking place the following day and invited Governors.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting came to a close at this point.