

Hello Maryland Newsreaders

Here at Maryland we thought it would be good idea to introduce you to the Governing Board, tell you a little about ourselves, what we do and possibly even why we do it.

So over the coming months in each Newsletter you will get a personalised message from each of us and I thought it best to start with myself as Chair.

I first became a member of the Governing Board way back in 1998 as a Parent Governor and have tried to make myself useful ever since.

Governors are classified by Ofsted (and are interrogated by them during inspections) as part of the Senior Management Team of the school and are primarily tasked with holding the school to account for pupil progress and performance.

To achieve this we are heavily engaged in target setting across the curriculum, we also look at (and review) school policies, agree the budget and prioritise the spend (usually after much debate), we have link governors for things like Governor Training, IT, Safe Guarding, Maths/Literature, we attend sub-committee meeting such as Finance & Premises and Curriculum, we deal with exclusions and discipline and even carry out the Head Teachers Annual Performance Review.

Governors can make huge differences to a school by volunteering their time and bringing different, and varied skills to the table. I personally work within the Facility Management and Building Maintenance Sector (also spent about 18 years in construction) so bring a fair amount of expertise on mechanical/electrical maintenance, the associated statutory compliance, Health & Safety, Project Management and a few other bits and pieces.

Reason why I do it?

Being an ex-parent governor (now a co-opted one) I still care deeply about the education our children receive and truly believe my input into the school is beneficial to its continued success especially as my skill set is outside of what the teaching staff would be expected to have, so if my knowledge and advice can help them to get on with actually educating our future generations then I consider it time well spent.

Kindest regards
Graham