

Additional ASGB Notes to accompany the Visioning Presentation

ASGB Notes: Being Strategic Slide

- The school's vision should set the FGB and committee meeting agendas around the School Development Plan
- Point was made however, that the School Development Plan must be fluid and required constant review.

ASGB Notes: Vision Slide

- Is it realistic to review the vision every year? Governors discussed what they did in their school; some did allocate time to review their vision in advance of a meeting.
- Another governor said that they attended an inset day to understand their input to the school's vision.
- All agreed that it was difficult, especially incorporating the input from the wider community.
- A governor stressed that it was important not to try and do too much in a one year, and to constantly review, in the light of all the changes.

ASGB Notes: Vision Slide 2

- It was important to establish the school's ethos and values before determining the schools vision.

ASGB Notes: Mission, Vision and Values Slide

- Important to 'set a high bar' and to set clear, concise mission, vision and values
- The vision must be shared and understood by pupils, parents and staff.

ASGB Notes: Our Vision Slide

- As per previous slides, all stakeholders should contribute to the school's vision.
- Members discussed parent questionnaires; one member used the Ofsted one and handed it out/collected it in at parents' meetings to ensure a good response.
- Another used the Sandwell questionnaire, others had searched the internet for questionnaires and adapted them for their own school. The Key version was also recommended.
- Members discussed when would be the best time to circulate a parents' questionnaire and again there were different suggestions; some conducted it at the end June/July, another suggestion was to leave it until September to ensure it was fresh for the new school year.
- One member's school had a working group, made up of all stakeholders, to put together a living, working document.

ASGB Notes: Mission Statement Slide

- Important to note that not all aspirations need to be curriculum based but they do need to be important in preparing pupils for the next phase in their life.
- As an example, one school encouraged pupils to compile '100 things to do before I leave school list'

ASGB Notes: Monitoring the Vision Slide

- A SWOT analysis was invaluable; helping to contribute to the overall plan.

ASGB Notes: Vision to Strategy Slide

- Important to measure progress against the School Development Plan.

ASGB Notes: Monitoring the Strategy Slide

- Governors shared ideas about involving parents; coffee mornings, breakfast clubs, grandparents' days often resulted in seeing the same old faces.
- One new idea was for governors to offer parents tours of the school, including places they would not normally see, such as the staff room, other children's classrooms, the displays in the corridors etc. This idea had resulted in an excellent response and was an opportunity to glean valuable feedback in a more relaxed atmosphere.
- Reports from the Head Teacher, School Advisor Reports and data are all valuable sources of information to help monitor the strategy.
- Another governor reminded colleagues about the importance of going into school to talk to pupils, conducting book trawls, then cross checking with teachers, data and parent feedback.
- Other sources of feedback worth considering were role numbers, complaints and the perception of the school in the community.
- Attending parents' evenings is also a great opportunity to improve the visibility of governors and to find out how the school could improve. Parents should be encouraged to be honest!

ASGB Notes: Review Slide

- The presentation highlighted the need for a clear vision written, understood and supported by pupils, staff, parents and the wider community.
- The vision, mission and values should be reflected in the School Development plan, all of which should be reviewed, monitored and updated regularly, based on a wide range of evidence.
- Question for governors: Do you simply accept the agendas forwarded to you in advance of meetings or do you ensure the agendas refer to the School Development Plan making effective use of governors' time?