



# Twickenham Academy

a Learning School

**MINUTES of the fifth meeting of Twickenham Academy Council held at Twickenham Academy, Percy Road, Twickenham TW2 6JW on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at 7.00 pm**

**PRESENT:**

**ACADEMY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Alison Edwards	LBRUT Officer
Jackie Johnson	Staff
John Baumber	LST Chief Executive
Nick Jones	Principal
Roger Hackett	LBRUT Member nomination
Sue Allingham	Parent
Trevor Clarke	Parent – in the Chair

**APOLOGIES:**

Abbie Prior	Student Member
Jason Vaughnley	Co-opted
Karen Bridger	Co-opted
Patricia Hamzahee	LST Director
Steve Bolingbroke	LST Action Services Director
Thalu Masindi	Student Member

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chris Hartley	Clerk
Phil Davies	Associate Principal
Sarah Brightman	Gateway

**1. INTRODUCTIONS, NOTICE, APOLOGIES & QUORUM**

- 1.1 Apologies for absence from the following Academy Council members were accepted: Abbie Prior, Jason Vaughnley, Karen Bridger, Patricia Hamzahee, Steve Bolingbroke, and Thalu Masindi.
- 1.2 The meeting was declared open. It was noted that there was not a quorum for any matters requiring a vote.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 2.1 Trevor Clarke invited Council Members to declare any interests in accordance with sections 177 and 182 of the Companies Act.
- 2.2 The following potential conflicts of interest were declared:
  - Sue Allingham and Trevor Clarke having students who attended the Academy
  - Jackie Johnson and Nick Jones being employees of LST
  - Alison Edwards being an employee of LBRUT
  - Roger Hackett being a trustee of Strawberry Hill Trust, a provider of education services to local schools

**3. GATEWAY REPORT**

- 3.1 Sarah Brightman reported that Clarendon Special School and the Gateway Centre had been Ofsted inspected last week, and while the report was awaited the inspectors had said that the judgement would be Good with Outstanding characteristics.
- 3.2 There were currently 15 students at the Centre, 3 of whom would be moving out of Year 11 at the end of term, one to Richmond College, one to West Thames College and one to a residential placement in Gloucestershire. Two students were serial non-attenders.
- 3.3 Nick Jones reported that the SLA with Clarendon had been reviewed a few weeks ago and both sides were happy that the move to Clarendon was proving beneficial.
- 3.4 In response to a question from Sue Allingham Sarah confirmed that the multi-agency team had regular meetings with Hounslow to discuss their placements at the centre, and it was a key objective to improve relationships with Hounslow and Kingston.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

- 4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were **agreed** as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4.2 Matters Arising & updates:

**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

3.8 Observations	Academy Council members to observe lessons	John Baumber reported that LST was continuing to develop a lesson observation and AC member visits
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		protocol across the three Academies
3.10 Training	LST to organise Academy Council member training across LST Academies. Survey of need in progress	Roger Hackett reported that he had attended safeguarding training led by Andrea Atkinson
7.3 Portal Access	LST to ensure arrangements are in place for students without internet access at home to be able to access the portal	John Baumber confirmed that all students who needed Portal access had it. 90% of students had internet access at home and measures were in place for the minority without it

## 5. DRAFT QUALITY REVIEW

- 5.1 John Baumber and Nick Jones introduced the Quality Review of Activity Plan 2010-11, which the Academy Council discussed in tandem with the findings of the first surveys of pupils, parents and staff, which had been conducted in a common format across the LST schools in England.
- 5.2 Consistent Implementation of Pedagogy and Organisational Approaches: a number of these actions remained to be worked through as there were still different skill levels among staff and tutors, but those who had been to Sweden had this as their key development area.
- 5.3 Effective Organisation: this section dealt with developing the College structure before the new buildings were completed. Next year each College would have its own Learning Hub. IAG had been enhanced with the development of U-Explore which Year 9 tutors were enthusiastic about, which John Baumber explained was a consequence of the loss of Connexions.
- 5.4 Best Results: a number of good appointments had been made, especially to underperforming departments, and there was a massive range of intervention strategies, such as Super Saturdays, for which English and Maths remained the focus.
- 5.5 Best Teachers and Support Staff: the LST audit last week had judged 70% of lessons observed Good or Outstanding, and 10 out of 52 Outstanding, leading to real progress on teaching and learning. All NQTs had been to Sweden and there was a successful programme in place to develop middle leaders aspiring to be senior leaders.
- 5.6 High Quality Leadership: best practice was shared across LST academies in England and Sweden. On 8<sup>th</sup> July all staff across the three Academies would be working together in subject teams. Support for base group tutors was a key area for development from the staff survey.
- 5.7 Satisfied Parents and Students: parent perceptions were predominantly positive, with some areas of concern in Year 10. Communication with parents was improving through use of the EDS system, the website, open evenings and the Pedagogical Café. Concerns about meals were noted.
- 5.8 Sustained Development and Strong Support: Nick Jones commented that the central services team was evolving, with the appointment of a Services

