

<b>Group :</b>	BOARD	<b>Date:</b>	27/09/10
<b>Location:</b>	ROOM 11, SSFC	<b>Time:</b>	6.00 pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Vice-Principal Assistant Principal – Resources/Risk Assistant Principal – Curriculum and Information Services Clerk to the Corporation	<b>Apologies:</b>	Simon Keeble David Pulford
<b>Membership:</b>	Tim Jones (Chair), Adrian Bayling, Karen Burgoyne, Steve Cunningham, Harriet Davies, Anne Dokov, Chris Fountain, Cathryn Hodges, Simon Keeble, David Kilby, Tom Lee, Barbara McCormack, Penny Osborne, Geoff Parry, David Pulford, Robert Rosson, Martin Ward (Principal) and Dominic Wilson		

## PART I – OPEN ITEMS

### 1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

#### **Minutes**

### 2. Resolved:

- (a) That the open Minutes of the Board meeting held on 5 July 2010 be approved as a correct record.
- (b) That the confidential Minutes of the Board meeting held on 5 July be approved as a correct record.

### 3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

#### **Membership:**

#### **Appointment of Governors to Committees** (Appendix 1/10)

### 4. Resolved:

- (a) That the Appointments to Committees for the 2010/11 academic year, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved
- (b) That it be noted that minor adjustments would need to be made to the membership of Committees following the election for two parent governors

5. **Expiry of Terms of Office**

The Chair advised that this was the last meeting of Cathryn Hodges (independent Governor) and David Kilby (parent Governor) whose terms of office were shortly due to expire.

On behalf of the Board, he and the Principal thanked them for their valued contribution to the work of the Board and its Committees.

6. **Student Governors**

The Chair and Board welcomed Harriet Davies and Tom Lee who had been appointed student Governors for the 2010/11 academic year.

7. **Parent Governors**

The Principal advised that papers for the parent Governor election had been prepared and would be given out to parents/guardians during the tutorial sessions early in October 2010.

8. **Annual Timetable of Meetings** (Appendix 2/10)

The Annual Timetable of Business for the Board 2010/11 was submitted for information

9. **Attendance Record 2010/11** (Appendix 3/10)

The Attendance Record of Governors was submitted for information. It was noted that the overall attendance had increased to 85.7% compared to 83.5% in 2008/09 and was above the national benchmark of 75%

**Early Term Achievement Analysis** (Appendix 4/10)

The Vice-Principal submitted a report giving an early term report on achievements and advised that a more detailed analysis would be submitted to the Quality, Standards and Curriculum Committee.

She reported that the A Level results were similar to those achieved in 2008/09 but that the AS results had seen a dip in results. The Vice-Principal highlighted those subject with particularly poor results and commented that some of the coursework had also seen disappointing marks. On the positive side, she reported that the value-added analysis assessed by ALPS and ALIS had been good with A level very good and AS level 'outstanding' which was the best in the college history.

In response to a Governor's query, the Principal advised that the results, through the success rate, did have an impact on funding.

10. **Resolved:**

That the early term achievement analysis be noted.

## **Strategic and Development Plan 2010-11 /12-13 (Appendix 5/10)**

The Principal submitted a report suggesting a set of values for the Strategic and Development Plan together with a report on college performance against the Key Performance Indicators for 2009/10 and proposed Key Performance Indicators for 2010/11.

He referred to the Implications/Risks section of the report and advised that the figure for the decline in the overall success rate for the college was from 91% to 86% and not 83% as stated.

In response to a query from a Governor on the SSFC Values, the Principal stated that the values were not necessarily going to be linked to quantifiable outcomes but were intended to aid staff development and tease out any prejudices and challenge behaviour.

Governors made suggestions regarding the wording of the first bullet point of the Values listed.

In respect of the Key Performance Indicators, the Principal advised that there was concern that some students taking 4 AS subjects dropped to 3 during the first year and commented that this could be because many universities only required 3 subjects for entry. He stated that the success rates of students did have a bearing on funding and that, for students themselves, it was considered preferable to take 4 subjects to increase their options. The student governor commented that it could be that students were disheartened with their January exam results and needed particular support at this time to encourage them to continue with 4 subjects.

A Governor felt that there was a particular issue with combined science and suggested that this be raised with partner schools in order to get a more secure base for AS and A level study. The Vice-Principal advised that work on this issue had recently started.

A member referred to the discrepancy of results between males and females and requested that reports on this issue, and action which could be taken to address it, be submitted to future meetings. The Principal advised that this was a national issue and that there appeared to be no particular pattern as to why there was a gap although evidence showed that in subjects such as English Literature, History and French, boys did seem to do better. The student governor commented that he felt that boys needed to be constantly reminded of the consequences of not studying in order to get the best out of them. It was suggested that the results between the genders of partner schools be looked at for comparison purposes.

In response to a Governor query regarding academy schools, the Principal advised that he understood that Meole school had no plans to apply for academy status whereas Priory were likely to apply. The local authority Governor advised that she was not aware that any applications had been received by Shropshire Council for academy status and that it was unlikely any funding would be available for additional sixth form provision.

### 11. Resolved:

(a) That, subject to the first bullet point being amended as follows, the set of values for inclusion in the Strategic and Development Plan be approved:

- Respect peoples gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, faith or role.  
We will value our diversity.

(b) That the 2009-2010 Key Performance Indicators and management actions be noted

(c) That the Key Performance Indicators for 2010/11 be approved

(d) That further work be carried out on the disparity in exam results between genders, including reference back to with feeder schools to establish whether there are any particular patterns/reasons and what actions could be taken.

### **Early Term Update (Appendix 6/10)**

The Principal submitted an Early Term Update on Staffing; Student Enrolment; Estates and Information Technology Developments.

In response to a Governor question, the Principal advised that the earlier term start had enabled 1,406 students to be enrolled over 3 days and that there had been a quick start to teaching. Early indications were that the enrolment target would be met.

12. Resolved:

That the early term update be noted.

### **Pay Policy (Appendix 7/10)**

The Assistant Principal, Resources/Risk, submitted a report on the updated pay policy which highlighted the change in priorities when deciding on pay awards. It gave precedence to affordability over national pay agreements.

13. Resolved:

That the report be noted.

### 14 **Dates of Next Meetings**

(i) Away Day - Friday, 5 November 2010

(ii) Board - Monday 13 December 2010 at 6.00 pm