

**STANDARDS AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF LONDON**  
**ACADEMIES TRUST**

**Thursday, 2 May 2019**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Standards and Accountability Committee of the City of London Academies Trust held at the Guildhall EC2 at 9.00 am**

**Present**

**Members:**

Andrew McMurtrie

Roy Blackwell (Chairman)

Ann Holmes

Edward Benzecry

**Officers:**

Mark Emmerson

Kerry Nicholls

- Chief Executive Officer

- Town Clerk's Department

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Dhruv Patel.

The Chairman led the Committee in welcoming Edward Benzecry who had recently been appointed a Trustee of the City of London Academies Trust to the meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS**

Mark Emmerson declared that his son was employed as a sports coach by BADU Sports which was contracted to supply sports coaching at the City of London Academy, Highgate Hill.

**3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2019 be approved as a correct record.

**4. PARENT, COMMUNITY AND COMMERCIAL LINKS SURVEY RESULTS**

Trustees considered a report of the Chief Executive Officer outlining the results of the Parent, Community and Commercial Links Survey and the following points were made:

- The survey had been circulated to all Trust academies on 25 February 2019 to review the activities and processes in place to promote and maintain good parent, community and commercial links.
- Seven academies had responded to the survey, the findings of which would be shared with schools across the Trust. Schools would be supported to develop a plan to build stronger parent, community and commercial links with progress monitored via an annual survey.

- Good parent links had been identified as key to supporting schools to build positive relationships with parents and carers, and this could include parents' associations and forums.
- The survey wording should be reviewed to ensure schools were providing comparable data. For example, by requesting details of both the types and frequency of activities delivered, rather than the number.
- The survey identified that there were limited opportunities for parents to meet Governors. Raising the profile of Governors within schools would be a key element in strengthening the relationship between schools and parents and carers, and Governors should be encouraged to attend school events and activities where possible.
- The diversity of schools within the Trust meant that there were a number of cultural, geographical and scheduling factors that could act as a barrier to schools participating in activities or events, including student travel or events scheduled during exam or work experience periods. A Trustee suggested that Prefect dinners offered a good opportunity for schools to engage.
- Only four schools had reported that they currently took part in City of London events and it was important to ensure Trust schools were able to benefit from the unique opportunities offered by the City of London.
- Newham Collegiate Sixth Form did not have a nominated charity, and this was an area the school might consider exploring in developing community and commercial links.
- Social media would be a key tool in strengthening engagement between schools, parent and carers and pupils, as well as in building stronger commercial and community links.

In concluding, Trustees noted that the survey would be repeated on an annual basis to identify how parent, community and commercial links were developing and requested that the survey be provided to the Committee for consideration before it was circulated to schools in early 2020.

**RESOLVED**, that Trustees note the report.

5. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

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

There was no other business.

7. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED**, that the public be excluded from the following items of business.

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**  
**RESOLVED**, that the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2019 be approved as a correct record.
9. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**  
Trustees considered a report of the Clerk setting out outstanding actions from previous meetings.
10. **OFSTED DRAFT FRAMEWORK**  
Trustees heard the Chief Executive Officer regarding the Ofsted Draft Framework.
11. **STANDARDS CENTRAL FUNCTION - CHIEF STANDARDS OFFICER AND STANDARDS DIRECTORS**  
Trustees considered a report of the Chief Executive Officer regarding the Standards Central Function, including the roles of Chief Standards Officer and Standards Directors.
12. **ACADEMIES AT A GLANCE - ACADEMIES SUMMARY**  
Trustees considered a report of the Chief Executive Officer providing the 'Academies at a Glance' summary up to the end of the Spring 2019 term.
13. **TRUST SCHOOLS' ALTERNATIVE PROVISION - NEXT STEPS**  
Trustees considered a report of the Chief Executive Officer outlining next steps for Trust Schools' alternative provision.
14. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS**  
There were no non-public questions.
15. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED.**  
There was no urgent business.

**The meeting closed at 10.08 am**

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Chairman

**Contact Officer: [Kerry.Nicholls@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Kerry.Nicholls@cityoflondon.gov.uk)**