

Committee	Dated:
Education Board	05/03/2020
Subject: Governor Appointments Update	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Daniel McGrady, Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)	

Summary

This report asks Members to note that there have been no new governor appointments to governing bodies in the Family of Schools. The current governing body membership of the City Family of Schools is attached in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Governor appointments

1. There are no new governor appointments to governing bodies in the Family of Schools.

Upcoming vacancies on governing bodies

2. Members are asked to note that several governors on the Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) of schools which joined City of London Academies Trust (CoLAT) in September 2017 are on terms expiring in August 2020. This is the case for: City of London Primary Academy Islington (four governors); City of London Academy Shoreditch Park (seven governors); City of London Academy Highgate Hill (seven governors); and City of London Academy Highbury Grove (nine governors).
3. The CEO of CoLAT, Headteachers and the Chairs of Governors for each LGB have been engaged to ensure that due regard is given to succession planning. In the first instance, Chairs of Governors should ask the affected governors if they wish to extend their terms of office. This should be appropriately staggered to ensure that the terms end on successive years to ensure that the same level of upcoming vacancies is not postponed to another year.
4. The role of the Education Board in regard to a vacancy on a CoLAT LGB is to be consulted and to nominate suitable candidates. Members of the Education Board will therefore be contacted should vacancies be confirmed and will be asked to nominate suitable candidates with regards to the skill requirements of the LGB.
5. To support CoLAT in the event of vacancies, the Education Strategy Unit are currently working closely with the City Corporation's Corporate Volunteering Team to advertise being a governor to City Corporation employees (including in departments such as Guildhall School of Music and Drama and City of London Police) and to Members. Governors for Schools will also be contacted to support filling vacancies should they arise.

Family of Schools Governance Review Update

6. At the Education Board meeting on 18 July 2019, Members endorsed a series of recommendations from the Education Board to the relevant decision-making committees of the Family of Schools in regard to their governance arrangements. The recommendations were based on ensuring compliance, aligning with best practice, and simplifying the governance structures.
7. At their meeting on 12 December 2019, the CoLAT Board of Trustees discussed the recommendations relating to CoLAT LGBs and approved the implementation of the following recommendations:
 - Establish a formal process for consulting the sponsor on nominations to LGB vacancies.
 - Establish a regular cycle for annual governance reviews (e.g. schemes of delegation a terms of reference), skills reviews and reporting to sponsors.
 - Formalise support from sponsor(s) in ensuring good governance and continuing alignment of education objectives - invite the City Corporation's Strategic Director for Education, Culture and Skills and/or the Lead Policy Officer to attend the Trust Board meetings for relevant items.
 - CoLAT Board of Trustees requested a reciprocal arrangement with the Education Board.
 - Adopt a guideline template of no more than 12 individuals on their governing body selected based on required skills.
 - Adopt terms of office which run for a four-year term coinciding with the academic year (beginning in August/September and ending in July/August) up to a max of two four-year terms.
8. The CoLAT Board of Trustees did not approve the recommendation to appoint a minimum of two elected Members of the Court of Common Council (CCC) to each LGB. The Board of Trustees felt that this could be encouraged and enacted through appointment processes but should not be written into the Terms of Reference as it could lead to vacancies on LGBs if no CCC Members wish to serve.
9. The Education Strategy Unit have agreed with CoLAT that they will work to the Governance Review and Succession Cycle included in **Appendix 2** which enacts these recommendations.

Governing body membership across the Family of Schools

10. An updated list of governing body membership across the Family of Schools is included in **Appendix 1**. At the request of the Chair of the Education Board, the appointments for each governing body are organised by term-end date to support succession planning.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Governing body membership of the Family of Schools.

Appendix 2 – CoLAT Governance Review and Appointments Cycle.

Background papers

Education Board 18 July 2019 - Governance Review Recommendations (Non-Public)

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