

Parent/Governors Meeting – 25th January 2018 – Minutes

1. Head teacher provided an update on the school's priorities and the School Improvement Plan (available on the school website):
 - Disadvantaged pupils, comprising 40% of the overall CSG school intake in the main school, made excellent progress in their GCSE results (0.4 progress 8 score – with the average progress 8 score being 0, and the overall year 11 CSG progress 8 score being 0.65)
 - CSG whole GCSE cohort is within the top 10% of schools nationally based on the progress 8 score.
 - The rollout of linear based courses continues across both GCSE and A Levels with AS levels now 'standalone'.
 - Strong school emphasis on career pathways and education across all year groups.
 - London Borough of Camden leading the way on Mental Health in schools. CSG has contributed to and adopted its Mental Health Policy.
 - Camden Schools Led Partnership was set up in 2015. CSG is an active member sharing knowledge with partner schools.
 - Ongoing budget reductions discussed later in the meeting.
 - Many thanks to CASCA for all its events and fundraising.

2. Chair of Governors provided update on the Governing Body explaining its composition; it comprises of a mix of experienced and new governors ensuring ideas and skills are updated.

3. Chair of Finance & Premises Committee gave overview of the bleak financial picture faced by the school. The increased burden on the school has resulted in teachers having increased contact time and ongoing departmental expenditure cuts. The 6th form has been particularly hard hit in terms of funding cuts, resulting in CSG having the lowest funding per pupil in the Borough. Nevertheless, its results continue to be the best in Camden.

4. School Bursar provided update on the Building Works which are due to be completed by 9th March 2018. The 6th form has gained a silent study area and newly configured classrooms. The dining hall and new reception area are soon to be completed. The school car park area has been reduced by 50%. Huge thanks to CASCA and its '60 for 60' campaign which has raised funds to enable the new areas to be furnished and completed.

5. Questions:

- Why is CSG the lowest funded school in the LA? This is a result of the size of its 6th form and the way that the Camden Funding Formula is calculated.
- Are there any plans to change the 6th form entry requirements now that the linear grading system is in place? The school has carefully considered this question. The requirements will remain the same. The school has many interventions to support all students including twilight sessions, support groups, small group lessons, advice and resources, enabling all girls to do their best. The 6th form is an academic 6th form and the entry requirement must reflect this.
- Why is the requirement to get into the triple science GCSE course high? This is a difficult course, involving extra learning sessions after school and commitment from the students.
- When are the 6th form mocks? January for Year 13.
- Should the new 6th form intake students' families be encouraged to contribute more towards school fundraising? There is an ongoing soft push for fundraising both from the school and from CASCA – yet it is important that families do not feel under pressure to 'pay' for their childrens' education. Nevertheless, this suggestion has been noted.

Thank you to all governors, parents and staff who attended the meeting.