

## Meeting of the Schools Forum

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

***(4.00 pm, Conference Room 3, Building 2 at NLBP)***

<b><u>Attended</u></b>	Members:	Sarah Vipond (Middlesex Uni, PVI Full Day Care) Jayne Franklin (Head, Childs Hill) John Marincowitz (Head, QE Boys) Mary Karaolis (Head, The Ravenscroft) Alan Homes (NASUWT) Jodi Gurney (Head, Hampden Way) Anthony Vourou (Governor, St John's N11) Johnathan Hewlings (Governor, East Barnet) Derrick Brown (Governor, Ashmole) Elizabeth Pearson (Governor, Livingstone) Ken Huggins (Governor, The Compton) Gilbert Knight (Governor, Oakleigh) Alan Homes (NASUWT)
	LEA Officers:	Martin Baker (Acting Director of Children's Service) Mick Quigley (Principal Inspector, Children's Service) Carol Beckman (School Funding Manager)
	Consultant:	Geoff Boyd
	Observer Status:	Hassan Shami (LSC Partnership Manager)
	Clerk:	Sarrosh Ali (School Resources & Support Officer)
<b><u>Not Present</u></b>	Members:	Tim Bowden (Head, Holy Trinity) Kevin Hoare (Head, Finchley Catholic) Hazel Godfrey (Governor, Broadfields) Sue Brown (Head, Wessex Gardens)
	Observers:	Cllr Fiona Bulmer
	Vacancies:	Community Secondary Head Academy Observer Community Primary Head

### 1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Hazel Godfrey, Helen Schmitz, Cllr Fiona Bulmer, Tim Bowden, Anthea Aberly and Sue Brown.

### 2. Minutes of previous meeting (5<sup>th</sup> February 2008)

The minutes were agreed.

### 3. Matters Arising

JM welcomed new members of the Schools Forum, Mick Quigley (representing SIPS) and Sarah Vipond (representing Early Years Providers).

## **4. Items for Agreement**

### **4.1 DSG & ISB 2008-11**

- 4.1.1 MB explained that the paper shows changes from the figures agreed in February. There was a budget increase because of the increase in pupil numbers. MB pointed out an error in line 1.7.1 because of the Harnessing Technology Grant.

CB explained that although some budget lines have been adjusted the total amounts assigned to general areas of expenditure has not changed except the ISB which has increased. JM mentioned that in the February meeting the Schools Forum agreed if the pupil numbers changed the extra funding would be used to decrease the breach of the CEL. This has been done.

DB asked why the line 1.1.2 increased by £115k since February. CB explained that it was the LSU funding which was previously included in the ISB. If the Schools Forum agreed the proposed distribution of funding for LSUs (see 4.3) this money would return to the ISB.

CB told the Schools Forum that breaching the CEL had been unavailable this year but on current estimates the CEL will not breach next year.

### **4.2 School Lunch Grant**

CB explained that the School Lunch Grant was introduced to recognise extra costs of providing children with healthier meals and presented proposals to allocate the grant to schools.

Heads felt that they would expect their caterer to provide a nutritional advice service and would not need to use the proposed Barnet service. It was reported that there is free internet software. Some Heads questioned whether a bidding process for equipment funding would be worthwhile. Secondary school representatives felt that all schools should receive the cash effect of their funding rather than passing it directly to Barnet if they use Team Barnet. MB asked if primary schools felt the same way. They agreed they did.

It was pointed out that this element of the money must be used to reduce costs of meals. MB undertook to revised the proposals based on the feedback from the forum.

### **4.3 Learning Support Units**

4.3.1 At the last Schools Forum the discussion surrounding LSU funding was brought up. The research was done and Graham Durham took the information to the Heads meeting. DB reported back that the recommendation from the Heads meeting was to continue to fund the two schools in full this year and to halve it in 09/10 and remove in 10/11. All agreed with the proposal.

4.3.2 JM explained the Heads discussed the issues around LSU funding and realised the need to reallocate the money to help all schools. A working group of Heads will discuss proposals for use of this funding for 2009/10 and 2010/11.

#### **4.4 Membership of the Schools Forum**

4.4.1 There are currently vacancies for 4 positions and there is no observer from an Academy. MB said this issue will be taken to the Heads Advisory Group.

4.4.2 MK mentioned she is not able to attend the next two Schools Forum meetings and she will be retiring next year, so as a result would like to resign. MB asked her not to resign until replacement is found.

4.4.3 CB reminded the forum of the primary school vacancies. JF explained that Heads may be reluctant in case it requires in depth knowledge of schools funding.

4.4.4 MB will bring the issue up at the next Heads Advisory Group on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and hope to report back to the Schools Forum in July.

### **5 Items for Information**

#### **5.1 Report from the Early Years Working Group**

5.1.1 SV gave feedback to the Schools Forum after the first Early Years Working Group. The meeting was an introduction to the purpose and aim of the group. She explained the meeting was to look at the items which will be discussed at future meetings. CB added that it was a constructive meeting with the different providers.

### **6. Any Other Business**

6.1 JM told the Schools Forum of a letter from John Burgess (Unison) requesting membership on the Forum. AH suggested it was worth considering as there is presently no non teaching union representative. MB questioned the regulations for the membership. CB explained there can be a maximum percentage school to non school members.

6.2 MB brought up emerging issue of LSC funds to LA. MB will bring item to Schools Forum in September as an item for information.

### **7. Dates of future meetings**

Tue 1st Jul 2008	4.30 pm
Tue 23rd Sep 2008	4.30 pm
Tue 9th Dec 2008	4.30 pm