**Board of Directors’ Annual Report 2015-2016**

**London Welsh School: Charity Commission Number:313651**

As another busy year draws to a close, I report on the Board’s activities and areas of focus over the last twelve months.

**Board membership** has seen a few changes during the course of year. We thank Mrs Eleri Brady for her sterling work as Chair over the last three years before stepping down in January.

We are particularly indebted to retiring member, Mr Alun Thomas who has served as Treasurer for over twenty five years and has worked unstintingly to ensure the financially viability of the school and has prepared our Annual Financial Reports for the Charities Commission over all these years. He was also instrumental in convincing the Welsh Government to support us financially with an Annual Grant. The Accountancy firm, Crossley have been appointed to take over some these responsibilities.

Mr Emyr Thomas and Mr Richard Brunt have resigned from the Board this year and we thank them for their professional advice during their time with us and for their continued interest in the success of the school.

We have been joined by Mr Rob Nichols, Minister of East Castle Street, Mr Neil Thomas, an accountant and Miss Glenys Roberts, a teacher, also a former teacher at YGLL.

This is the Board of Directors structure for 2016-2017.

**Members of the Board for 2016 -2017**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name |  | Responsibility | Contact details |
| Miss Rachel Rawlins | Lead Teacher |  | [rachelrawlins@ysgolgymraegllundain.co.uk](mailto:rachelrawlins@ysgolgymraegllundain.co.uk) |
| Mrs Eleri Brady | Secretary |  | [eleribrady@ysgolgymraegllundain.co.uk](mailto:eleribrady@ysgolgymraegllundain.co.uk) |
| Mrs Margaret Jones | Chair | Education/ SEND | jones\_pm@blueyonder.co.uk |
| Mr Robert Nichols | Director | Ethical/ spiritual/ moral, | rob.nicholls75@gmail.com |
| Miss Glenys Roberts | Director | Education | glenys164@gmail.com |
| Mr Ceredig Thomas | Director | Vice Chairman Parent Representative | [ceredig.thomas@taylorwoodrow.com](mailto:ceredig.thomas@taylorwoodrow.com) |
| Mr Neil Thomas | Director | Governance/ Financial Advisor | neilthomas393@hotmail.com |
| Mrs Sioned Wiliam | Director | **Media/Marketing** | sioned.wiliam@ntlworld.com |
| Miss Sara Wyn Roberts | **Advisor** | **Legal matters** | sarawynroberts@gmail.com |

**Staffing:** We say farewell to our Head Teacher, Mrs Julie Griffiths who has worked hard to further develop the school over the last four years both educationally and through the implementation of new proceduress and policies. We have also enjoyed a long period of stability amongst the Staff under her leadership. Our best wishes to her on her return to live in Cardiff. We congratulate Miss Rachel Rawlins on her well deserved promotion to the role of Lead Teacher and we look forward to welcoming Miss Sioned Wyn Jones in September who will be teaching Class 2. Mrs Rhian Hughes Ahmed has been teaching French to Class 2 this term, which adds a valued dimension to the curriculum and we thank her for work .The Board is also aware of the huge impact the Teaching Support Staff: Mrs Eleri Brady, Miss Angharad Roberts, Mrs Sharon Thomas and Miss Ruth Tremain, have on supporting learning and general day to day management and we thank them for their hard work.

**Site:** With much relief, we finally agreed a lease with Ealing Authority late in the Summer term of 2015 enabling us to relocate to the Hanwell Community Centre by September. The Board is particularly grateful to the Staff for the swiftness with which they worked to unpack and organise the classrooms to enable them to open the school doors on the first day of term. The children soon settled into our light, airy wing of the Centre. Meanwhile, the Staff have persevered nobly with the inconveniences of the delays in the completion and adaption of the site for our use. The delay is partly due to planning permission required or alterations in a listed building from English Heritage. Ealing has assured us that the all-weather playground will be ready by September.

A **Site Safety inspection** was conducted by the Site Health and Safety subcommittee in the Spring Term. A result of which, stronger security devices were installed at the exit points.

Fire Drills take place termly.

**Welsh Government**. The School was particularly pleased to welcome Mr Carwyn Jones, the Assembly’s Presiding Officer to officially open the school in December. Also in attendance was the Welsh Secretary of State Alun Cairns. We value their support and interest in the school’s progress.

A meeting with the Welsh Government has been agreed for September to discuss the funding for the next three round from 2017- 2020.

**Change of status:** Considerable work has been undertaken by Miss Sara Roberts who has prepared the papers for official transfer of assets and liabilities from the old trust to the to Company Limited by Guarantee. The Articles of Memorandum have been adapted accordingly. Over the past few months, she has been liaising regularly with PWW, the School Solicitors. Her professional input and time means a considerable saving in legal fees for the School. We will continue to operate as a Charity and the transfer papers have been submitted to the Charities Commission.

**Strategic Development Plan**: This was prepared by the Board early in the Autumn Term, which outlines our provision and priorities for the period 2015 -2019. It supports the School Development Plan as drawn up by the Staff. The Board has a

strong relationship with the Head Teacher and we have worked together on school improvement. The Board receives twice yearly data on pupil performance and have a detailed knowledge of pupil progress. The SDP is regularly reviewed and Julie Griffiths reports to the Board on its implementation. Before the end of term, the Education subcommittee will meet with JG and RR for end of year evaluation of pupil performance and to work together to identify priorities for 2016-17.

**Policies adopted 2015 -2016:** In accordance with Department of Education’s recommendations a number of new policies have been drafted by the Staff, considered and adopted by the Board. They cover both curricular policies and procedural policies. These can be accessed on our school website**.**

**Finance:** An aspect of our role is to ensure solvency and probity. Our treasurer has ensured that our resources have been managed effectively. The school budget is balanced with no significant carry forward.

**Engaging with Parents’ and Pupils:** We engage with parents and pupils in a range of ways such as school visits, attending school events and fund raising activities. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet a representation from the Board at the next Parents’ Evening.

**Governor Training** was received in the following areas:

* Safeguarding: All Governors
* Safe Recruitment: Margaret Jones, Chair
* School Governing Bodies’ Roles & Responsibilities - All Governors
* Trustee Training workshop with PWW: Margaret Jones, Chair.

Recommended actions and procedures have been implemented as a result of the training.

There is very good attendance by our committed Board members at our twice termly meetings. We are fortunate to be able to draw on a range of skills and expertise which is having a positive impact on effective governance.

**Margaret Jones –Chair 25 06 16**

As Jewin's season of Cymdeithas events draws to a close we thank Mary Evans and Rachel Hughes for all their hard work organising the events and to everyone else for contributing so generously. It was another successful season and we look forward to the next