

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

6<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**PRESENT**

Simone Gershon	Joint Chair
Chaja Green	Joint Chair
Hayley Gross	HT
Justin Kett	DHT/Head JS
Irene Mansfield	
Elliot Goodman	Finance Gov
Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence	
Scott Aaron	
Luci Joseph	
Sarah Woodward	
Daniel Dahan	
Elisa Angel	
Dean Jayson	
Kirsten Jowett	CEO JCAT
Mel Lawson	Clerk

**PART I**

The meeting started at 7pm on Zoom.

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed all Governors; there were no absences but SA arrived at 7.30pm.

**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 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were agreed. They could not be signed as the meeting was held by Zoom during the Coronavirus lockdown. They will be signed when circumstances permit.

**MATTERS ARISING**

Agenda item	ACTIONS FROM MEETING ON 29 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020	BY WHOM	STATUS
5. d)	ML to transfer all the documents from the Governors Hub to the new platform.	ML	Ongoing
5. f)	KJ to chase a report on the status completed/uncompleted services from LW.	KJ,LW	Revisions to Operations are ongoing, most

			activities are paused for now and will be changed going forward.
7.b)	ML to create a doodle poll for the date and time of the Governors` Safeguarding Training. Proposed days: Monday, Tuesday or Thursday between 20 <sup>th</sup> April and 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2020.	ML	On hold as HC resigned
7.c)	SA to check for any gaps in the single central record and report the result on next meeting.	SA	Checked – see agenda item 6
10.3)	KJ to produce a report of all expenses for each school with comparison on the numbers before joining JCAT by the end of January 2020.	KJ	Outstanding information to be supplied by next Friday

**4. STAFFING**

- 1) HG reported that an advert was placed to recruit staff for KS1, KS2 and SENCO and she has been interviewing. Maternity cover posts are to be filled. There are still some gaps but final staffing will be announced at the next meeting. KJ offered redeployment from Moriah and HG said she was already in discussion with one individual.
- 2) JK reported that one Kodesh teacher is going on maternity leave but cover will be provided from existing staff.

**5. HOME LEARNING**

- 1) HG reported that it had been turbulent but the majority of parents are now happy.
- 2) The format has changed from worksheets to YouTube videos.
- 3) English is taught every day which includes new learning. White Rose Maths scheme is continuing. Art projects are being very well received. History and Science are also being taught. Story time is via YouTube.
- 4) Core subjects are intertwined with other subjects so all work needs to be completed.
- 5) Work is being sent to parents by 5pm the day before.
- 6) A Zoom meeting was held with Reception parents and their requests are being considered.
- 7) There will be a VE day activity on Friday.
- 8) Next week is computing week. There are regular initiatives of the week.
- 9) Governors reported that parents were happier and were getting used to the system and felt that the teaching is of a high quality.
- 10) HG reported that she had ideas for a return to school but needed to wait for the government announcement. When asked which staff would not be able to return for a potential 1<sup>st</sup> June start, HG said that most were able to return.
- 11) Governors expressed concern for staff wellbeing and were told that there was a staff meeting tomorrow by Zoom. Staff have reported finding it overwhelming working from home/managing their own children too/dealing with emails from parents/difficulties presenting on YouTube. TA's are missing school. Governors acknowledged that teachers are trained to interact with children not screens and parents.
- 12) The Chairs extended thanks to staff, HG and JK. The system has settled and exudes optimism, extra lessons are of very high quality and parents recognise the effort that has been put in.

- 13) Admin staff were singled out for praise for the work they are doing particularly their attention to detail.
- 14) When asked how teachers would manage if their own children were not returning to school it was agreed to wait until the government announcement on Sunday for details.
- 15) Governors asked about the time required to prepare the building. HG said there would be three weeks during which a deep clean is planned, a "kiss and drop" type system arranged for the end of the day with traffic planning and CST input, gloves and masks ordered, possibly Perspex to be erected in the lobby. Soap is plentiful already.

SA arrived at 7.30pm.

- 16) Governors asked about those parents not wanting their children to return. KJ told the meeting that there would be a 4 tier model of learning, details of which had not yet been decided: key workers children, others on other days, shielding children, parents choosing not to send their children back (not subject to prosecution). A possibility would be to film lessons and send to those not in school. Shielding children cannot return until there is a vaccine, at least until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. There will be free full access to Google classroom with Badger together with training.
- 17) Governors asked about filming equipment and safeguarding considerations. KJ said there was no equipment but could be ipads. Tripods would be necessary.
- 18) All assessments have been suspended for now. There is an assumption that schools will be open and closed according to activity of the virus and the possibility of a second wave. Heads will meet after the government announcement and each school will adapt according to staffing.

