

Committee:	Date:
Education Board	11 September 2014
Subject: Governor vacancy at City of London Academy, Islington	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
<p>Summary</p> <p>The Education Board is responsible for recommending the appointment of governors to the City's academies to the Court of Common Council. The Chairman of Governors at the City of London Academy, Islington (COLAI) has requested that the City provide a suitable nomination to fill the current vacancy for a City of London sponsor governor on the Governing Body of COLAI. It should be noted that the Chairmanship of the Governing Body for COLAI reverts to the City of London in the winter of 2016 and therefore the successful candidate may take on a leadership role.</p> <p>The Appointment of Governors Report, which has also been tabled at this meeting, proposes a process for appointing governors that suggests requesting relevant supporting information from the school. In this instance the Chairman of Governors has provided supporting information that is consistent with the information suggested in the Appointment of Governors Report.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>It is recommended that Members of the Education Board authorise Officers to seek expressions of interest from Members for the vacant position as a City of London sponsor governor on the Governing Body of COLAI, using the supporting information provided in this report and the application form appended to the Appointment of Governors Report (subject to any amendments made to the application form as part of the Education Board's consideration of the Appointment of Governors Report).</p>	

Main Report

Background

1. The Education Board is responsible for the oversight and monitoring of the City of London's sponsorship of its academies, including recommending to the Court of Common Council the appointment of governors.
2. The Chairman of Governors at the City of London Academy, Islington (COLAI) has requested that the City provide a suitable nomination to fill the current vacancy for a City of London sponsor governor on the Governing Body of

COLAI. The position has arisen following the recent decision by Deputy Richard Regan OBE to step down from the Governing Body.

3. It should be noted that the Chairmanship of the Governing Body for COLAI reverts to the City of London in the winter of 2016 and therefore the successful candidate could take on a leadership role.

Purpose

4. This paper provides Members of the Education Board with the supporting information that the school has submitted and proposes an appointment process to identify a suitable candidate for this position.

Appointment process

Supporting information

5. The Appointment of Governors Report, which has also been tabled for this meeting, proposes a process for appointing governors that includes requesting relevant supporting information from the school. In this instance the Chairman of Governors has provided supporting information that is consistent with the information suggested in the Appointment of Governors Report. The person specification is provided in paragraph 6 of this report and additional information is provided as Appendix 1 – COLAI school summary, and Appendix 2 – COLAI constitution of the Governing Body and time commitment.
6. The Chairman of Governors has indicated that the Board of Governors would benefit from the addition of a governor with the following skills and experience:
 - Direct experience and knowledge of pre-tertiary education (either in terms of governance or as a senior practitioner).
 - Experience and knowledge of governance – and leadership in governance.
 - An affinity towards a project which is transforming the education of local school students in Islington.
 - Sufficient time to provide the required commitment, support and challenge to the academy (Governing Body meetings; subcommittee meetings; panels; links; visits; engagement with leadership team etc).
 - Capacity to manage time flexibly – to perform duties and represent the Governing Body as and when required.

Application form

7. The Appointment of Governors Report recommends that candidates complete a standard application form for all governor appointments to enable the Education Board to assess their skills and suitability for the position. A proposed template is appended to the Appointment of Governors Report.

Candidates

8. If expressions of interest are sought from Members in September then the Education Board will be able to consider suitable candidates at its October meeting.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that Members of the Education Board authorise Officers to seek expressions of interest from Members for the vacant position as a City of London sponsor governor on the Governing Body of COLAI, using the supporting information provided in this report, its appendices, and the application form appended to the Appointment of Governors Report (subject to any amendments made to the application form as part of the Education Board's consideration of the Appointment of Governors Report).

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – COLAI school summary
- Appendix 2 – COLAI constitution of the Governing Body and time commitment

Background papers

Education Board Terms of Reference
Appointment of Governors Report

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