

Committee	Dated:
Education Board	19 July 2019
Subject: Update on Governors for Schools (Co No 03879854) (Charity No 1078330) employability project	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Jeanne Barnard, Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report provides Members with an update on the employability project Governors for Schools is working on which the Education Board has funded. A report by Governors for Schools on the project's progress is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. At its meeting on 9 November 2017, the Education Board approved funding to Governors for Schools (formerly SGOSS) of £24,340 from City's Cash for an employability project. Further approval for the project was provided under urgency after more information was provided by Governors for Schools.
2. The project's objective is to create a suite of high-quality, e-learning modules covering the subject of employability, as well as establishing Link Governors for Employability across London schools with supporting resources.

Current Position

3. The progress report by Governors for Schools (GfS) attached at **Appendix 1** provides an overview of the progress of the project. GfS has made good progress towards the KPI's of the project, including a successful launch event in February 2018 which was opened by the Chairman of the Education Board.
4. GfS has also launched its first suite of e-learning modules in mid-June, which provides training for primary and secondary school governors on how they can drive employability in their schools. Next steps include further engagement events to increase awareness of the project and hosting a webinar for schools on employability in the autumn term.

Conclusion

5. This report provides Members with a progress report on the employability project run by Governors for Schools, which has been funded by the Education Board.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Progress report from Governors for Schools

Background Papers

Education Board report – Funding approval for Governors for Schools (Co No 03879854) (Charity No 1078330)

Jeanne Barnard

Education Policy Officer

T: 020 7332 1864

E: jeanne.barnard@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Progress report for the City of London: 29th June 2018

Prepared by: William Durham – Project Lead at Governors for Schools

Background to project:

Aims and Objectives:

- To provide the business case to support the importance of engagement between schools and businesses.
- To identify opportunities for governors to drive employability outcomes through their schools and encourage them to open up employability opportunities for students.
- To provide resources that help prepare governors for their role in driving engagement between businesses and schools.
- To up-skill governors to be able to help students understand the world of work and what they need to do to get a job.
- To provide opportunities that will impact on the outcomes of young people.

KPIs

1. Aim to engage a minimum of ten employers to work with governors/schools to provide work-related opportunities to students.
2. Aim to engage a minimum of 100 governors to actively look to open up employability opportunities for students.
3. Aim to engage a minimum of 50 schools to actively engage with businesses.
4. Produce a suite of online resources to support the aims and objectives of this proposal. These materials will be produced using input from all stakeholders and subject matter experts. All materials will be quality assured and agreed with the City of London Corporation.

What have we done?

On Monday 19th February 2018 we held a successful launch event at Guildhall Art Gallery to announce that our website support section for Employability Link Governors had gone live.

In keeping with the original aims and purpose, these resources included:

- The Business Cases for employer engagement at primary and secondary level – and the importance of governors opening up their own links within their networks
- Role descriptions for governor responsible for employer engagement – primary and secondary
- Information on existing employability services that can be accessed, and links to these
- Suggestions and examples of best practise for linking careers to the curriculum
- Case studies from schools, volunteers and corporates showcasing existing work

We have collaborated with a number of organisations to strengthen these resources, including:

- Schools across London
- Founders4Schools
- Team London – and London Enterprise Advisor Network. The resources and e-learning have been shared with schools with Enterprise Advisors
- London Councils – e-learning shared with all councillors by their Head of Careers
- Accenture, HMRC, Lloyds Banking Group (advice), Allen & Overy, Cicero Group,
- Careers and Enterprise Company

We have also developed an E-Learning module designed to help governors provide challenge and support to schools with delivering their careers strategy. This was launched in mid-June 2018.

We held a webinar for primary school governors on 23rd April with a school leader and a link governor

sharing their expertise.

We have written to over 800 schools across London to share our resources and encourage them to provide feedback and engage with us about the work they are doing in this field. We wrote to them once in October, with the agreed flyer, and then more recently in June with the e-learning module and requesting feedback.

Progress towards targets:

Google Analytics of website:

Since going live on 19/02/18 the Employability resources section of our website has been visited 636 times, with 507 of these being unique users.

E-learning starts and completions:

37 people have started the module so far, with 14 completions, over a 3 week period.

We have collected 7 **case studies** across our three main stakeholder categories. As the project continues we will continue to request and collect these to help build a stronger library of good practice and build towards the stated aim of 10 per stakeholder category (schools, volunteers, employers.)

Comment on KPI's in original proposal:

Governors have been inspired to realise their own potential in helping open up business and have been signing up via organisations such as Founders4Schools to help others.

Over a 100 serving governors have engaged with the campaign – from launch party, to webinars and helping provide feedback on resources/provision in their schools. These governors are at different schools across London.

A suite of online resources has been produced – and will be reviewed in Summer 2018 to update with new developments in sector.

The feedback that has been collected is positive and people are appreciative of the increased focus on the governor role and support provided

What's next?

The Autumn term will include:

- A webinar for secondary level governors
- A networking event with notable speakers – to be held in second half of September
- Further collaboration eg. Louise Cooper (CEO) to meet with Claudia Harris (CEO of Careers and Enterprise Company)
- Exploring working with EY Foundation on their work in this field and combining strengths and audience
- Chasing up case studies to strengthen this section of the website