



Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

## Parent Governor Election

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to our recent letter, 9 parents/carers have put their names forward for election as Parent Governor. **There are two Parent Governor vacancies – one for West Hove Infants and one for Hove Junior School.**

As more than two people wish to stand for election, parents and carers are now asked to vote for their preferred candidate by secret ballot. The candidates' supporting statements are overleaf.

Attached to this letter is the ballot paper. Each parent/carer is permitted **one vote** and able to vote for **one** candidate.

After reading the statements, please put a cross against the one candidate of your choice. The voting forms should then be folded and handed into one of the school offices at either Hove Junior School or West Hove Infants School by midday **7<sup>th</sup> July 2021**.

The result of the election will be communicated via School Ping/Arbor and the school websites by 8th July 2021, as well as within in the HJS and WHIS weekly school newsletters.

Many thanks to those parents/carers who have put their names forward for election.

Kindest regards,

Belle Howard  
**Senior Clerk to Governors  
Hove Junior School**



## **Simon Barry**

### ***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I would like to become a Governor to help continue steering West Hove Infants in the right direction in order to retain its excellent reputation for academic success that creates kind, happy children.

My eldest current attends Y1 and our second child is starting Reception next September. We also have a third looking to follow in their small footsteps.

West Hove Infants is a fantastic school with an Outstanding OFSTED rating and I would like to help the school continue to improve and develop.

I work as a pilot for BA and I am lucky enough to have the time to attend meetings, Governor training and school visits when required.

My job involves working as a team whereby communication and problem solving skills are key. These skills would transfer to this role by enabling me to ask difficult questions if necessary on behalf of all the children the school serves.

Although I have no experience of school governance I believe I can bring a high level of support and strategic vision to the school. Having previously worked as an accountant I also have the ability to look diligently at the data used to track pupils' progress. I would monitor assessments of the performance of teaching so as to make sure the school sustains its success.

## **Marie Benton**

### ***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I have two children who'll be entering Year 3 and Year 1 in September, so for the coming two years I'll have children in both Juniors and Infants. I would love to join the federated board of Governors to do my best to advocate for parents at both schools, and to support the fantastic staff teams to give their best to our children.

I'm the Founder and Chief Executive of a national arts and homelessness charity, so I have an excellent understanding of organisational governance and of fundraising, and would hope to be able to add to the schools' resources by using those skills. I have also worked for a learning disability charity, meaning I have a good understanding of issues facing children with special educational needs and disabilities and their parents/carers.

I'm also a musician, and a passionate advocate of music's power to improve children's wellbeing and communication. If I were elected I would seek to ensure that parents feel their views and ideas are included at every level, and that our children leave the two schools not only exceeding expectations for reading, writing and maths, but also having had the chance to try activities that will nurture their passions and strengths, setting them on course for a fulfilled and happy young adulthood.



## **Sarah Brackenridge**

***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I would like to be a Parent Governor because I have worked within Secondary and Further Education for over 15 years and have skills that could be useful in a Primary setting. My son is in Reception and I am so impressed with the education and care he is receiving that I would like to support the school in return.

My background is in pastoral and student wellbeing support, helping pupils who are experiencing a range of barriers to learning and progression in education. In my current role I work at a Further Education college, supporting students aged 16 - 18 on a one to one basis with the aim of helping them to remain in education and achieve their academic potential. I also work with Brighton and Hove Young Carers and am a volunteer Independent Visitor, mentoring a young person in Local Authority care. Through my work, I have training and experience in Safeguarding responsibilities.

As a member of the BAME community I have a particular interest in how the school is developing and embedding equality, diversity and inclusion within the curriculum and ethos of the school.

I am passionate about making education accessible and inclusive for all children.

## **Millie Liddiard**

***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I am excited to be given the opportunity to apply to be a parent Governor at West Hove School. When [my son] started West Hove, we were new to the area and now feel really settled. [My son] loves his school (and Miss Lane!) and I would love the opportunity to aid and assist in element of his and others education. As a local resident of Marmion Road, we are currently working closely with the school to make the areas surrounding school safer for the children, with an ePetition about to go out requesting that the council to make important road safety measures as these are long overdue.

I work within the property industry, and have spent the last 18 months working for Brighton & Hove Council. I have lots of lettings, estate agency and property management training. I also hold asbestos awareness, RICS distance learning degree in: Residential Valuation and I am on my second year of my Msc in Building surveying. I also hold a clear DBS. I hope that my experience in difficult and stressful situations would be helpful and that my calm and professional manner would fit in well with the board.



## **Celia Normington**

***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I would like to join the Governing Board as I have a 4-year-old son, who is in Reception and a 2-year-old daughter, who I hope will join the school in 2022 and I would love to play a role in ensuring the school continues to deliver a fantastic education experience for them and their peers.

