

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND STANDARDS
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2018 AT 4.30PM IN ROOM
K021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Prof Pauline Odulinski – PO – Chair
Mr Phil Davies – PD – Principal
Mr Nick Holman - NH
Dr Hilary Duckett – HD
Ms Cheryl Powell – CP
Ms Cheryl Hext - CH

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Ben Manning – BM – Vice Principal Curriculum & Quality
Ms Teresa Gardner– BHCS Director -TG (Item 6 only)
Mr Mark Trewin – CCDI Director – MT (Item 6 only)
Ms Dianne Evans –Student Journey –DE (Item 6 only)
Ms Nadia McCusker – Director of Quality and VEPSS (Item 6 only)
Brandon Swatton)
Jay Whiting) List of students for
Isaac Carroll) Item 5 only
Jihad Hussein)
Mrs Julia Tindall-Jones - Clerk

P&S 18/01 Item 1 – Apologies

Apologies had been received from Sue McDonald.

P&S 18/02 Item 2 - Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Meeting of the Performance and Standards Committee held on the 30th November 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

P&S 18/03 Item 3 – Matters Arising

The Clerk informed the meeting that there were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

P&S 18/04 Item 4 – Confidential Items and Declaration of Interests

RESOLVED that no items required to be treated as In Commercial Confidence or Part II.

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

P&S 18/05 Item 5 – Student Feedback

The Chair welcomed Jihad, Isaac, Jay and Brandon to the meeting and asked them what they were studying and their feedback from their course, thoughts on English and maths and their work experience. Jihad and Isaac were studying sport and Jay and Brandon engineering. All the students were studying English and/or maths. Governors asked questions regarding their career aspirations and whether they considered the skills they were learning, both hard and soft ones, would assist them in achieving their goals. The response of the students was positive and they all recognised the importance of achieving English and maths qualifications along with their vocational skills.

The Chair then thanked the students for their input and they then left the meeting (5pm).

P&S 18/06 Item 6 – Faculty Directors’ Presentations

Impact of the New Build

MT gave a short presentation on the impact of the new build on employers, students and staff detailing the positive effect it had had on attendance and STEM recruitment as well as the ‘one college’ feeling engendered by the move from Goschen. Governors discussed the embedding of technology and the use of the Google Suite and its impact on learner engagement. HD asked whether there was an increased expectation that students would carry their own devices. MT responded that it was not an expectation but many students did and these were well supported. MT continued that the College also had a range of technology devices that could be hired. DE commented that students in receipt of ALS (Additional Learning Support) could also get financial support for IT. CH, the student governor, commented positively on this and said that her experiences of the Google Classroom were very good.

The Chair then questioned the employer input and asked whether it was possible to quantify the impact of this in terms of numbers and increased engagement. MT responded that conversations with more employers have been taking place as a result of the STEM Centre developments and the Principal confirmed that the number of employers actively engaged with the College had increased by 200 over the last year and a half.

P&S 18/07 Item 6 – Faculty Directors’ Presentations

Achieving high grades and increasing value added (VA)

TG gave a brief description of how the College is responding to the increased focus from Ofsted on 16-18 accountability and the

importance of measuring progress concentrating particularly on value added (VA) at Levels 2 and 3. TG explained how VA is calculated and informed Governors that more emphasis is now being placed on the achievement of high grades and this has led to a requirement for both staff and students to change their mind-set. TG then referred to the public KS4 data for 2015/16 which shows that Plymouth falls below the national average for progress and achievement and detailed the College position in 2016/17 which identifies an overall improvement in VA but noting more work needs to be done, particularly with high achievers.

TG proceeded to highlight the work in progress to improve student and staff accountability and engagement. TG concluded her presentation by referring to VA High Achievers' Programme which had been set in place to ensure that such students are given appropriate recognition, promotion and reward that will help their development and progression and add value to their learning outcomes.

Governors discussed the actions taken by the College and HD asked how the 1:1 interventions mentioned by TG were resourced. TG responded that the College laid great emphasis on having strong tutorial staffing in place that provides bespoke tutorials and Google support where necessary. The Chair then asked how VA for higher achievers was measured. TG responded that records were kept and a qualitative review of the impact of the programme carried out regularly to ensure that students' grades improved and VA was increased. The Chair suggested that the use of case studies could be encouraged to provide a personal view of the programme and its impact.

P&S 18/08 Item 6 – Faculty Directors' Presentations

Student Journey – new student centre

DE gave a short presentation on the role of Student Services and its impact on student engagement and the narrowing of achievement gaps. DE detailed the calibre and quantity of support available and the initiatives in place to identify and support minority groups to ensure their voice is heard. HD then asked how the College is able to identify what it's not doing. DE responded that regular surveys were carried out to ensure students know what support is available to them. CH confirmed that, in her experience as a student, student support services provided input at application evenings and inductions thus ensuring that students are aware of what help is available to them.

The Chair then asked what support is given to minority groups. DE replied that minority groups were supported in a myriad of ways and CH commented that there were support drop-ins for many groups including LGBT. DE then highlighted the positive impact of the new student centre which is in the basement of the Innovation Building

saying that students were very happy with their new space and that it had helped the merging of the two student bodies.

P&S 18/09 English & Maths – reducing the attendance gap between E&M and Vocational

NM updated the Committee on the actions in place to increase attendance in E&M and highlighted the following successes/improvements in attendance and achievement in both GCSE and FS (Functional Skills):

Attendance February 2017-18

GCSE English – 82% (+4%)

FSs English – 85% (+10%)

GCSE Maths – 83% (+9%)

FS Maths - 85% (+7%)

In year achievement 2018

FS English - 49% (+11%)

FS Maths – 58% (+20%)

The Chair thanked the Directors for their presentations and they then left the meeting (5.50pm)

P&S 18/07 Item 7 – Performance and Standards KPI Dashboard

BM presented the Dashboard and referred to the Work Experience (WE) statistics which showed an improvement on last year in terms of percentage planned (2017 - 32%, 2018 - 57%). BM informed Governors that 28% had already completed their 60 hour target, 1% up from the same time last year.

Referring to E&M, BM informed Governors that attendance at E&M was up from last year. BM then informed the Committee that there had been an internal review of automotive by external assessors and that a very positive report had resulted. BM then informed Governors that the methodology of the FE Choices survey for Employer Satisfaction was changing although the impact on the College and its track record with Employers was not yet known.

The Chair thanked BM for his report and commented that she had received the College's 'Young Female Achievement' data and would like this to be further analysed by the Committee in June. BM and the Clerk took this for action.

➤ **Action: BM and Clerk to add E&D data analysis to June agenda**

The Committee NOTED the P&S Dashboard.

P&S 18/08 Item 8 - Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Performance and Standards Committee will take place on Tuesday 19th June 2018 at 4.30pm, in Room K021.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6pm.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____