

Minutes of the meeting of the South Bank Engineering UTC Learning & Teaching Committee
held at 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 3 May 2017
South Bank Engineering UTC, 56 Brixton Hill SW2 1QS

Present

Ian Brixey (Chair)
Dan Cundy
Richard Parrish
Rao Bhamidimarri
Tony Roberts
Joanne Young

In attendance

Kam Bains
Pervena Singh (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting. The committee welcomed Kam Bains, Vice Principal to the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

No governors declared an interest in any item on the agenda.

3. Matters arising

All matters arising were addressed on the agenda.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 1 March 2017.

The Chair requested that minutes are circulated to the Chair within 10 working days of the meeting.

5. Principal's Learning and Teaching report

The committee was presented with the Principal's learning and teaching report, which included an update on student performance, including issues and actions, staff performance including consistency of learning and teaching, inputs from employer partners, behaviour of learning and languages.

The committee noted the process of data collection for the performance and progress of key stage 4/Year 10 students including effort grades, current performance, and professional predictions, e.g. assessments, coursework and classwork.

The committee discussed the objectivity of data and sought reassurance that the data interpreted has gone through a robust process. It was reported that teachers have undertaken specific development to determine predictions which have been justified with evidence.

Tony Roberts joined the meeting

The committee noted that both the Principal and Vice Principal felt confident that teachers are interpreting student performance data via a vigorous process and projected grades assigned to students are adequately justified. It was further reported that staff have been provided with training and development, along with one-to-ones to coach teachers through the process and to allow a robust level of scrutiny for predicted targets.

The committee agreed that focus needs to be given to the process rather than the outcome, at this stage, due to the lack of immediate results available.

After discussion, the committee requested that further information on the process of gathering predicted grades and investigation of assumed grades, be provided for further discussion at the next meeting. It was suggested that a use of case studies on a few students could aid with detailing the process steps.

The committee further requested that students' comments and headlines on 'how they felt' about their subject classes, e.g. what is working well, should be reported to the governors in conjunction with the illustrated figures.

In addition, the committee expressed an interest to use national averages data for comparable analysis. The committee was informed that a year to year comparison would be difficult due to changes in grade frameworks.

The committee noted that the UTC were still waiting clarity from the Department of Education (DfE) on what a definitive pass grade would be, e.g. a 4 or 5, and clarity on where students will fall if they are on the cusp of a 4 or 5.

The committee discussed entry rates for progression to Year 12, and noted the additional pathways for students who prefer a different style of learning.

The committee were informed about staff performance and noted the tabled staff observation records. It was requested that staff data be normalised to show progress and movement in either positive or negative direction. The committee noted that the lowest recorded grade for teaching performance for one particular teacher is on an agency contract.

The committee discussed the quality of teaching and confirmed that regular CPD sessions are being held to ensure that best practice is used throughout lessons and lesson planning e.g. setting objectives for the lessons and having

them visible at the start of the lesson. The committee discussed the cross curricular lesson, which staff are responding to well.

The committee discussed the diversity of UTC's teachers, and the need for role models for Black, Monitory and Ethic students.

The committee discussed the employer partner inputs and projects and agreed that measuring students' progress of skill development and engagement is essential.

The committee commented on the behaviour of students at the UTC, and expressed concern at the number of students who have been excluded. It was reported that no student had been permanently excluded, although two year 10 students had moved on voluntarily following dialogue with families.

The committee were also made aware, that students are showing initiative and a greater sense of independent responsibility, which is evident during lesson observations.

The committee asked the Principal to review his information pack for the next meeting in line with the comments made at this meeting to develop/improve the process. In particular to present information in a way that changes can be clearly seen from meeting to meeting.

Richard Parrish left the meeting.

6. Heart Beat standards

The committee discussed the Heart Beat framework used to measure students' behaviour set against professional standards.

**Date of next meeting
3.30 pm, on Wednesday, 22 November 2017**

Confirmed as a true record

..... (Chair)