

EDUCATION BOARD

Thursday, 4 December 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Education Board held at Committee Room - 2nd Floor
West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 4 December 2014 at 4.00 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chairman)	Alderman Jeffrey Evans
Henry Colthurst (Deputy Chairman)	Stuart Fraser
Deputy John Bennett	Virginia Rounding
Roy Blackwell	Alderman William Russell
Nigel Challis	Ian Seaton
Jude Chin	David Taylor
Revd Dr Martin Dudley	Philip Woodhouse
Alderman Peter Estlin	

Officers:

Peter Lisley	Assistant Town Clerk
Alistair MacLellan	Town Clerk's Department
David Pack	Town Clerk's Department
Peter Kane	Chamberlain
Ade Adetosoye	Community & Children's Services
Gerald Mehrtens	Community & Children's Services
Mark Jarvis	Chamberlain's Department
Jennifer Allott	Departmental Business Manager, Open Spaces Department
Sharon Ament	Director of the Museum of London
Joshua Burton	Community & Children's Services
Sean Gregory	Barbican Centre
Professor Barry Iffe	Principal, Guildhall School of Music and Drama

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The following standing declarations were made relating to the other bodies which Members of the Education Board served on.

Deputy John Bennett

Board of Governors City of London Freemen's School
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Nigel Challis

Board of Governors of the City of London School for Girls

Board of Governors The City Academy, Hackney
Castle Baynard Educational Foundation & Alderman Samuel Wilson Fund
Chartered Institute of Securities and Investment Educational Foundation
Oxford University Council Integrity Committee

Henry Colthurst

Board of Governors, Mossbourne Community Academy
Board of Mossbourne Federation
Member of Court of the Worshipful Company of Grocers

Revd Dr Martin Dudley

Board of Governors City of London School for Girls

Alderman Peter Estlin

Treasurer, Bridewell Royal Hospital - King Edward's School, Witley

Alderman Jeffrey Evans

Board of Governors City of London Academy – Islington
St Paul's Chorister Trust
Council of Almoners, Christ's Hospital

Deputy Catherine McGuinness

Board of Governors The City Academy, Hackney
Castle Baynard Educational Foundation & Alderman Samuel Wilson Fund
United Westminster Schools Foundation
Board of School Governors and Council or Almoners, Christ's Hospital
Barbican Centre Board
Guildhall School Development Fund

Deputy McGuinness noted in relation to item 6 that her daughter was a student at Guildhall School of Music and Drama and had passed through Junior Guildhall as well as playing in the London Schools Symphony Orchestra. Deputy McGuinness also noted she was a trustee of the Epping Forest Centenary Trust.

Virginia Rounding

Board of Governors City of London School for Girls
Board of Governors The City Academy – Hackney
Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Management Committee

Alderman William Russell

Board of Governors City of London School for Girls
Board of Governors of Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Board of Governors Knightsbridge Schools International
Board of Governors Knightsbridge School
Court of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers
Trustee of Place2Be

Ian Seaton

Board of Governors City of London School

Board of Governors Bridewell Royal Hospital
Donation Governor Christ's Hospital

Philip Woodhouse

Board of Governors of the City of London Freeman's School
Board of Mossbourne Federation
Mossbourne Victoria Park Academy, Hackney
Chairman of Governors of Wellesley House School
Member of the Court of Worshipful Company of Grocers

3. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 16 October 2014 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

Annual Activities and Outcomes Report

The Chairman noted that a report outlining Year-1 activities and outcomes would be submitted to the January meeting of the Board.

Appointment of Members to Governing Bodies

Members of the Board discussed the process of appointment of individuals to governing bodies, noting that a database of names should be maintained and reviewed at least twice a year, and that a pool be opened of candidates coming from business and the Livery in addition to the Court of Common Council.

Livery Schools Link

The Chairman noted that the contingency application to the Policy & Resources Committee had been approved at its meeting on 6 November 2014.

Governor Appointment to the City of London Academy Islington

The Director of Community and Children's Services noted that he would be informing the City of London Academy Islington that the Reverend Dr Martin Dudley had been nominated by the Court of Common Council to the academy's board at the Court meeting on 4 December 2014. In response, a member expressed concern at the length in time between the Education Board's recommendation in October 2014 and the Court of Common Council's approval in December 2014.

