

EDUCATION BOARD

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Education Board held at Committee Room 3 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Tuesday, 16 April 2024 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Caroline Haines	John Griffiths
Naresh Hari Sonpar (Chairman)	Joanna Tufuo Abeyie
Deputy Shravan Joshi	Faseun
Luis Felipe Tilleria	Mary Robey

In Attendance

Catherine McGuinness

Officers:

Deborah Bell	- Community & Children's Services Department
Scott Caizley	- Community & Children's Services Department
Jack Joslin	- The City Bridge Trust
Emily Rimington	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Torriano Stewart	- Community & Children's Services Department
Chandni Tanna	- Town Clerk's Department
Jayne Moore	- Town Clerk's Department
Judith Finlay	- Executive Director, Community and Children's Services
Barbara Hamilton	- Community and Children's Services Department
Vasima Patel	- Community and Children's Services Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Lyons and from Steve Goodman.

The following Members observed the meeting online: Alderman Robert Howard, James Adeleke, Floyd Steadman, Ruby Sayed, and Benjamin Murphy.

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

There were no declarations.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED, That Naresh Sonpar be elected Chair of the Education Board.

4. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

RESOLVED, That John Griffiths be elected Deputy Chair.

5. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, That the public minutes of the meeting of 05 February 2024 be approved as a correct record.

6. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

RESOLVED, That the Terms of Reference be approved for submission to the April meeting of the Court of Common Council.

7. **UPDATE: ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEADERS**

The Board heard an update from the Headmaster of City of London Freeman's School on the Association of School and College Leaders.

8. **CITY PREMIUM GRANT APPLICATIONS 2024-25**

The Board heard an update on City Premium Grants 2024-25.

9. **GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS UPDATE**

RESOLVED, That Members

1. Note that the City of London Academies Trust (CoLAT) Board of Trustees ratified new appointments to Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) at their meeting on 21 March 2024, as detailed in paragraph 2 of the report;
2. Approve the appointment of Peter Green as Chair of the Newham Collegiate Sixth Form College LGB, subject to CoLAT approval; and
3. Note the DfE governance guides which now serve as the DfE's primary source of governance information, replacing the Governance Handbook.

10. **LONDON CAREERS FESTIVAL - REPORT**

Members heard an update on the London Careers Festival.

11. **CITY SKILLS OFFER MAPPING**

Members noted the report of the Director of Community and Children's Services Department.

12. **EDUCATION, CULTURAL AND CREATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS UPDATE**

Members noted the report of the Director of Community & Children's Services updating Members on recent events and activities delivered across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills, together with the calendar of forums and events across the 2023-24 academic year.

13. **CULTURAL & CREATIVE LEARNING FUNDING APPLICATIONS 2024-25**

The Board considered the report of the Department of Community & Children's Services presenting Members with key information relating to the second year of

the City's Cultural and Creative Learning (CCL) funding model, noting that the applications relate to funding for July 2024/25.

The Board noted that applications for 14 projects have been received and reviewed, with a combined associated cost of £255,984 (the total pot available is £190,000).

RESOLVED, That Members

1. Delegate authority to the Chair and the Strategic Education and Skills Director (in consultation with the Town Clerk, where appropriate) to distribute the CCL funds to the relevant cultural partners; and
2. Recommend that 11 out of 14 of the applications be awarded funding from the CCL budget in line with the recommendations set out in the report.

14. APPRENTICESHIP ACADEMY UPDATE

Members noted the updates on the Apprenticeship Academy at CoLA Highbury Grove.

15. EQUITY AWARDS PRESENTATION FROM GOLDSMITH'S, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Members viewed a presentation from Goldsmith's, University of London.

16. A NEW DIRECTION - PRESENTATION

Members viewed a presentation delivered by A New Direction.

17. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

18. COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS REPORT - CITY OF LONDON FREEMEN'S SCHOOL

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business.

20. 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	Paragraph

21. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, That the non-public minutes of the meeting of 05 February be approved as an accurate record of the proceedings.

22. THE CITY EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND (CHARITY NO. 290840) GRANT RECOMMENDATION AND MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Board considered the report of the Managing Director of the City Bridge Foundation detailing a funding assessment of a proposal from A New Direction (Charity No. 1126216) for the CETF following on from the pilot phase to build a cultural arts programme within London's primary schools to enhance the education and teaching in and of the cultural arts for the public benefit.

RESOLVED, That Members acting collectively for the City of London Corporation as Trustee of the City Educational Trust Fund ("CETF") (290840) and, in relation to each decision, being satisfied that it is in the best interests of the charity concerned,

1. Note the output of the £650,000 pilot phase work to-date; and
2. Consider and approve the expenditure of CETF unrestricted income funds towards a grant of £3,649,998 across a 48-month period to A New Direction (Charity No. 1126216) in accordance with the proposal summarised at paragraphs 15 of the report and assessed at Appendix 1 of the report.

23. EDUCATION STRATEGY UPDATE 2024-29

24. *DUE DILIGENCE REPORT AND NEXT STEPS: LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL

The Board considered the report of the Strategic Director of Education and Skills and of the CEO of the City of London Academies Trust.

The Board noted the following items agreed at the CoLAT Board meeting of 21 March 2024:

- CoLAT Trustees seek approval in principle from the sponsor to make the final decision on whether and when CoLAT should enter into a supplementary funding agreement with LNS in line with the legal advice on liability from Bates Wells (Appendix 9), which states unequivocally that there is no financial liability or risk ascribed to the City of London Corporation as sponsor;
- LNS, supported by CoLAT, is to undertake a formal Section 10 consultation to begin on 1 April 2024, lasting four weeks - a legal requirement which is necessary prior to any conversion;
- TheTrust will not enter into a supplementary funding agreement until formal approval of an SSIB bid from the DfE is given to address the high priority building defects identified in this report, **and** that the scoping of the agreed rebuild includes all the secondary priority items identified in this report;
- During this period, and prior to signing any funding agreement, the school, the DfE or the Trust may decide to withdraw from or suspend the

process at any time; this is therefore still not a final commitment for LNS to join CoLAT by any specific date; and

- The final supplementary funding agreement should be entered into between CoLAT (including the sponsor), the ESFA and the school. It was suggested that CoLAT Members be involved in that decision so that sponsor interests are fully represented.

RESOLVED, That the Education Board support the recommendations from the CoLAT Board and table a paper to the next Policy and Resources Committee to that effect.

25. **CHAIRS' UPDATES**

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

There were no questions.

27. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items of urgent business.

The Chairman welcomed the Chief Commoner to the meeting.

The meeting ended at 1.00 pm

Chairman

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