

Castle Academy

**Minutes of the Local Advisory Board meeting held on the 27th of September 2018, 18:00 at
Castle Academy, St George's Street, Northampton, NN1 2TR**

Agenda item	Discussion	Action
1. Present	<p>Present: Lorna Beard (Principal) Ruth Ryan (Vice-Principal; elected Staff governor) Richard Auger (TB appointed governor) Joshua Coleman (CEO: EMAT) Cameron Nixon Engel (TB appointed governor) Carole Kirby – minutes – (Head of Governance: EMAT)</p>	
2. Apologies	<p>Apologies had been received from: Katy Russell (Head of School Development: EMAT) Catherine Castillo-Soto (Elected parent governor)</p>	
3. Quoracy	The meeting was quorate with at least three governors present.	
4. Declarations of interest	There were no declarations of interest pertaining to this agenda in addition to those already recorded on the annual Register of Interests.	
5. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair	<p>RA put himself forward as Interim Chair of the Standards and performance committee and this was unanimously agreed. CNE put himself forward as interim Vice-chair of the Standards and Performance committee and this was unanimously agreed.</p>	CK – note

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<p>6. Achievement: latest results from last year (2017-18)</p>	<p>LB distributed the fft aspire KS2 dashboard for Castle Academy; Academy Data Overview document and Attainment Targets 2018-19.</p> <p>LB reported that the KS2 results were really pleasing with progress exceeding expectations. A governor asked which targets had been used to benchmark the results. The school's previous years; National standards and similar schools; Castle was compared with 125 other similar schools with similar outcomes at KS1. Progress is measured from KS1 to KS2. For the academic year 2016-17 Castle appeared 73rd in the table out of 125 similar schools. For this academic year (2017 – 18) Castle came in at 10th.</p> <p>The school moved in the following ways for the year 2017-18: Average progress score moved from 50th to 19th Maths progress score moved from 73rd to 25th Writing progress score moved from 10th to 14th Reading progress score moved from 77th to 28th Amount of progress made moved from 8th to 1st.</p> <p>LB had researched the results of the last few schools to be judged as Outstanding by Ofsted and if our results were placed within theirs then we would appear 6th on the list.</p> <p>A governor asked if the dip in Writing is significant. LB stated that the school has a spiky profile historically and that Writing is teacher assessed whereas Maths and Reading are based on</p>	

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	<p>written, and externally marked, assessments. Last year we did focus more on Reading.</p> <p>A governor asked what Castle may be doing that is different to other schools in order to achieve these results. We have robust discussions and we are not afraid to take risks with new initiatives. We make a judgement quickly as to whether a new initiative is working. The school has robust accountability procedures and strong leadership and we have created a trusting environment with a strong team and professional honesty. We empower each other to take considered risks. We know the community well and understand the gaps and barriers that our children have in their learning. We are very responsive to need and very adaptable.</p> <p>The fft report was considered useful to governors. LB explained that the Fischer Family Trust uses data from across the country to provide schools with contextualised information on their cohort of pupils aligning each school to a family of similar provision. It is very useful for benchmarking. Fft20 targets are those achieved by the top 20% of schools. Targets are mostly calculated using prior attainment but other factors such as mobility, SEND and EAL are also taken into account. Within the report red is a concern and green is good.</p> <p>There are two measures: expected standard in attainment and expected progress. LB warned the board that the figures have yet to be validated. Last year there were some new pupils into</p>	

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	<p>year 6 with EAL who may be disapplied.</p> <p>The scaled score is 100; that equates to the average measure across the country. In Reading and Maths Castle comes out at 104.7.</p> <p>70% of pupils reached the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths; this is likely to rise to 75% if the pupils mentioned before are disapplied. The National average is 64%.</p> <p>Our value added scaled score is 2.4+ which is significantly above the national average and our value added score for expected standard is 26%+; the national average is 0%.</p> <p>The board looked at the three- year trend. LB explained that a coasting school has low progress across three years. Students are expected to achieve at, or above, the 'floor standard'. In 2017 we had a weaker cohort but they still achieved progress measures above floor. Fft places Castle at 15th out of a family of 100 schools for average scaled score and at 3rd out of 100 for expected standards. Overall 2018 is much improved on previous years.</p> <p>A governor sought clarification that the school had looked at the 2017 figures to set the targets for 2018 and had considered the interventions then. Yes. The school wants substantial progress as well as attainment above floor. Lb explained that the remaining tables presented show a deeper analysis of progress and attainment at pupil level and for different cohorts within the year</p>	

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	<p>group. JC commented that the results displayed show that the school is performing well and has good strategies in place for future proofing; LB was heavily involved in supporting the NIA last year and this would have presented some disruption to pupils at Castle as well as the physical building disruptions that the school had to endure. The results indicate that LB had built a strong team. There followed a discussion about professional honesty and professional curiosity and the governor role which was about respectful challenge.</p> <p>LB noted that this year is a 'bulge' year and the school has 90 children instead of 60.</p> <p>A governor asked whether the LAC pupils had achieved expected progress. There were two Lac in the cohort; one achieved their target and one didn't.</p>	
7. Progress measured by year groups and stages	Progress of pupils across the school had been discussed at item 6.	
8. Measurement of Standards	LB informed the governors that moderation of teacher judgements is carried out through the school's geographical cluster group and through the Trust schools. Every teacher is moderated six times during the year.	
9. Pupil Targets	Attainment targets for 2108-19 have been set using FFT20 and by looking at the value added score to ensure they are aspirational.	

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	<p>Lb gave an overview of EYFS; trends had been analysed and the impact of pupil mobility evaluated. Pupils who did not achieve their target were identified so that teacher can work with them more closely.</p> <p>The Year 1 assessment (now year2 pupils) may have been overly cautious – RR is looking at the individual targets for each child to ensure no learning is lost and that targets reflect each pupil’s capabilities. Staff are encouraged to take ownership of the data.</p> <p>Whilst the school is concerned with getting all children to the expected standard, they are also concerned with getting the higher ability pupils to their aspirational targets.</p>	
10. Pupil Premium	<p>RR distributed the Pupil Premium Strategy and a document which outlined the progress made by PP children. The school has 105 pupils eligible for the funding.</p> <p>It was agreed that the PP Lead governor should arrange a meeting with the PP Staff Lead as an introduction to the subject and to explore the school’s strategies.</p> <p>CK will organise specific PP training for governors.</p>	<p>CCS to meet with RR</p> <p>CK organise training</p>
11. Quality of Teaching	<p>An overview of the quality of teaching had been presented in the full board meeting held earlier on this day.</p> <p>There had been one learning walk so far; middle leaders will start their observations this week. The benchmark is to have at least 80% of teaching as ‘good’ or better but Castle would like to exceed that.</p>	

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12. Curriculum	A review of the curriculum has been undertaken. New 'Learning Powers' will be introduced to pupils this term.	
13. Safeguarding matters	Safeguarding matters had been discussed in the full board meeting held earlier today.	
14. AOB	There was no other business.	
15. Date of next meeting	13/12/18 at 17:30 – Standards 17/01/19 at 17:30 – Full Board 28/02/19 at 17:30 – Standards 14/03/19 at 17:30 – Full Board 25/04/19 at 17:30 – Standards 13/06/19 at 17:30 – Full Board 18/07/19 at 16:00 – EOY Full Board	All note dates Calendar appointments have been sent

The meeting closed at 19:45