## **6) SAFEGUARDING**

- 1) SA reported no gaps in the single central register.
- 2) Safeguarding training was being organised by Howard Cohen but as he has left it is now on hold.
- 3) There are no live presentations given on Zoom due to safeguarding concerns.
- 4) Phone calls to parents are made under careful conditions.
- 5) YouTube videos should show not too much of the teacher or their home.
- 6) Teachers and the SENCO are keeping in touch with the children. It is a concern that some children are not doing the work set. It is felt that there will be behavioural issues when the children return and there should be a communication with parents to manage expectations. Teachers will need to be aware of children's wellbeing and interpersonal skills. KJ told governors that the JCAT wellbeing coordinator together with other wellbeing coordinators will be writing multiple packages for schools. Some children may exhibit separation anxiety and there will be a story for parents to read to them to explain what will happen on their first day back.
- 7) Some parents are expressing concerns about their children's future.

## **7) FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

KJ reported that there is one child in school receiving FSM. The voucher scheme code did not arrive so a payment was made to the family. This is being topped up by the Max Barney Trust and the Wohl Foundation, each JCAT FSM family getting £100/month in voucher form. This is also being extended to PP children where each family in April and May will receive £100/month. Food parcels have also been delivered.

**8) PLANS FOR POSSIBLE OPENING AFTER MAY HALF TERM**

Covered in agenda item 6.

**9) UPDATE ON MJDS/HJPS MERGER**

During the Coronavirus pandemic civil servants have been told not to deviate from policy. The merger has thus been rejected as a school has to merge with one that is good or outstanding. Moriah pupils in year 1-5 will therefore be bulged onto HJPS roll. Moriah School remains as Y6 taught offsite on the HJPS site as the school cannot close for another year but funding will be retained. 55 of 58 pupils will move to HJPS, 1 is undecided and 2 are going elsewhere. There will be a restructuring and redeployment of Moriah staff. Staff will be offered posts in JCAT schools or will take redundancy. The site will be rented for a year by Pinner High School whose renovations have been halted by the lockdown. Discussion are underway beyond that. DJ summarised that continued Jewish education is thus secured for Moriah pupils and Harrow Jewish Day School Trust benefits too. KJ said that HJPS could increase its provision in the future.

**10) RECRUITMENT**

Covered in agenda item 4.

**11) ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2020**

- 1) CG reported that 20 Reception places had been offered, with 19 accepted. Three are on the waiting list for the next round and another one from another borough. After this round any application made directly to the school can be decided by the school.
- 2) When asked how these numbers compare to previous years, CG reported that this year and last had been low birth years and also had smaller sibling classes. Last year the school roll was 203 of a possible 210 and increased to 208 with marketing. KJ asked if the upcoming years were good sibling years in order to avoid another Moriah scenario. CG replied that next year there are 19/20 siblings and potentially numbers look good from the many tours that have been conducted. She felt that the change in Admissions policy makes it easier to encompass the whole community not just restricting it to members of Kinloss. KJ told her that anyone matching SM ethos from waiting lists at other JCAT schools would be told of SM vacancies.
- 3) This year 31 from Y6 will be replaced by 20 in Reception. Y1 waiting list will be expanded to a maximum of 33 to try to recoup losses from Reception. There have been discussions about how to teach a class of 33.
- 4) There have also been enquiries from families currently using private schools and worried about future income and finances.
- 5) Governors asked about CRPs for next year. KJ reported that she was on a working party considering multiple models which will be decided after the government announcement. Families have until 15<sup>th</sup> January to collect points. Rabbi L commented that it was easy to benchmark commitment at the moment.

HG left 20.08

**12. FINANCE**

- 1) EG reported that there was no longer reporting software from KPMG and management accounts were being prepared by Dan Kalms. IMP software will have the facility to produce reports.
- 2) KJ told governors that SM financial data is now on IMP and there will be a training tomorrow. Budgets will be finalised on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Management reports have been completed for March and going forward reports will be available by 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.

- 3) Draft budget shows break even, not a deficit as believed, with areas of concern including £31K shortfall on school lunch collection which the office has started to chase. Meals have been charged at £2.35/meal but this is an undercharge by 19p. Lunch prices will need to be increased and managed by governors.

<b>ACTION</b>	Increase lunch prices and chase unpaid lunch money	HG/Governors/Admin
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**13. SPRING DATA**

Circulated for information only. HG commented that it was her focus to get Working Towards children across the line this year. She was happy with the assessment and felt the school was good at assessment.

**14. AOB**

The Chair reported that Howard Cohen has resigned due to lack of available time. He was thanked for his contribution.

**JK and SW were asked to leave the meeting at 20:23pm. SA thanked them both for their work in the current circumstances.**

See Confidential Part II minutes for further discussion.

The meeting ended at 20:28.

**ACTIONS 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

<b>ACTION</b>	Increase lunch prices and chase unpaid lunch money	HG/Governors/Admin
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**Date:** .....

**Signature:**.....

**/ Chair /**