

**Summary Notes from the Meeting of the
Association of Sandwell Governing Bodies (ASGB) held at
6.15pm on 19th September 2018 at
Guardian House, West Bromwich**

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair, Mr Patel welcomed guests and members to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Apologies were noted.

Pupil Premium Grant – Liz Regan, Head Teacher at Great Bridge Primary School

The Chair, also the Chair of Governors at Great Bridge Primary School, introduced Ms. Regan, the Head Teacher of Great Bridge who had agreed to come along to the meeting to talk about PPG at very short notice.

The Chair told members how much the school's performance had improved since Ms. Regan's appointment.

Ms. Regan delivered her presentation (Appendix 1 attached), encouraging discussion and questions at any time.

Additional information, comments, examples and response to questions have all been added to the presentation under the 'ASGB NOTES'. (You may need to scroll down on some slides and take care when printing that the additional comments also print out.)

The Chair and members thanked Ms. Regan for her presentation which was very informative and would encourage governors to ensure that they understood PPG and were equipped to challenge when appropriate.

A governor proposed that the information should be shared with colleagues and especially with governors with special responsibility for PPG

Minutes and Matters Arising from the meeting held 4th July 2018 and Executive Committee Meeting held on 5th September 2018

Minutes were agreed and there were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

Development for Chairs

The support officer informed members that there appeared to be enough interest from governors for the NGA to run 'Development for Chairs' in Sandwell. The course would start in the New Year and the face-to-face sessions would be held in Guardian House. Please see:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/LeadingGovernance/Chairs.aspx>

There is no charge for the course and it is open to chairs, vice-chairs and aspiring chairs. If you are interested in joining the course and have not already expressed an interest, please contact the support officer.

(An email will follow to give details of the proposed dates.)

NGA – Future Events

The following NGA events were highlighted:

- NGA West Midlands Conference [https://www.nga.org.uk/Events/2018-Events/West-Midlands-Regional-Meeting-Autumn-2018-\(1\).aspx](https://www.nga.org.uk/Events/2018-Events/West-Midlands-Regional-Meeting-Autumn-2018-(1).aspx)
- NGA National Conference and AGM <https://www.nga.org.uk/Events/2018-Events/Annual-Conference-AGM.aspx>

- NGA Outstanding Governance Awards
<https://www.nga.org.uk/News/NGA-News/July-2018-Sept-2018/Governing-boards-and-clerks-invited-to-enter-natio.aspx>

We are aware that it is no longer possible to book for either of the two conferences as all the places have already been booked already. However, if you contact the NGA direct (or the support officer), you may ask to be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations.

Open Forum/Any Other Business

The following issues were raised:

- ASGB should invite a speaker on school budgets, it was suggested that we invite a representative from Total Finance to attend.
- Other ideas for future agendas included teacher workload/retention, health and wellbeing and the role of governors dealing with parental complaints/parental involvement.
- An Executive member had questioned whether ASGB should have professional indemnity insurance and the support office was looking into this.
- The letter from Nick Gibb in response to the letter sent on behalf of ASGB to be copied to all members.
- Website progressing, ASGB also has a Twitter account, Facebook page and YouTube account when up and running. Mr Steventon had not responded to the offer to reimburse him for maintaining the website address.
- Members were asked to review the article from Parentkind and consider if it was suitable to include on the website (attached).
- It was agreed that the support officer should ask for feedback after every meeting in order to continuously improve its support to members.

Next meeting date: 14th November 2018

Main agenda item should be Budget Consultation.

ALL governors are welcome to attend so please note your diaries.

All members of ASGB should be receiving regular updates from NGA and have access to the full NGA site. If you have any problems with access/updates, please let the Support Officer know.

ITEMS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- **Share good practice:**
A member suggested that ALL governors could share at least one item of good practice with colleagues; something that has solved a problem or improved standards in their school. Governors often don't realise that something they are doing is unique to them and not being done in other schools. (Recognising that the permission of the Governing Board to share might be needed).
Can we ask you all to take a fresh look at good practice in your school and share? Please send via the Support Officer. Thank you!
- **STEPS Centre**
Following the presentation/invitation from Patrick Finegan, **please let the Support Officer know if you are interested in a visit to the new arrivals/STEPS centre in Smethwick.** Once we know about any interest in a visit, we can sort out dates which will hopefully be convenient for everyone.