Phase 2 Education in the West - CONSULTATION MEETING

Notes of Staff Meeting - Greenhaugh C of E Primary School

28th March 2018 – 3:30 pm

Present: Sue Aviston – Head of School Organisation and Resources
Lorraine Fife - School Organisation Manager
Bridget Halpin – NCC HR Adviser
Jacqui Pearson – Note taker

Also Present: Richard Woolhouse - NEU

8 Staff members of Greenhaugh C E Primary School

Sue Aviston asked members of the LA to introduce themselves.

Sue went through the presentation, she explained that for Phase 1 there were 3 meetings which took place at Hexham Mart, 1 for Hexham, 1 for Haydon Bridge and a combined meeting for all Heads and Chairs of Governors. Following the meetings the feedback from Headteachers and Chairs of Governors was used to develop the proposed models. She explained that this is not a referendum and that there may be a Model D, which may consist of bits of Model A, B and C or something completely different.

Sue explained that Hadrian Learning Trust (HLT) consultation is running alongside the LA consultation but is separate and will end before the County Council consultation.

Lorraine explained the consultation process and explained what would happen next and the timeline.

Following the presentation there was a question/answer session:

Q: Do you have an update on the LA MAT?
A: LA Officers confirmed that they didn't feel there was a response from Phase 1 for schools to take this forward. As a LA we are pushing forward with this to establish a MAT may be with other schools outside of the west consultation. We are talking to the NHS as a stakeholder. We are targeting the end of the year for an application.

We have researched other MATs.
Q: How do we say we would like to be part of it if we don't know about it?
A: It is not established yet but you can express an interest. Are you interested?

The union representative expressed his confirmation that this is a genuine consultation due to HBHS, NFF etc and the school needs to submit a plan to demonstrate that it is sustainable.

There was discussion with the staff members about the model that they proposed in order for the LA Officers to truly understand the meaning of the model for the next stage in the report of documenting the alternative models.

Q: Is the model worth putting back in to stage 2 response?
How do we move it forward?
A: Add commentary to it to make it totally understandable. Look at the community, pupils not travelling as far, how educational standards remain / improve - its useful to have your views on this.
It's worth putting into HLT consultation as an alternative model

There was discussion that family homes were being built with a stipulation that it is for families.
Discussions were started about the redundancy process, which had not been raised by the staff as their primary thought was to fight for the school and it was staying open, therefore no consideration about the prospect of redundancies.
A: The staffing protocol was discussed so the staff understand the process and choices.

The meeting concluded with one question:
Q: HLT teachers in Year 5 and 6, what happens to them in this process?
A: They will follow the staffing protocol.