4. **EDUCATION STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT**

The Board received an update report on recent activity in the delivery of the Education Strategy 2013-5.

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5. **EDUCATION OUTREACH - ENGAGING EVERY SCHOOL CHILD**

The Education Board received a report of the Director of the Museum of London on education outreach work undertaken by both the Museum of London and its partners in the Learning and Engagement Forum (LEF). She noted that activity undertaken by the museum itself could be broken down into two strands. The first strand was formal outreach activity undertaken through school

curricula, and the second was informal engagement through day-to-day courses and lectures.

The Director went on to outline the wider activity of the LEF, a collection of ten cultural organisations maintained in whole or in part by the City of London Corporation that sought to make a marked difference in young peoples' lives. The ten organisations had a broad mix of skills and specialisms that, collectively, provided a rich cultural offering.

She then noted that the Museum alone was engaging directly with around 300,000 pupils each year, and had drawn up several work areas with which the City of London Corporation could increase its education portfolio and influence on education throughout London. The first of these was 'hard education' on topics such as homophobia, racism and gang culture. The second involved partnership working with the London Metropolitan Archives to draw up a business case for a refreshed Great Fire of London website in time for the anniversary celebrations in 2016, a piece of work whose importance was underlined by the popularity of the current Great Fire of London website which, whilst receiving 1.7m hits per year, was also in need of refreshing and updating. The third strand was the plan to establish a School Visits Fund to provide small grants to London schools to assist them in organising visits to members of the LEF and the City.

The Director went on to respond to several questions and comments put to her by the Board.

- It was not yet clear whether the hard education would be primarily virtual or desk-based. Officers were currently working with teachers to identify the level of demand.
- The commemoration of the Great Fire would involve a host of issues that had contemporary relevance, including refugee camps, organisational and urban resilience, and civil evacuation. Moreover the commemoration fell over a weekend (2-5 September 2016) which gave the commemoration massive potential to involve large numbers of people.
- Members noted that there were several structures within the City that pre-dated the Great Fire; that the City of London Guides should be consulted in any planning for the commemoration.

RESOLVED, that Members:

- Note the report and the progress made to date on education outreach; and
- Support the programme of the Learning & Engagement Forum as a mechanism of delivery of strategic objectives, particularly the projects identified within the report.

6. BARBICAN CENTRE AND GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA - CREATIVE LEARNING AND OUTREACH

The Board received a presentation from the Principal of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on the work of the School. The Principal noted that the

School, which had been founded in 1880, had been ranked as the premier institution of its kind for the previous two years and currently had 970 students on its roll.

He went on to note the School had been made a Higher Education Institution (HEI) in 2006 which meant that it was now in receipt of public funding. Given that the School had no charter, it operated under an instrument provided by the Privy Council which was subject to audit. The last audit had awarded the School degree-awarding powers.

The Principal went on to state the School's main aim was to train the most promising actors and musicians, and that the current breakdown in composition was 50:50 between UK national and international students. He added that the School also engaged with musicians under the age of 18 through Junior Guildhall and the Centre for Young Musicians, of which 10% of places were nationally funded. He noted that long term sustainability and cost were an issue, as well as the reputational risk posed by achieving quality assurance at a time when arts organisations as a whole were under pressure to do more with less.

The Principal then responded to some questions from Members of the Board.

- It was not possible to offset cost through increased fees as undergraduate fees were subject to a cap, and postgraduate fees were subject to market pressure.
- There was no conflict between catering to talent and nurturing talent as the School built pathways for both students with existing talent and students with potential. Moreover the School was open to all comers.
- The Junior Guildhall's provision of drama was deliberately limited given the existing amount of provision of drama in schools.
- The Principal agreed that under-18 provision across Junior Guildhall, Centre for Young Musicians, the Barbican and in particular the youth ensembles could benefit from further coordination, and that this was an issue he would welcome some direction on.

The Board went on to receive a report of the Director of Creative Learning at the Barbican Centre and Guildhall School. The Director noted that the Creative Learning Division (CLD) at the Barbican and Guildhall School had been in place for five years and launched its manifesto to help young people find their creative voice in September 2014.