Director responsible for finance across the three Academies. Shortly there would be one computer per student, a Network Manager in post and ICT support across the Academies would be strengthened. The temporary buildings would be ICT rich.

## **6. LST AUDIT**

- 6.1 John Baumber reported on the audit of the three LST Academies that had been conducted the previous week, led by Warren Wilkinson, a LBRUT inspector and member of Hampton Academy Council, who had been joined by Alison Edwards, the Principals of the three Academies and Swedish colleagues.
- 6.2 The outcome had been a judgement of Satisfactory for Twickenham Academy, but 10 judgements including the most important – capacity to improve – had been Good. Some excellent teaching had been observed, especially in sports, but in common with the other Academies learning was lagging behind quality of teaching and this was being addressed. Behaviour had been judged Good around the school, and exclusions had declined following introduction of the Intervention Centre.
- 6.3 Academy Council members congratulated staff on the outcome of the audit. The written report would be circulated to Academy Council members before the end of term.

## **7. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- 7.1 Nick's report was accepted by the meeting. The following matters were raised.
- 7.2 Gifted and Talented Newsletter: this had been circulated and members commended the breadth and quality of provision at a time when LA support was declining. It was noted that Sally Paggetti was asking to retire and members asked that their thanks to her be noted.
- 7.3 Building Programme: Nick reported that the temporary learning centres had been installed and demolition work had started. Nick was requesting two additional non-teaching days to allow staff to prepare for the move into temporary accommodation, one at the end of term and one at the start of the next. The reception area had moved and the loss of parking spaces and noise from the work had upset some staff. Planning permission had been requested for the temporary move of some community sports facilities to Orleans Park while the building was in progress, and Trevor Clarke emphasised the importance of communication with local neighbours about any changes or disruption that may affect them.
- 7.4 Attendance: Nick Jones pointed out the threshold of persistent absences was now below 6%. Roger Hackett commented that the improvement in Year 11 attendance was particularly impressive.

## **8. PARENT COUNCIL REPORT**

- 8.1 Trevor Clarke reported that 30 parents had attended the meeting, the issues raised included an update on the building programme and sixth form developments, for which there had been strong support. The minutes were on the website.

8.2 Parents Evenings: there had been some complaints at the Parents Council meeting about the lack of time for meetings with teachers. Nick Jones said that other means of involving parents were being developed, including email.

**9. STUDENTS' COUNCIL REPORT**

9.1 In the absence of student members this item was deferred.

**10. BUDGET REPORT P8**

10.1 Steve Bolingbroke had circulated the Twickenham Academy budget summary for period 8 of 2010/11, which was noted.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 Sixth Form Developments: John Baumber updated members on discussions about the introduction of sixth forms in Richmond secondary schools and the proposals that were being developed by LST. LST could apply directly to the Secretary of State to develop collaborative sixth form provision at Hampton and Twickenham and this process had begun, with a proposal going to the LST Board next week, for a start in 2012 based on each Academy's specialisms. There was capacity in the Twickenham new build for this, less so at Hampton. Members commented that the poor transport links between the two Academies could constrain these developments.

11.2 Dress Code: Trevor Clarke asked how the dress code, particularly girls' skirt length, was enforced, and Nick Jones said that there were occasional purges. Following a discussion it was agreed to ask the Students' Council to comment.

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

12.1 To be agreed – exam results review before half term, followed by the Academy Council meeting after half term.

**13. CLOSE**

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed by the Chair: .....

Date: .....