From an experience perspective, I have worked in the Business world for over 16 years and have spent the last 3 as Commercial Director of Higgidy, a local food manufacturing business, that employees over 300 people from diverse backgrounds. In this role, I work as a key member of the leadership team and have implemented a clear strategy and vision, which has seen the business grow by 40% in 3 years and has developed a positive and caring working culture.

I hope to be able to use my experience to have a positive impact and give back to a great school.

## **Becky Parker**

***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I wish to become a parent Governor for the federation of West Hove Infants so as to share with the school my son attends, and my local community, the financial knowledge I have learnt from my current role working for a multi academy trust and independent schools.

Currently I am employed as a Finance Business Partner for United Learning who are a group of schools who aim to provide excellent education to children.

I assist 14 schools by supporting the business manager/bursar on financial issues and meeting the head teacher as a financial conduit between central office and the school. Main areas of support I currently provide are on budget setting, management accounts, funding and benchmarking.

I can offer the school, and indeed the federation, my time, support and knowledge that I have gained within an educational environment.

I have experience of working with many different school sizes and mixes and have knowledge and understanding of ESFA and funding plus transition to national funding formulas.

I am passionate about education and the ability it provides to bring out the best in everyone.



## **Carla-Marie Paulding**

### ***WHIS Parent/Carer***

My previous career saw me working across the education and care sectors for over 20 years and I feel this has provided me with a toolkit which would be beneficial for the role of parent Governor.

Whilst working as residential manager in an SEN school I was involved in creating/reviewing policies and procedures and risk assessments in line with LEA and Ofsted recommendations. I was also the safeguarding officer, therefore I worked closely with parents, LEAs and Social Services to ensure the wellbeing of the young people in our care.

In addition, I am proud to have ensured our residential provision received a consistent outstanding rating from Ofsted under my leadership.

My roles in SEN have helped ensure I am an effective communicator and that I have a level of respect/empathy for others that I feel is essential for a parent Governor. I am aware that things have changed in the 7 years since I left the education/care sector but I hope my ability to understand how these things work will enable me to become reacquainted with the updated legislation quickly.

In summary, I feel I would be an excellent parent Governor and relish the opportunity to support the school.

## **Helen Roberts**

### ***WHIS Parent/Carer***

I am so impressed with the school and its positive, warm and inclusive culture. It's been inspiring to see my son thrive in this environment. I am so proud of what our school stands for and would love to join the Governing Board to be a part of a successful team that's committed to delivering the highest of standards.

I am Sales Director for a Travel company, Kuoni, and am accountable for the retail network, a virtual call centre and travel agent sales. I thrive on developing our business strategy and absolutely love building relationships, growing sales, solving problems and being a champion of the Kuoni brand. I project managed the development of our retail network and created our market-leading service philosophy. I am passionate about travel and about service. I look after a large team (at its peak, 250 staff) and am committed to motivating and supporting them in order to achieve our goals. I am committed to ensuring that our communication is open, varied and engaging. I work with data and HR on a daily basis and am actively involved in the delivery of marketing activity.

I would be honoured to be part of your team and guarantee to bring along lots of enthusiasm and passion!



## **Anne Marie Williams**

***HJS Parent/Carer***

I have one child in Year 4 and another who will be joining Year 3 in September. I've been a Co-opted Governor at Hove Junior School for almost two years and I'm the Lead Governor for Equality, Diversity & Inclusion. I've worked closely with other Governors and the school leadership team to ensure that our school provides an excellent education for all our pupils, whatever their background, to prepare them for their life ahead. Specific initiatives I've championed are becoming an anti-racist school and being trans-inclusive.

I've spent most of my career working in research and strategy roles in the public sector and I specialised in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion research for a number of years.

I've previously been a school Governor at a primary school in Brighton, chaired a local charity for Black and Mixed parentage families and been a mentor for young people. Volunteering has always been important to me and I've really loved being a Governor at Hove Junior School, particularly as the school is so important to many local families (including my own!).

As the governing bodies of Hove Junior School and West Hove Infants School are now federating together, I need to re-apply to become a Governor.

**Having read these supporting statements, please do now take the time to complete a ballot paper, fold it and hand this into the school office.**





Each parent/carer is permitted **one vote** and is able to vote for **one** candidate.

## Ballot Paper

Please put a cross against the **one candidate** of your choice:

Simon Barry

☐

Carla-Marie Paulding

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Marie Benton

☐

Becky Parker

☐

Sarah Brackenridge

☐

Helen Roberts

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Millie Liddiard

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Anne-Marie Williamson

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Celia Normington

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Voting forms to be folded and handed into the school office by **midday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

(Parent/Carer 1)

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Please put a cross against the **one candidate** of your choice:

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☐

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Voting forms to be folded and handed into the school office by **midday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

(Parent/Carer 2, if required)

