



At SCS we aim to enable our learners to have success for today and to be prepared for tomorrow.

نحن في مدرسة الصفا كوميونيتي نسعى الى تأهيل طلابنا للنجاح اليوم وتحضيرهم لمواجهة المستقبل

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEMBERS VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**  
**AT 16H30 VIA ZOOM**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	S. MERCHANT	(PROPRIETOR)	(SM)
	S. DUCKITT	(PRINCIPAL)	(SD)
	L. FRIDD	(HEADTEACHER PRIMARY & VICE PRINCIPAL)	(LF)
	M. DAVIES	(HEADTEACHER SECONDARY)	(MD)
	Z. HARRINGTON	(PRINCIPAL SAFA BRITISH SCHOOL)	(ZH)
	T. GREGORY	(COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA ADVISOR)	(TG)
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	L. KHATIB	(CHAIRPERSON) (PROPRIETOR)	(LK)
<b>MINUTES:</b>	L. LE GRANGE	(PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO PRINCIPAL)	(LLG)

The meeting was convened at 16h30 by SD and the following items were discussed.  
Apologies were received from LK.

**1. WELCOME**

All members were welcomed.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes were deemed true and correct.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**4. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

The Principal's report was tabled and forwarded to members before the meeting.

**5. SECONDARY REPORT**

The Head of Secondary's report was tabled and forwarded to members before the meeting.

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## 6. PRIMARY REPORT

The Headteacher of Primary's report was tabled and forwarded to members before the meeting.

## 7. COVID-19

- 7.1 The school has not had many staff testing positive, most staff cases have been close-contact types.
- 7.2 Currently a pinch point year group has been Year 2. LF mentioned that the DHA had been extremely helpful in dealing with all COVID related matters.
- 7.3 168 children are currently on Distance Learning. Many of these are parents who have opted for DL some students on DL are positive or close contacts.
- 7.4 It is anticipated that term 2 will continue to be challenging in relation to the number of COVID cases (predominantly originating from parents) and close contacts.
- 7.5 This has become a 24-hour job for our senior leadership teams with vast amounts of paperwork to be completed. SCS has regularly updated parents and staff. Leaders stay in touch with families impacted follow up calls with an email. Parents appreciate being kept in the loop.
- 7.6 At the moment playdates are a cause for concern especially in the younger year groups.
- 7.7 Various flyers have been sent to parents to explain the procedures around attending onsite learning and to remind that weekend behaviour (mixing of bubbles) impacts on the school as a whole.
- 7.8 SD thanked LF and MD for their efforts and reminded that a large aspect of COVID is out of our control.

## 8. STAFF TRAVEL

- 8.1 Staff will be strongly advised on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021 not to travel over the half term break. (Secretary's note: This was undertaken).
- 8.2 As a school we have a policy in place than should a staff member travel, they are required to test on arrival and perform a follow up test five days after arriving back in Dubai. This is due to staff arriving back, being tested, receiving a negative result and then developing symptoms some days later.
- 8.3 If staff travel over half term, then there is not enough time to perform the second test and return to onsite occupation by Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021. Some centres also only return results in 48 hours.
- 8.4 Staff will be reminded that the current situation is moveable and quick-changing. It is highly probable that they could be stuck out of the UAE and thus not be able to be onsite to perform their duties.
- 8.5 ZH mentioned that they emphasised the duty of care towards students and the school community.
- 8.6 TB stated that in the UAE #weareallresponsible. He congratulated the team on how well the school was managing the situation and would like to see more of this stated in the media and social media. SD explained that SCS had opted for a lower profile to be sensitive

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to families that had already lost loved ones to COVID. MD stated that SCS had budgeted for the next academic year to employ staff for Marketing and Social Media purpose. Currently LF and MD undertake most of the social media activity at SCS.

## **9. VACCINATIONS**

- 9.1 Currently 34 teaching staff had been vaccinated with the first dose, the second dose to be administered in due course.
- 9.2 All of the facilities staff have been vaccinated with both doses. This was done over the winter break.

## **10. NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR**

- 10.1 TB congratulated the team on the healthy numbers enrolled for September 2021. He stated that he only hears good reports about SCS and this is definitely reflected in the numbers.
- 10.2 SD remarked on the positive changes for the new academic year: new appointments, building developments for secondary, positive numbers.

SM thanked the team for all of their efforts and reminded them to keep focused and ensure the well-being of students remains the top priority.

## **11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

- 11.1 Provisional date for the next meeting: Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

The meeting concluded at 17H28.