

11 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Parent Governor Election

I am writing to you to invite you to stand for election as a Parent Governor or nominate another parent to do so. In our college, we have provision for two Parent Governors and there is currently one vacancy,

The Local Governing Body, with the Headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the college. Local Governing Bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; to contribute to the work of the Local Governing Body in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the college by:
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the college and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the college and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the college and be prepared to play an active part in the Local Governing Body's work. However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with the following skills:

- ❖ Financial skills
- ❖ Legal background
- ❖ Educational experience
- ❖ You will need the time to commit to attend meetings which are held on Wednesdays at 5pm, in addition there is training to be undertaken and Governor monitoring visits to be conducted.

- ❖ There are 7 scheduled meetings throughout the academic year.

Training is available for all Governors and there is an expectation that those new to being a Governor attend free induction training and complete online based learning via the National Governance Association, through the Local Governing Body's membership.

Below is a summary of the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a Governor. In addition, parents/carers who have paid employment in the college for 500 or more hours per academic year are not eligible to stand in these elections. Nominations must be from parents or carers with children at the college on the day that nominations close. Also below is a summary of the vision and values of The Two Counties Trust

The term of office for all Governors is four years. If you would like to stand for election, please complete the form here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ti_30_FeYk-D_GtyNhiTFi2NZ7Z127pLg-UyqyRK3VRURFY1RINKU1EOUTVHQjIOQjZJMEswQjhOWS4u no later than 12 noon on Monday 25th January 2021. You are invited to include a short personal statement to support your nomination, which should be no longer than 250 words. Self-nominations will be accepted, but if you are nominating another parent please seek their prior consent.

If there are more nominations than vacancies, the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure and your personal statement on Monday 25 January 2021.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk to Governors, Sarah Hand on shand@springwellcc.org.

Yours sincerely



Ian Wingfield
Headteacher

Qualifications and Disqualifications to serve as a Parent Governor

A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of their election or appointment and cannot hold more than one governorship at the same school.

A person is disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor if they:

- Are employed at the school for more than 500 hours in any 12 consecutive months;

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor or associate member if they:

- Are a registered pupil at the school;
- Have failed to attend governing body meetings at the school without the consent of the governing body, for a continuous period of six months;
- Has had their estate sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- Is subject to a bankruptcy restriction order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, a debt relief restrictions order or an interim debt relief restrictions order;
- Is subject to:
 - a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986
 - a disqualification order under the Companies Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
 - a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
 - an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a county court administration order);
- Has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on the grounds of any misconduct

- or mismanagement in the administration of the charity for which he was responsible; or to which he was privy; or to which he contributed or he facilitated by his conduct; or
- Has been removed, under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- Is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children (under section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1999);
- Is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 (or any other disqualification, prohibition or restriction which takes effect as if contained in such a direction);
- Is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008;
- Is barred from regulated activity relating to children in accordance with section 3(2) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006;
- Is disqualified from working with children under sections 28, 29, or 29A of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000;
- Is disqualified from registration under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 for child minding or providing day care;
- Is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;
- Has been convicted of any offence and received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than 3 months (without the option of a fine) in the 5 years before or since becoming a governor;
- Has been convicted of any offence and received a prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor;
- Has been convicted of any offence at any time and received a prison sentence of 5 years or more;
- Has been convicted of an offence and sentenced to a fine under section 547 of EA 1996 (nuisance or disturbance on school premises) or under section 85A of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (nuisance or disturbance on educational premise) during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor;
- Has refused a request by the Clerk to the Governing Body to make an application for a disclosure and barring services check.

The Two Counties Trust

The Two Counties Trust is a family of academies with a shared ethos, common values and collective goals. We aim to transform the lives of children and young people and to release their potential through excellent education and the opportunity to acquire new skills. All schools within our Trust are united in their vision to rapidly improve the learning experience of their students and raise the aspirations of the local communities which they serve.

Our vision is to raise the educational standards and better the life chances of students within our communities through working in partnership to challenge and support all schools to continually improve.

We will achieve our vision through:

- Fostering a culture of high expectations and raising aspirations of all learners
- Inspiring, challenging, engaging and supporting all our learners to reach their potential and achieve excellent outcomes
- Striving for excellence in all aspects of teaching and learning
- Providing every learner with the skills, knowledge and qualifications to enable them to access the next stage of their education and career
- Developing, in our learners, the resilience and flexibility to be able to adapt to the changing world they will meet
- Promoting learning in its broadest sense, across and beyond the taught curriculum
- Developing a curriculum that meets the individual needs and aspirations of all learners through a collaborative approach to curriculum planning and shared resources, especially vocational provision
- Sharing our local knowledge and expertise in order to improve attendance for vulnerable groups, reduce exclusions and ensure all learners have access to high quality education at all times

Collectively as a Trust we aim to:

- provide a high-quality educational experience for each child in our care;
- ensure every teacher strives to be an excellent practitioner;
- recognise the importance of educating the whole child;
- strive to be the best in everything that we do;
- equip every child with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to succeed in the 21st century;
- recognise and embrace innovation.

We believe in traditional values; that every child matters and can succeed.

Our Core Values

Our core values shape our approach when working with each other, parents, carers, students, agencies and the communities we serve. These values are reflected in our day-to-day work:

Respect for individuals

We work together to create a culture based on trust, respect and dignity.

Integrity

We are open, honest and direct in our dealings.

Collaboration

We know that there is strength in working together, communicating, sharing ideas and best practice and finding more efficient and effective ways to deliver our objectives.

Continual improvement

We are a learning organisation that strives always to 'make our best better'.

Accountability

We hold ourselves accountable and take ownership.

The schools within The Two Counties Trust are:

Ashfield School, Frederick Gent School, Friesland School, Heritage High School, Manor Academy, Selston High School, Swanwick Hall School, Wilsthorpe School and Springwell Community College.