

**The Heath Family (NW) Multi Academy Trust
Minutes of the MAT Board meeting held on
Thursday, 16th July 2015 at 9.00 am**

Present: Peter Cook, David Cooper, Jane Ainsworth, Stephen Dewhurst, Heather Mullaney, Maria Sharratt, Jason Fraser, Jamie Jardine		Apologies: Wendy Heap, Kris Billington, Rob Pritchard, Alicia Parry, Rob Rogers		Non attenders:	
					Clerk: Trish Roberts
Items	Discussion	Action	Who	When	Notes
1. Introductions and welcome	Peter Cook welcomed everyone to the meeting.				
2. SEF Presentations and report from Principals on how each school's year has gone	The Principals from The Heath, Sir William Stanier, Bridgewater Park & Litherland each gave their presentation to the Board.				
3. Draft Business Plan	<p>Stephen Dewhurst distributed the Financial Forecasts document (page 25) from the Draft Business Plan to Board members, which outlined the position that the MAT hoped to reach by 2019-20.</p> <p>Steve spoke about future staffing moves:</p> <p>Judith McConville – spending much more time at LHS and less time at SWS</p> <p>Elisabeth Rowlands – working 1 day a week for the MAT as Safeguarding Lead</p> <p>Craig Parkinson – during the course of this year moving away from LHS to work for the MAT as ICT Strategic Lead.</p>				

	<p>Heather Mullaney explained that the Business Plan is not set in stone; she sees that it will evolve over time and that it should be discussed by the Board on a regular basis.</p>				
4. Online Self Evaluation Tool	<p>Heather has met with David Donnelly and they have sourced an Online Self Evaluation Tool that can be used for Multi-Academy Trusts.</p> <p>Board members will be sent the link to this so that they can complete the questionnaire. Heather has asked if this can be completed as soon as it is received, as she would like the data to be discussed at the next Board meeting. It was agreed to send the link to the Principals as well.</p> <p>Once all the data is received it can be analysed, so that any strengths/weaknesses can be highlighted, and focussed upon if needed.</p>	<p>Link to Online Self Evaluation Tool to be sent to Board members.</p> <p>Board members to complete the questionnaire ASAP and data to be discussed at next Board meeting.</p>	<p>Trish Roberts</p> <p>Board Members</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>By November 2015</p>	
5. Update re Knowsley Park	<p>Heather Mullaney reported that the raw data had been scrutinised yesterday and she was disappointed to find out that last year's results were very poor. Part of the reason for this was due to 90 students joining the school from another school that closed down. The results for this group of students came in at 15% A*-C, which dragged the results of the whole cohort down.</p> <p>As a result of this the decision as to whether Knowsley Park will be Sponsored or a Converter will not be made until September, once this year's exam results have been released/scrutinised.</p>				

	<p>Heather has spoken to the School's Regional Commissioner and some work will still continue over the summer with Hill Dickinson.</p> <p>Heather also reported that she has been contacted by the DfE asking her to consider sponsoring a Pupil Referral Unit in Crewe. Heather will be meeting with Mark Bailey to discuss this further on 20th July 2015.</p>				
<p>6. Matters arising not included on the Agenda</p>	<p>a. Joint MAT INSET Day – 2nd September 2015</p> <p>Heather Mullaney reported. The Key Speakers are:</p> <p>Professor Ruth Lupton – Achievement of Poor Working Class White Children from Poor Households</p> <p>James Nottingham – Challenging the Most Able</p> <p>Subject Networking will take place after lunch</p> <p>The Heath will be the lead for Performing Arts, Maths, Music, PE</p> <p>Sir William Stanier will be the lead for English, Technology, ICT, Business Studies</p> <p>Litherland High School will be the lead for Science and Modern Foreign Languages</p> <p>b. Budget</p> <p>Stephen Dewhurst distributed the following documents to Board members:</p>				

	<p>Year to Date – June 2015 MAT Consolidated Budget AY 15-16</p> <p>All budgets have now been approved by their school’s Governing Bodies.</p> <p>The Heath School’s carry forward is much lower than originally predicted. This has highlighted the need to claim the monies for the additional accommodation costs that have been incurred as a result of the delay in building the new school. There has also been a massive reduction in funding for 2015-16 due to student numbers. The Heath received funding for 100 students last year, but this year the funding has been halved.</p> <p>Also, student numbers in the other years are down this year; due to low birth rate numbers beginning to filter through.</p> <p><i>Q: Has the accommodation issues affected Sixth Form student numbers?</i> <i>A: Yes, it has impacted.</i></p> <p>c. External Auditors</p> <p>Stephen Dewhurst explained to the Board the tendering process that had taken place to appoint the new External Auditors. He reported that the successful company was Howard Worth. The auditing programme has been agreed, and they will complete their audit for this year by 27th November 2015. This will ensure that there is enough time to check, agree</p>				
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	<p>and sign off all necessary paperwork before the submission deadline in December.</p> <p>The finance teams from all the schools will have an opportunity to meet the auditors on the 2nd September.</p> <p>d. Academy Improvement Partners (AIP)</p> <p>Heather Mullaney reported that she has received all responses back from the Principals/Chairs of Governors/ AIPs regarding the AIP programme this year. It was unanimous that everyone wished the programme to continue into 2015-16.</p> <p>Board members also agreed that the AIP programme had been of great benefit to all the schools and the trust.</p>				
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Meeting closed at 11.00 am

These minutes are approved as a true record of the meeting

Signed:

[Peter Cook]

Date: 12th November 2015

Chair's initials to record approval of minutes:

Date: 12.11.15