



Verdala
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Meeting of the Board of Directors

16 May 2022 - 16:30 PM

via Zoom

OPEN SESSION

Present:

David Nyheim - BCH

The Chair

Ben Brown - BBR

Parent Director

Paolo Catalfamo - PCA

Parent Director

Richard Price - RPR

Staff Director

Daniel Shrewsbury - DSH

Staff Director

Aaron Kadkhodai - AKA

Board Director, US Embassy Representative

Anthony Sammut- ASA

Board Director, Maltese Government Rep

Totty Aris – HOS

Head of School (non-voting)

Apologies:

Nick Borg- NBO

Parent Director

Ivan Camilleri - FCO

Financial Controller (non-voting)

Note to observers: Session cannot be recorded by observers for GDPR reasons, the Zoom call will be recorded for minute-taking purposes and then deleted once minutes are confirmed. Board members who have a conflict of interest should flag it now.

1. Approval of Open Minutes, 25 April 2022

Open Minutes Approved by e-vote - **approved**

2. Matters Arising – Action points

1.The Executive Committee (EXCO) during the next month will liaise with the Board to define the Board Goals based on the Strategic Plan for the next year. **Process has started with more input expected and will be finalised during the Board away day on the 9th June.**

2.The Chair to contact the suggested parent directly to join the Governance Committee. **completed**

3. Decision Items

None

4. Discussion Items

PTO Taskforce Update

RPR - The PTO taskforce met and discussed the suggested timeline and actions. First step is to find parents to get involved to help with the creating a handbook of guiding principles and practice. HoS to reach out to parents and RPR will reach out to staff members to join and help develop the handbook to be ready for the June meeting.

The Taskforce has renamed the PTO to VPSO (Verdala Parents and Staff Organisation). At the end of summer the VPSO can start planning out the year.

BBR asked if the social aspect of the VSPO is going to be back on the calendar for the next scholastic year?

HoS - According to the proposal that was approved during the last meeting, we are going for a three-pronged approach:

1. A Steering Group to run the VSPO
2. Events and fundraising Group
3. Communication Group

In September 2022, the School will run parent section socials instead of the huge back to school BBQ. Then the VPSO Events group can look toward Halloween as the first big event that the new VSPO will organize.

5. Consent Agenda

None

6. Information Items

Committee Reports

6.1 Executive Committee

Nothing to report

6.2 Governance Committee

AKA informed the Board that the Committee met on 11 May 2022 where they introduced 2 new Committee members to the Committee (VIS Parents: Richard Mcloughlin and Monika Wohlfeld). Richard has volunteered to be involved in the statute review taskforce. AKA assured the Board that they will continue to ensure the Part 2 statute review continues on its current path in time for the AGM 2023.

The Governance goals discussed were:

- (a) Community engagement and community surveys.
- (b) The VPSO and how Governance Committee supports the initiative.
- (c) The Ethical Fundraising process, and how the Governance Committee ensures it is in line with VIS values.

6.3 Finance Committee

BBR: Facilities financial management: The Finance Committee feel they should be more involved in making sure there is a cost oversight for the new build. A spreadsheet that has 3 quotes per item, deadlines, penalty clauses, etc. will be developed.

PCA updated the Board on the Ethical Funding Taskforce. It is looking at using the framework that Laura Keurhorst had suggested. The Taskforce needs to be created and review the policy before submitting to the Board.

6.4 Facilities Task Force

Substation Update:

- Reaching the end-point of works in the plot
- The final specs for the substation need to be shared with IT so they know that any future changes can be covered.
- Trenching now taking place after school finishes (June 25)

New Build update:

- The painting & plastering of Hoarding wall has been contracted and taking place
- An additional pedestrian gate will be placed at the end of the passageway

- Graphics using the strategic plan cogs and student upcycled art work
- We now have 2 quotes and waiting for 3rd for the Newbuild project, we are still aiming for a summer start to foundation digging.

Summer Works

- Spreadsheet overview created
- Quotes still being obtained.

6.5 GDPR

Nothing to report

7. Head of School Report (Appx. 1)

The Chair asked the floor if there were any questions on the report. No questions were raised.

8. Other Matters

1. The Board away day on 9th June 2022. Amanda Holmes (Parent with Marketing background) is running the away day with a focus on where we want the school to go in terms of our Marketing and Communication strategy. Amanda is finalising the programme, which will be shared with the Board. The objective of the day is to come up with a remit for the marketing taskforce.

2. Two false fire alarms in Elementary School. These were handled well and everything went smoothly.

Action points:

1. The EXCO during the next month will liaise with the Board to define the Board Goals based on the Strategic Plan for the next year.(BCH)
2. VSPO Handbook 1st draft to be ready by June BoD Meeting (NBO)
3. Ethical Fundraising Taskforce to be formed (PCA)

Meeting end: 17:15