

NOTES OF BOARD MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30TH JUNE 2021 AT 5:00PM

Present:	Louay Khatib	Director/Governor	(LK)
	Sameer Merchant	Director/Governor	(SM)
	Zara Harrington	Principal	(ZH)
	Brian Horwell	Head of Secondary	(BH)
	Louise McGeever	Vice Principal - Primary	(LM)
	Rehab Sajwani	Parent	(RS)
	Sabana Skaikh	Parent	(SS)
	Olga Petrukhina	Parent	(OP)
	Claire Drinkwater	Parent	(CD)
	Anastasia Yermakovaa	Parent	(AY)

Apologies: Leanne Fridd, Stephen Duckitt

- 1. ZH welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.**
- 2. Minutes from Last meeting:**
 - Visits to Site
- 3. Matters Arising**
 - Covid remains ongoing
 - Q: Requested details on other Sports that can be offered through ECA's?
 - Still waiting details on current restrictions but currently reviewing 3 options with DPA, 1 includes swimming, 1 includes teamwork skills and 1 includes all sports. Currently looking to add Football/Basket Ball/Volley Ball/Cricket/Athletics/Gymnastics and Dance.
 - Although ECA permit requested on 4 occasions we were not successful, should this change we would look at Swimming/Football and Dance then eventually extend on these moving forward.
 - Q: Any provisions to adapt curriculum due to gaps in learning?
 - Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2 will each have a dedicated Performance Enhancement Teacher commencing in September to help in this area.

- Secondary have modified curriculum in place by dropping some of the GCSE options into Year 9 normally done in year 10 just to capture the hours in year 8 to ensure no student is restricted on subject opportunities.
- Q: Is there provisions for parents to have a list of the online tools and Assessment Programs being used to understand what the children have access to?
 - An overview will be provided for each Year Group to allow parents to understand and track the data.

4. Principal's Report

Student Numbers

- Student numbers (as of June 23rd) confirmed for September are: 1110. A 48% growth within the academic year.
- The majority of the year groups are now full and operate wait lists.

Staffing

- 11 staff leaving at the end of the year. 7 moving back to home countries, 1 retiring, 2 moving to other Dubai schools and 1 staying within SBS but moving to 'The Bridge'.
- Due to the schools growth we will be onboarding 50 new members of staff in August. The induction program has already started and this is via zoom so all time zones can join in.
- Increase of capacity provision in Creative Arts, Languages and PE for the whole school plus additional Admin and Nurse and Doctor.

Vaccination

- Out of the staff eligible only 2 members of staff have not been vaccinated and submit a weekly PCR test. All other staff are fully vaccinated.
- Information for students' vaccination has been shared with parents and an increasing number are opting to take it.

Child Protection

- Our CAS register has across the whole school 37 children identified (29 Foundation and Primary and 6 Secondary). 31 of those are just additional check ins following mainly Covid experiences, 3 children have bereavement of a parent, 3 children are exhibiting increased anxiety, both of the latter are followed up with Lighthouse Arabia. Out of the 31 additional check in students 18 of those are new to SBS this year and out of those 7 are new to Dubai.

Inspections

- We have completed this academic year (as of June 23rd) 1 x Ministry of Labour Inspection, 4 x Dubai Health Authority Inspections, 2 x Clinic Move Inspections Dubai Health Authority, 4 x Compliance KHDA Inspections (for new site), 23 x KHDA Health and Safety Inspections for Covid.

- We received a fine during this academic year during a Covid inspection, we appealed and our appeal was upheld.
- SBS was selected as one of a few schools to complete a 'Reflection and Review' inspection.

Site Updates

- Re-purpose certain uses of areas within the building after living in it (**see site map attached**).
- Snagging work continues plus a robust maintenance program to ensure the site is kept in top condition.

Generic Information

- No Health and Safety guidance received as yet for next academic year.
- Internal Promotions completed full transition and been working dual role since April.
- Café and Canteen permit through and ready for September.
- Partnership with DPA and Sports Academy ready for September.
- The Bridge (see flyer)

5. Foundation Stage and Primary Report

- **See Attached Report**

6. Secondary Report

- **See Attached Report**

7. A.O.B

- Q: Is there an opportunity to extend the number of languages on offer?
 - Currently looking to drop French down to Year 2 students and combine both French and Spanish for our Year 6 students.
 - Secondary Students will have dual languages of French and Spanish with the option of one choice for GCSE's however provisions will be in place for gifted linguistics to carry 2 languages into GCSE.
- Q: Is it possible for parents to have details on teaching staff in terms of who they are/what they do. Many changes due to Covid and limited interaction due to DL.
 - This will be available for the start of the new school year, we will provide Teacher Bios and short videos of all our teaching staff.
- Q: Parents are very disconnected from other parents as WhatsApp is no longer used, what can be done to help improve/replace this?
 - ZH will investigate new programs/platforms that will help facilitate this, however it will not be via WhatsApp as this is not an official channel.

- Q: Will parents be provided with BYOD guidelines on internet surfing and searches for school use?
 - Parents will be provided with all information regarding cyber safety and will be advised of the sites used by the school but ultimate responsibility to site access is down to the individual parents.
- Q: Any plans on improvement with parking etc. for new academic year?
 - New school timings should help alleviate some of this. We are in constant talks with RTA regarding the concerns raised due to our exit being so close to a junction and are also in talks with the owners of the sand area next to FS to see if this can also be utilized.

The meeting closed at 6pm.