

CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING

13 September 2012
Highlands 1 and 2, Education Scotland
The Optima, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow

NOTE OF MEETING

LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS AND ATTENDEES

Board Members

Name	Organisation
Janet Brown	SQA
John Edwards	SCIS
Larry Flanagan	EIS
Grant Jarvie	Universities Scotland
Alan Johnston	Scottish Government
Terry Lanagan	ADES
Irene Matier	AHDS
Bill Maxwell	Education Scotland
Joanna Murphy	National Parent Forum Scotland
Ken Muir	Education Scotland
Christine Pollock	ADES
Duncan Simpson	Community Learning and Development Network
Sarah Smith	Scottish Government (Chair)
Ronnie Summers	SLS

Officials

Denise Brock	Education Scotland (for item 4.2)
Sandra Campbell	Scottish Government (Programme Management)
Katherine McNab	Scottish Government (Secretariat)

Others

Mike Corbett	NASUWT (deputising for Jane Peckham)
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Apologies

Tony Finn	GTCS
Jeane Freeman	Scottish Government
Mhairi Laughin	Scotland's Colleges
Jane Peckham	NASUWT

1. Welcome

Sarah Smith (SS) welcomed Members and introductions were made round the table. Kay Barnett will be replacing Larry Flanagan as the EIS representative on the Board.

Following Graeme Hyslop's retirement, Mhairi Laughlin, Principal at West Lothian College will be the new Scotland's Colleges representative on the Board. Jeane Freeman who is currently working for Scottish Government to provide strategic advice and support, including on Curriculum for Excellence, will be attending future Board meetings.

2. Note and actions from the last meeting

SS updated the Board with recent general developments, including another exam diet had been successfully completed, the focus on the current S3 cohort, the National Partnerships Report is due to be published soon and there is growing International interest in Scotland's approach to education.

It was noted that minutes of the meeting should make clear that Community Learning and Development (CLD) needs should be included in the communications planning and delivery, and that future meetings should specifically focus on ensuring that CLD needs are sufficiently covered.

The note of the last meeting was agreed. Actions on CfE Implementation progress and the Senior Phase Benchmarking tool are covered in item 3 and 4 in the agenda.

3. Implementation report

SS invited Bill Maxwell (BM) to introduce the report from the Implementation Group (Paper 3.1) and comment on any identified risks. The paper sets out progress against the Programme Plan, development of NQ 4/5 additional support materials, assessment and measurement. BM said that the programme work was on track.

Kay Barnett (KB) highlighted that there has been a good start with profiles and the meetings with Education Scotland in the development of the exemplars has been valuable. However there are emerging concerns about teacher workload to develop S3 profiles. Profiling needs to look across the sector at points of transition and it is important that this should be a priority in the school implementation plans. EIS are gathering evidence on school implementation plans and profiles.

Mike Corbett (MC) stated that P7 profiles on the Education Scotland website need to be reviewed and that further S3 exemplars were required.

Christine Pollock (CP) stated that all local authority service plans will have profiles as part of their planning. Terry Lanagan (TL) highlighted that at transition, secondary schools should use the P7 profile developed in primary.

Ken Muir (KM) advised that Education Scotland will publish a CfE briefing on profiling and the S3 profile soon which will provide further information for teachers. He also stated that 15 authorities are planning to produce materials on National 4 and 5

qualifications. Information on the development of materials was being gathered from all authorities by the end of October.

BM invited Denise Brock (DB) to speak to the Communications and Engagement update (Paper 3.2). All the Communications plan milestones are on target. The current programme of communication activities included using community settings external to school to promote CfE and a refresh of communication with parents and events from Community Learning and Development. A CLD representative will be invited to participate in the next CfE Implementation Communications Group. It was agreed that following the publication of the Community Learning and Development Strategy this should be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Joanna Murphy (JM) raised concerns about providing information to parents. It was agreed the NPFS would meet further with Education Scotland to discuss these issues.

4. Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool

SS invited Maggie Tierney (MT) to present the paper on the Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool project. The Board were invited to endorse the title of the tool (SMART-ER: Smart Education Results) and the proposed measures for senior phase benchmarking. CP and TL welcomed the tool and in particular the inclusion of wider achievement information to support sustained destinations. CP highlighted that North Lanarkshire wish to be included in the testing of the tool. Janet Brown (JB) and Duncan Simpson (DS) also endorsed the importance of including wider achievement.

KB stated that the EIS did not endorse the title of the project and had concerns on the misuse of the tool and potential burden on teachers. She advised that she would reflect the Board's comments to the EIS and update the Board at the next meeting.

MC said the NASWT welcomed the tool and its broader focus but cautioned that there should be no additional expectations on teachers which increase workload.

BM highlighted that the link between social deprivation and attainment will be valuable. It should also support partnership working.

JM welcomed the inclusion of wider achievement. MT advised that information from the tool will feed into the school handbook and there will also other opportunities to distil the information for parents.

SS stated that the development of the tool would continue, however the title of the tool was not endorsed by the Board. She asked MT to consult further on the title of the tool.

5. Discussions of future Management Board priorities

SS invited Alan Johnston (AJ) to introduce the item on the future of the Management Board priorities. AJ asked the Board to reflect on the role of the Board and the links with wider stakeholders and other education governance group.

The comments included the following areas that the Board should focus on:

- Monitoring quality of implementation as well as absolute progress.
- Long term, high level benefits realisation strategy. How will we measure the benefits realised over several years? Have we made the desired impact on children, young people and the economy?
- Seeing CfE in practice, we should consider ways to have the board engage directly with young people, for example by holding a Board meeting in a learning environment, and having as part of the agenda an opportunity to engage with children and young people.
- Having a continued view of the risk elements attached to the programme, keeping a close eye on the risks and concerns
- Maintaining a focus on getting the key messages right
- Looking at cultural change and if can we measure it?
- The transition from Senior Phase to Further and Higher Education and the world of work.
- Monitoring universities' progress in terms of their CfE commitments.

AJ agreed to consider the Board member comments and update the Board on proposals at the next meeting.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Board will be held in December. (*Post meeting note: this meeting will take place on the afternoon of Monday 21st January.*)

CLOSE