He added that East London had always been a natural emphasis for the outreach work of the Barbican and Guildhall School, and that areas of deprivation in those boroughs meant it was an exciting area for encouraging access to the arts. He noted that the strength of the Barbican and Guildhall School was its cross-discipline offer, and its focus on sustainable projects such as the Barbican Box Film and Music projects, where the Creative Learning Division worked to embed projects in schools for an extended period of time. Work to evaluate the impact of the projects as a whole was being undertaken to establish the return on investment that they offered.

The Director responded to some questions from Members of the Board.

- The CLD engaged with schools that were hard to reach through working with the East London Partnership, who identified schools for the CLD to work with. Moreover OFSTED offered assistance in engagement.
- The CLD regarded City Corporation-affiliated schools as one of its priorities and therefore worked closely with all three City Academies.

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7. OPEN SPACES EDUCATION STRATEGY

The Open Spaces Departmental Business Manager introduced a report on the City of London Corporation's Education Strategy. She gave some context to the adoption of a new Open Spaces Education Strategy, noting that it had been agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee that some savings could be made through the reduction of education provision at Hampstead Heath, the City Gardens and West Ham Park.

She went on to note that the new Open Spaces Education Strategy had three aims: to improve partnership working, provide more targeted education, and to deepen the involvement of the Open Spaces Department in the provision of education through providing a strategy for delivery throughout the year instead of the current site-by-site provision. Moreover the adoption of the new Open Spaces Education Strategy was in response to the adoption of the City of London Corporation's wider Education Strategy and reflected the Open Spaces wider involvement in the Learning & Engagement Forum. She concluded by noting that the scale of planned education provision would be subject to a successful application the City Bridge Trust. In response to a question from the Chairman she confirmed that sports provision had been deliberately excluded from the strategy, though added that this was another area in which the Open Spaces provided significant facilities to local communities.

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8. EDUCATION STRATEGY - STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

The Chairman introduced a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services on the delivery of strategic objective 3 of the Education Strategy, *to inspire children through an enriched education and outreach opportunities*. The Board went on to discuss how work that was currently being done met the aims of the strategy, and how the strategy could be amended to better address corporate objectives.

- It would be helpful to have more demographic data to inform improvement.
- The strategy needed to discuss partnership working.
- The strategy needed to identify City of London Corporation education assets that could be utilised more strategically, such as playing fields.

- The strategy should have more emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) as well as arts and culture.
- The Education Board should be mindful that, from a strategic perspective, it was still fact-finding and gaining an understanding of the City Corporation's education portfolio.
- The strategy should reinforce the value of the Board's ability to maintain a holistic overview of the education offer. It should reference the potential for the use of the City Bridge Trust as a resource and call for greater involvement from the Livery.
- The strategy should mention sport.
- The strategy should be clearer on the Education Board's scope, and how the strategic aims were being implemented.

9. **REVENUE BUDGETS 2015/16**

The Head of Finance introduced a report on Revenue Budgets for 2015/16. He noted that it was not a detailed allocation of monies to the City Academies, which would be the subject of a further report to the Board at a future meeting.

RESOLVED, that Members

- Approve the Revenue Budget for 2015/16 for submission to the Finance Committee;
- Authorise the Chamberlain to revise the budgets to allow for further implications arising from the agreement by the Education Board of specific allocations of funding to Academies and Central Support Services.

10. **EXPANSION OF SIR JOHN CASS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Education and Early Years Manager introduced a report on the expansion of the Sir John Cass Primary School, noting that the City of London Corporation had currently secured around £4.5m towards the expansion of the school to a two-form of entry (2FE).

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11. **EDUCATION OF PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN IN THE CITY OF LONDON**

The Education Board received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services on the education of primary aged children in the City of London.

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12. **ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

The Education Board received a report of the Town Clerk on actions taken since the last meeting.

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13. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

14. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

There were no items of urgent business.

15. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act as follows:-

Item(s)	Paragraph(s)
16-19	3

16. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2014 were approved as a correct record.

17. **NOMINATIONS WORKING GROUP REPORT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL MEMBERS**

The Board considered a report of the Town Clerk and Director of Community and Children's Services on the appointment of external members of the Board.

18. **NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were no questions.

19. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 5.45 pm

Chairman

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