



## MINUTES of the BOARD MEETING

24 May 2022, 1.00 p.m.

### Part A Public

Item	Subject	Action
	<p><b>Trustees present:</b> (V = virtual attendance)</p> <p>Tom Briant-Evans (TBE) V</p> <p>Nik Butcher (NB)</p> <p>Mike Hosking (MH) – Chair</p> <p>Nick Lake (NL)</p> <p>Keith Tipler (KT)</p> <p>John Whetter (JW)</p> <p><i>Also present:</i></p> <p>Jem Alder (JA) – Trust Secretary</p> <p>Mike England (ME) – Finance Director</p> <p>Simon Hague (SE) – CEO</p> <p>Tamsin Lamb (TL) – Director of Education</p>	<p><b>1. Apologies:</b></p> <p>Karen Brokenshire (KB)</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Conflicts of Interest:</b> no additional interests were declared.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Previous minutes</b> of the 11 May 2022 were accepted as an accurate record.	
<b>4</b>	<b>Matters arising</b>	
4.1	7.2 Recruitment update. TL updated governors on the appointment of a new Head for Weeth. Current Head at Pencoyls will move to Weeth, and an external candidate has accepted the offer to become Head at Pencoyls.	
4.2	Confidential item.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Delegated Decisions:</b> none.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
6.1	<p>Budget monitoring.</p> <p>ME reported little change in projections since the March update – currently a £180K surplus.</p> <p>Premises – potentially upto a £100K overspend. Greater contingency will be built into next year's budgets.</p> <p>Investments - being considered tomorrow by Finance group.</p>	
6.2	<p>Free School Meals.</p> <p>Budget is based on a 90% uptake – not meeting this at present. Also our supplier has begun process of asking for an interim price increase due to rising costs – this option is built into our contract. ME estimated the increase would be in the £14-20K range.</p>	

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	<p>Nationally pressure is being put on the government due to inflation.to increase the amount they pay.</p> <p><i>Q: Are schools making any progress with encouraging more parents to declare their eligibility?</i></p> <p>Schools are working with their kitchen staff to increase demand eg offering packed lunches at Pennoweth has seen an uptake in usage. TL reported this issue seems to be a national one and reflects how school lunchtimes were very different during lockdown.</p>	
6.3	<p>Smart meters.</p> <p>ME outlined a proposal for the Trust to invest in smart meters for each school. These would be connected direct to the supplier and provide detailed data on where within the school energy usage was greatest.</p> <p>Current advice the Trust has received is on the date new contract is needed (1<sup>st</sup> September) we should anticipate at least a 180% increase in energy costs. Investment of £35K would equate to c.10% of projected annual energy costs.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
7.1	<p>LGC Chairs update.</p> <p>Peter Ham at Roskear has stepped down during his current sabbatical.</p>	
7.2	<p>SEND Green Paper (<i>previously circulated</i>).</p> <p>TL summarised some of the key recommendations to address the national position that outcomes for pupils tend to be poor. Funding is very variable – currently high needs funding in Cornwall is the lowest in the country.</p> <p>TL reminded Trustees that a dedicated Speech &amp; Language specialist had just been appointed – and this reflected our recognition that more specialist leadership and strategic thinking will be needed to further develop our school improvement approach. Trustees commented how this and earlier agenda items all emphasised the benefits for every school in being part of a MAT.</p>	
8	Confidential item	
	<p><b>Dates of next meetings:</b></p> <p>25 May Finance group meeting</p> <p>8 June School Improvement group</p> <p>14 June Audit Committee 2pm</p> <p>14 June LGC Chairs 5.30pm</p> <p>24 June Members</p> <p>28 June Board</p> <p>19 July Board</p>	
	Meeting finished at 2.56	