



Governors' update Autumn term 2014

It has been a busy first term for the Governors at Kew Riverside. Not only do we have a new Chair, we also have five new co-opted governors who have joined us, bringing a wealth of skills and experience that will benefit the school and assist in supporting Michael and his leadership team.

After six years as Chair, Jane Spencer officially stood down from her role in September but has agreed to stay on as a co-opted governor. She brings incredible knowledge and insight from her many years' involvement and we are both grateful for all her guidance and hard work over the years, as well as thankful she will remain as a valuable member of our governing body.

Our new Chair is a familiar face amongst many parents: Sabina Regan has been a governor for two years and has one child now at secondary school (RPA) and two others still at Kew Riverside. Jenny Mikkelsen was re-elected as Vice-Chair and provides continuity with her incredible support and advice to all governors and the leadership team.

Our new governors come from a variety of backgrounds:

Robin Birn is a professional marketing, research and business development consultant and trainer, with experience in developing strategies and marketing plans for medium sized businesses.

Jamie Holloway works with a shipping company and specialises in procurement, negotiating the purchase of goods and services to drive savings and maximise value for money.

Lorna Francis is another familiar face and parent from Kew Riverside with one child at secondary (Christ's), two at KRPS, and a two year old. She is a qualified counsellor and cognitive behaviour therapist and has worked as a bereavement counsellor. She continues to study in the field of counselling.

Graham Webber brings ten years' experience in the civil service, with a focus on international policy, public finance, project management and strategy.

Susan Burningham has lectured in English at a number of universities. She has a passion for English, history and geography and is a seasoned fund-raiser for many worthy causes.

This Autumn term the governors have already held meetings for the Engagement & Communications (E&C) committee, the Finance & Resources

(F&R) committee, the Curriculum & Achievement (CAC) committee, not to mention the half-termly committee meetings of the Full Governing Body. All governors have also been attending training courses and getting up-to-speed with the new curriculum, changes to teachers' pay policy, and how to interpret school data. Three governors have conducted school visits where they observe lessons, and there has been a meeting on PPG and PEG (Pupil Premium Grant and Physical Education Grant) to explain how allocated funds are being spent at KRPS. A very busy schedule indeed.

Louise Quin (Finance Officer) has done much work to ensure the school is on sound financial footing and continues to work closely with Michael and Sonia to keep tabs on spending and ensuring that funding is in place for future projected expenses that will arise in 2015.

The CAC committee has had presentations on EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) and also the RAISEonline data which shows how KRPS is performing in terms of achievement and performance of its pupils. It is a very important part of supporting the school's self-evaluation. More analysis will follow in the Spring term.

The new E&C committee has got off to a flying start: discussions have already been held with the PTA about fundraising events and we are actively looking at how to support furnishing a new library for the school. We will keep you all posted regarding next steps, but it does look like exciting times ahead, even if it involves lots of forms and paperwork! The committee is also working with Michael on a new update to the school website ready for mid January.

If you have any questions for the governors, please do not hesitate to speak to us around the school or email governors@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk