

The Swanage School
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
 To be held on Wednesday 4th October 2023

Present: Amanada Rowley (Chair), Jenny Maraspin (Head Teacher), Phil Ashby, Dan Parker, Sophie Weld-Davies

In Attendance: Sue Fletcher (Community & Engagement Lead), Margarette Corben (Clerk)

Item		Action	Lead	By
CE 1.1	Apologies for Absence			
CE 1.2	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.			
CE 1.3	Minutes of the Last Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 1 st February 2023 were confirmed as accurate and approved			
CE 1.4	Matters arising & Actions CE 3.6 - Website Action Points can be taken off the list CE2.4 - Primary School Sports session to explore funding streams. This has been specifically tackled so will remain on the list. CE 4.10 - Recruiting Education Swanage Members, there is an ongoing commitment, SF (Sue Fletcher) to contact Ex Governors who are good candidates and know the school as there is a legal commitment. This can be taken off the list. CE 1.4 - School Clubs, AR (Amanda Rowley) has met with Connor Butler (CB), but this is ongoing and will organise another meeting and update at the next meeting. CE 1.13 - PTA. AR has set up a new PTA and this is now running successfully.			
CE 1.5	10th Anniversary celebrations SF update the Governors on the Anniversary events. There was a private formal event held on the 10th of September, it was well attended by Governors, staff, members, and invited guests. The Weathervane was donated by Barratt Homes who rescued and restored it from the old grammar school. They were invited to the celebration but were unfortunately unable to attend. They have since come back to the school for a tour and are keen to support TSS (The Swanage School). They donated			

	<p>£500 to go towards the Anniversary celebrations. They are interested in helping the school with projects including the Race, and Robotics Teams. They also indicated they have connections that could assist students in media, art and design, and sponsorship of sports and clubs.</p> <p>The committee discussed an unused shipping container that could potentially be used as an additional classroom. This will be discussed further as to costings.</p> <p>Future events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festival on the field towards the end of the year for students and primary school children, a more public event. • PTA to celebrate the students with a BBQ. • The school are hoping to do one event each term to celebrate the 10th Anniversary. • Branding of the anniversary could be used for the Race Team and sporting events. <p>There was positive publicity, Swanage News wrote an article and social media feedback.</p>			
CE 1.6	<p>Careers & Apprenticeships</p> <p>JM (Jenny Maraspin) felt that this needed to be taken off the agenda. SS is now going to use UNIFROG which is a platform for students to submit their CV and they get matched with placements for work experience. An external careers advisor comes into school every week and works with Years 10 and 11. Work Experience is now on the UPS objective. UNIFROG matches up students' skills, interests, and suggests a suitable pathway, and work experience. UNIFROG costs £1000 per annum and is a great tool to help with the teacher's workload.</p> <p>JM informed the governors that TSS is investing a lot in careers and imbed it in the curriculum. Including recruiting professionals to come and talk to the students, most recently a professional cartoonist from Marvel and Animator from Paramount.</p>			
CE 1.7	<p>Admissions & Marketing Report</p> <p>SF reported that the admissions intake this year is 347 the biggest intake since opening. The 2024 entry Open Evening was a success. The West wing of the school is less of a draw to parents and was not so busy. In future there are plans to get the more departments in the open spaces and corridors to raw people in the wing.</p> <p>The green screen in the new media department proved to be extremely popular. The school had various activities happening in all its departments which received positive feedback. There were fewer</p>			

	<p>SF has made a start on making all the publications look more professional and highlighting the school in a positive and dynamic way. The aim is to continue to gain a good reputation. The Parent survey had positive feedback.</p> <p>Uniform. Over half of the students are in the new uniform and by next year it is hoped that most of the students will have switched to it. It looks very smart, and the teaching staff have been key in ensuring that the students are consistently smart. The new supplier is good, any manufacturing issues have been dealt with.</p> <p>Community – TSS has a good relationship with the community and a network of support. The committee discussed doing more within the community. Can be issues with time and resources. The media department has had requests to document different projects around the community including Kingston Church and filming Primary school nativity plays. A great way for students to get involved. There has not been an official opening of the Media suite, this needs to be considered.</p>			
CE 1.8	<p>Marketing Plan Progress report</p> <p>SF has updated the current marketing strategy, not much has changed. USP have not changed. Sporting success has been added. Non-traditional sports need to be added, including Sailing, Rowing, Cycling Club. The format has been changed to full days of water activities instead of a couple of hours. SF to do a Banner for the front of the school to highlight the school sports.</p> <p>JM discussed the GCSE results which show that students with 90% plus attendance put the school in the top 3 in Dorset. TSS has twice the national PP (Pupil Premium) students and 4 times the national EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) students. High pupil mobility at TSS.</p> <p>JM informed the committee of a potential OFSTED inspection before March 2024.</p>			
CE 1.9	<p>Communication with Stakeholders</p> <p>This was covered in community. The Parent surveys were positive, parents happy with communication from the school. SF discussed social media and doing more to post events to get the TSS name more visible.</p>			
CE 1.10	<p>Self-evaluation of Committee Impact</p> <p>The Governance Impact Statement has been checked by AR. Not specific to this committee and no changes are needed.</p>			

CE 1.11	<p>Risk Management</p> <p>To identify a key risk for this year to feed into the Audit & Risk Committee</p> <p>Low Admission Numbers</p> <p>Reputable Damage</p> <p>OFSTED inspection was discussed by the committee and whether to add it to the Risk register.</p>			
CE 1.12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The committee thanked SF for all her hard work with the Anniversary arrangements and marketing. AR informed the committee that ticket sales for Matilda at the Mowlem had been incredible and had sold the quickest of any past show. Great reputation, congratulated Harry Peake for his hard work.</p>			
	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The meeting closed at 6.55pm</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 31st January 2024</p>			