

GOVERNOR NEWS

JOINT LOCAL GOVERNING BODY - Brenzett & Kingsnorth Schools

<u>Meetings</u>: Governors have continued to meet "virtually" during Lockdown 3 and have been kept updated by senior leaders, sharing the issues around COVID restrictions and the ever changing Government guidelines that have so affected our pupils, staff and parents. Governors have been supporting the schools' management team in monitoring health & safety, risk assessments, budget and recruitment matters and most importantly at the moment, with the statutory monitoring of safeguarding and wellbeing.

<u>Changes to Governing Body</u>: The Governing Body currently has 15 governors who have strategic responsibility across both schools. We have more recently welcomed Paul Harrison as a new parent governor, representing Brenzett School. Paul has lots of experience in the education sector and we look forward to working with him.

There may be more openings for parent governors in the future, so PLEASE give some thought to putting yourself (or another!) forward if this happens! Lots of support available.

<u>Governor "Buddies</u>": Staff and Pupil Wellbeing are both being continually looked at by senior leaders, as they should be. This is seen as vital to help the school communities recover from the effects of the past year.

We have therefore introduced a system whereby governors have been linked with individual members of senior leadership and key staff in both schools – this will be chance for governors to "check in" regularly, but very informally, on staff welfare and wellbeing. We hope this will give some much needed support for the huge responsibility shouldered by senior leaders and their teams right now – a chance to just say "How are you?" and for governors to engage with staff on a more informal level.

"<u>Meet the Governors</u>": We will be featuring a governor every so often in school newsletters over the coming months – a chance for parents to meet others who are working in the background for the benefit of the children and staff. Hopefully one day there will be chance for everyone to meet face to face!

Today it is the Chairman, leading from the front!

Meet Chris Myers



I have been a governor at Kingsnorth and Brenzett for 5 years now and find it very rewarding that I am able to make my contribution to both our schools. During this time, I have had several responsibilities including health & safety, governor training and being Vice Chair before taking up the role of Chair in September 2019. The last year has certainly been challenging with the current COVID pandemic and helping our schools ensure their environments can be as safe as possible for both staff and children – this has always been the number one priority. Governors and staff have all worked exceptionally hard on this, using all our different skillsets with the constantly changing regulations from central Government. The majority of the work Governors do is all behind the scenes assisting with planning and decision making to ensure the best learning environment for all the children.

I, like some other members of the Governing Body, am also a parent at the school, so I get to see things from both sides and can provide a balanced feedback in Governors' meetings and to the school in general.

Parental feedback is always welcome so do get in touch via the Clerk (Jan White) if you have any questions or queries. email: clerk@kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk