

Ealing Leaders of Governance - pen portraits

Mary Geddes

My experience is in special schools but of course there are many issues which are common to all schools.

I have been a headteacher in a special school, I am an Inspector with Ofsted and Chair of Governors in a special school (Springhallow).

I also work as an independent consultant, again in special schools, including, for instance:

Working with a school in Special Measures including working with governors.

Preparing a school for inspection (including governors).

What else? Whatever school governors have to deal with, though finance is not my strong point

Safeguarding December 2014

Virginia Jordan

2005-2014

Freelance training, development and project work. Focus on team building, understanding and managing change, customer care and focus, coaching, handling conflict and specific projects including work with teams in Early Years, schools and with governing bodies.

Experience of governance:

From 2006-2012,

Perivale Primary school initially as member of IEB and then as community governor. Chaired Teaching and Learning Committee, Management Committee and Governing Body itself. Delivered training to GB on range of topics including preparing for Ofsted inspection, understanding the budget and its connection to teaching and learning, team working and planning. Led selection process for new head teacher, supported school through significant organisational change

TINA BEDEAU

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS - JOHN PERRYNS PRIMARY SCHOOL

I believe schools function best when a strong relationship exists between the school, children and the parents/carers. On that basis, I engaged with the school on the level of Governance, to provide support to the children, the school itself as well as the parents of John Perryn Primary School; in the hope that not only my child but all children at the school would receive the best education possible in an LA maintained school.

I became Chair of Governors in 2012 and during my tenure, I have been involved with and assisted with many things including two Ofsted Inspections (our School and Children Centre); the recruitment of the schools Senior Leadership Team and other key staff. I was also Chair of the Staffing Committee; and Link Governor for our Children Centre. I spearheaded and organised a whole school initiative for Attendance and Punctuality. Also, I Chaired the Staff Wellbeing Working Party. The latter role led to us organising a Wellbeing Inset Day for Staff & Governors, as well as the development of our Governing Body.

In order to facilitate an effective GB, it is essential that the Chair encourages **ALL** Governors to actively participate in the school, whether it be to Chair a Committee or as a Link Governor. The beauty of this role, is that it enables you to appreciate the positive impact that the Governor's contributions/initiatives have on the children, parents/carers of your school. It is a role that continually enables personal development of the individual governors.

Gillian Borg

Background

- I was a primary headteacher in Ealing for 14 years until August 2010.
- During 2010-2011 I was a visiting tutor at Roehampton University.
- From 2011 until 2014 when I retired from full time work, I was used by the LBE to work as an interim headteacher at various schools.
- I currently deliver safeguarding training for the council to school staff and governors.

Governing Body Experience.

I am a co-opted governor and chair of governors at:

- Greenfields Children's Centre, which was awarded outstanding by Ofsted, in 2014.
- Wolf Fields Primary School, which was graded good by Ofsted in 2013.

Since June 2014 I have been one of four, LA Rapid Response Governors at Hathaway Primary School, after Ofsted put it into special measures in May 2014

Strengths and Key Skills

- I understand the role and responsibilities of the headteacher.
- I have 18 years of experience of writing headteacher reports to governors.
- I understand and have experience of how children's centres operate and the requirements on their governing bodies.
- I have expertise in safeguarding and child protection
- I have experience of budget setting, staff restructuring, staff recruitment and other day to day school issues
- I would be able to support a new chair.
- I am able to deliver training.
- I have sat on disciplinary hearings and appeal panels
- I have worked with governors to arrange productive focus visits.
- I have some experience of special educational needs having opened and run a unit for children with severe learning difficulties and being seconded part time to the SEN department at the LBE (2009 – 2010).

Maggie Pound

Having spent most of my working life as a nurse in the NHS I have lived in Ealing for over 30 years where both my children were educated. I am a magistrate and chair the Youth Panel in the West London Justice area.

I have been a school governor for approximately 12 years. I am currently a member of three governing bodies and chair of Cardinal Wiseman High School and Mt Carmel Primary School.

In January 2014 I was designated a National Leader of Governance by the National College. This role is a supportive one, designed to assist Chairs of Governors who may be new to the role, or where the school, for whatever reason, is in difficult circumstances. At Coston, part of Ealing's Challenge programmed I am Vice Chair.

Over the years I have chaired

- All committees apart from Finance
- Exclusion panels for pupils and attended appeals against permanent exclusion.
- Staff Disciplinary panels and dealt with Grievance and Capability issues.
- First Committee dealing with re-structuring.
- Introduced Induction programme for new governors
- Encourage all governors to undertake training, sit on range of committees, and take the chair as appropriate.

- My appointment at Mt Carmel was to take the chair and improve the GB's practices.
- Had to suspend a H/T, dealt with fall out and stress involved.
- Recruited H/T, deputies and senior leaders.

Shirley Kenworthy-Wright

I have been a Community Governor at North Ealing Primary School for over 20 years.

As a retired M&S store manager my expertise is in personnel and finance. In my capacity as Chair of Governors I have worked closely with the school leadership team and the GB to expand the school from 2 to 3 form entry with the associated consultations, building projects and staff restructures to ensure that we remain an inclusive school which meets the needs of the local community and continues to provide a rounded education which enables all our pupils to reach their potential socially and academically. I have led the appointments panel for 2 Headteachers, the performance management of the Headteacher and chaired the appeals panel for a staff dismissal. I have recently undertaken the NCL Chair of Governors Development Course and want to use my knowledge and experience.

I have recently been supporting Hathaway Primary school as part of a LA rapid recovery governor team appointed when the school went into special measures.

John Popham

I represented Cleveland Ward on Ealing Council from May 2002 until May 2014. I have served on a number of governing bodies:

1997 – 2002 Sacred Heart High School, Hammersmith

1998 – 2009 Mayfield Primary School

2002 – 2008 Elthorne Park High School

2009 – 2013 Cardinal Wiseman

2009 – Present Gifford Primary School

2012 – Present North Ealing Primary School

Most recently been part of a team of LA rapid recovery governors working to help support Hathaway Primary School

Daljit Singh Sehmbi

I have lived in the local area all my life I was educated in Ealing. I have two children my son is currently at University studying for an engineering degree after completing his High School education at Greenford High. My daughter is currently at Greenford High School studying and working towards her GCSE's and a successful application to attend sixth Form at Greenford High.

I have taken on additional responsibility to work as a Governor with Ravenor Primary School and help strengthen the governing body and improve data analysis. The aim was to use my experience and challenge the governors to take ownership of key areas and input into the processes to improve school governance.

I have an enthusiasm for, a commitment to and an interest in education. My background is in Information Technology and I am working as a Civil Servant. In addition to my role as Vice Chair of Governors, I am the Child Protection Governor with an interest in Online Safety for children.

I have experience in analysing data, recruitment and improving business processes to improve “Leadership & Management”

Why did I want to become a school governor?

The aim was to make a positive contribution to the community by playing a part in improving children's education and supporting the school.

I believe school governance is easy and I encourage fellow governors to use or build expertise in each area and provide contribution in meetings to extend their own knowledge and take them out of their comfort zone.

Matthew Jeatt

Matthew is a highly experienced governor who has been working in Infant, Primary and High Schools in Ealing since 2001.

He has chaired whole governing bodies and all of their committees.

Matthew has over ten years' experience of CP and SEN issues having served as nominated governor in several schools. He is an experienced mentor for other governing body chairs and also a member of the LA Overview and Scrutiny Panel for education matters, a governor member of the School Exclusion Review Panel and a member of Ealing Schools Forum. Matthew is an international consultant on future trends and consumer values and works closely with many of the world's leading brands.