



March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

I previously wrote to you at the beginning of February 2019 to invite nominations for the vacancy of a Parent Governor.

I am delighted to say we have received a good response and there are four candidates for the one vacancy. This means we must now hold a ballot.

Please find attached a copy of the personal statements from the candidates who are; Faye Healy, Michael McMillan, Julian McDougall and Emma Longstaff. Each family can submit one vote for their selected candidate, regardless of the number of students you have attending the school. As indicated on the online form you should vote by clicking the box alongside the name of the parent you wish to support. Once you have selected your candidate and submitted your vote you will receive a notification. All votes must be completed by 1pm on Friday 29th March.

If it is not possible for you to vote for any reason please contact the school via email at enquiry@knbs.co.uk.

Votes can be made using our online ballot form

<https://freeonlinesurveys.com/p/20Wkkql2?qid=1126413>

The election will be decided by a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, lots will be drawn.

Once the election has been completed, I will inform you of the outcome.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at a.collyer@knbs.co.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Collyer
Chair of Governing Board

Candidate Statements:

Faye Healy

My son is in year 7, so he has just started his secondary education; I therefore have an invested interest in Kings Norton Boys School. Irrespective of this, I also care about the education of all of our children – academic achievements are important, but the development of our boys social and other life skills, in my opinion, is as equally important. This would be an element of my school governance that I would encourage to be added as a crucial aspect to all pupils learning.

My working experience is varied; I am currently employed as a Support Manager for Shaw Trust and I also work part-time for Birmingham City Football Club as the Welfare Officer for the Women's Team and have a vast amount of experience within a Safeguarding Lead position too; and more recently as the Safeguarding Champion for Ixion Holdings.

My experience has enabled me to address other professionals from different arenas ensuring they are accountable for their work. I have a professional attitude and am capable and competent of challenging others and am never afraid of asking questions. I also have lots of experience of running projects and ensuring that finances are kept within budget, and outcomes are achieved.

I know parent governors are part of the Governing Body mix, along with teachers, other staff and community representatives, however, I believe that everyone at every level can make a valuable contribution. Admittedly, I don't have any experience of being a parent governor, however, you can be assured that I want what is best for our boys and will work with the passion and energy needed to ensure Kings Norton Boys School continues to be governed to a high standard by meeting future challenges head on, so that every child has the best start in life.

Michael McMillan

My son has recently begun his journey at KNBS. My child's education and surroundings at school are very important. I believe parent involvement in decision making at school is key to ensuring a positive and safe environment for our children to achieve and excel in life.

In my work at the council I have been involved with teenagers from varying backgrounds in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour. A key part of my role is working in partnership with agencies such as Police, Schools, Youth Offending and Social Services. I have encountered a number of children involved with organised crime and street gangs. My role involves prevention and early intervention strategies and to develop a working relationship with both school and families.

In my current role I chair a number of partnership groups within the wards that I manage. I have a good working knowledge and understanding of Birmingham City Councils safeguarding policies and

procedures. I currently chair the Aston/ Newtown stakeholders meeting attended by Police 3 schools and local community groups to strategically look at opportunities to ensure that local youth develop and enhance their personal aspirations.

I believe in unlocking the potential each pupil has, ensuring that regardless of social background that they aspire to succeed and have self-belief.

I am a local resident to school and would like to see the school involved in local community more. In my 50 years of life I have experienced many challenging issues which I have overcome with help and support and believe I have the necessary skills to help KNBS engage with pupils who are finding life difficult or are possibly suffering some difficulties in home life which may impact on their education. I believe I would be a positive addition to KNBS parent governors.

Julian McDougall

I'm a parent of a year 8 KNBS student and as I live very close to the school, I'm also a community stakeholder. I'm keen to play a role in the school's governance to input to its academic, pastoral and community remits. Related, but less important than my parental and community interests, I have worked in education myself for 25 years, in FE (Halesowen College), HE (Newman and Wolverhampton) and I now run a national research centre. I've also been a school governor before.

As Professor of Education, my research explores technology, media and learning. I run a doctoral programme for teachers with a specialism in media, creative arts and technology. For what it's worth, I've published quite a lot of books, articles, chapters and reports and worked on projects and given talks in lots of countries. More details here:

<https://staffprofiles.bournemouth.ac.uk/display/jmcdougall>.

This experience would, I believe, be valuable for a governor role as I would combine my parental investment in KNBS with a research-informed knowledge of education. To give one example, I am currently involved in research into digital literacy, misinformation and online safeguarding. Like all parents, I think education must strike the best balance between harnessing technology for learning and employability with resilience to potential harm, but I've also researched this area, so I would bring that perspective to the governing body.

I'm the Junior Membership Secretary of Weoley Hill Cricket Club, where several KNBS students play.

As parent governor, my core objective would be to represent parents and carers and contribute to the challenging project of maintaining the balance between the school as a nurturing, egalitarian and safe environment where diversity is valued and as an improving institution against external drivers such as budgetary constraints, league tables, the changing policy landscape and OFSTED.

Emma Longstaff

I believe that I can add value to the board of governors and I am confident in my ability to take an active role. I am proud of the community I live in and I actively promote local businesses which a number of my friends run in and around Kings Norton. I am a confident communicator and am able to challenge, support and negotiate well.

As a parent of a secondary school student I realise that it is harder to know what day to day life is like at school, and trying to get information out of your son can be even more difficult! If I am successful in my appointment I would like to look at the communication strategy for the school. I am also experienced in career development for young people and have successfully worked with a number of work experience students and apprentices in my career.

My key strengths include leadership, coaching, mentoring, and strong presentation skills. I have often been called upon to fix problems and provide solutions.

I have worked for over 10 years in financial services, working on projects of varying sizes.

In my day job I am responsible for working with teams and leaders to drive change and embed standards. I understand strategy and plans well and I am able to provide constructive comments in many situations. I am confident and able to speak to people well of all ages, backgrounds and levels of authority.

I have dealt with some difficult situations within the education system and I also have a close relative who works in education so I can draw upon that experience too. I am committed and enthusiastic and I have the time to do what is needed from me and more.