



HIGHLANDS SCHOOL'S GOVERNING BODY



MATT MILLER MBE – CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I am privileged to be the Chair of Governors of Highlands School, a position I have held for 13 years, having been involved as a Governor from the very first days when the school opened in 2000. Highlands is an outstanding school, in so many ways, not simply because OFSTED tell us so, but because of the wonderfully vibrant teaching and learning environment that we have. I am also very proud of the community spirit which runs through the heart of the school with everyone being made to feel welcome and having a sense of belonging.

Preparing our young people for the challenges and opportunities of modern day society is at the heart of what we set out to achieve and so naturally we have high ambitions for all our pupils irrespective of their backgrounds and academic abilities. I am always so heartened when I walk around school and talk to the pupils about what their aspirations are for the future and how positive they are towards their education.

Outside of Highlands I am the Strategic Lead for Governance in Enfield which is a role I enjoy enormously. We have around 1,200 governors in Enfield and whilst I cannot claim to know everyone of them, I see first-hand the contribution they make to schools in our Borough. Schools working collaboratively is a feature of the modern day educational landscape and I am very proud of the work we do at Highlands with other local schools, particularly through the Pan Enfield Alliance. Sharing good practice in terms of teaching and learning is a key to driving school improvement and the tightening of financial belts will make sharing resources even more important. Similarly the fact that a number of my colleagues on the governing body at Highlands have taken up key positions as governors at other schools is extremely gratifying.

As a National Leaders of Governance Advocate, I am involved in supporting governing bodies across the country and this gives me an invaluable insight in to what works well elsewhere. Having been appointed by the Secretary of State to Chair an Interim Executive Board in another London Borough I have gained invaluable experience in knowing what it takes to drive a school forward and this experience provides even greater opportunity for me to work even closer with Bruce in our efforts to make sure Highlands remains at the forefront of educational success.

I felt immensely proud to be awarded the MBE in the Queen's 90th Birthday Honours List, an honour which reflects well on the school as a whole.

I was also very honoured to be awarded the title of Enfield Governor of the Year for 2012. Although I am the recipient of this award, it serves equally as an acknowledgement of the hard working colleagues I am proud to lead on our Governing Body.

My message has always been the same – ***“It takes all of us to make a school successful”*** so a big thank you to everybody who plays a part in making Highlands the wonderful school it is especially our pupils, parents and carers and of course, all of our staff.

VINCENT McINERNEY – HEADTEACHER

I have been the Headteacher of the school since September 2018 and, in that capacity, am a full member of the governing body. I have worked in education since leaving university, teaching in Sheffield, Rotherham, Dagenham and now Enfield. I studied Modern History and Politics at the University of Sheffield and completed my QTS at Sheffield Hallam University. I believe that schools provide the opportunity for students to exceed expectations, explore new ideas and experiences and to secure a stable and happy life.

KEITH CARRANO – VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I have been a governor at Highlands school since the school formed. My three children have gone through the school system with great success. I am currently Vice Chair of Governors, a position I have held for the last 10 years. I am also Chair of Governors at Garfield and Houndsfield Schools.

STEPHEN WAY – PARENT GOVERNOR

I am a parent-governor with two children who have attended Highlands. Professionally I have recently retired from a role as an IT Director for chemicals specialists, Johnson Matthey plc, a job that entailed travelling all over the world.

I am a National Leader of Governance, working with schools, academies and University Technical Colleges (UTCs) in London and the South-East to help solve governance issues, and am a Governor in two other Enfield schools. I am Chair of the Trustees for Scouting in North London, as well as doing media, press and PR for Scouting. In what little spare time I have left, I enjoy photography and live music.

CARON FITZGERALD – CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I have worked at Highlands School for 11 years. I am an Assistant Headteacher, Director of the Pan Enfield Teaching School Alliance, Head of Inclusion, Designated Teacher for Looked After Children, CP designate and English teacher.

JOAN HILL - CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I am a staff Governor, employed as a Learning Support Assistant at Highlands for nearly 14 years. I am committed to learning and education for all and enjoy working at Highlands. I am truly passionate about the education that children receive and have a desire to ensure that every child gets the best possible education and opportunity to succeed in life. I love spending time with my family and have a passion for children's welfare and happiness. I am also proud to be part of an effective governing body, which has supported the school moving in the right direction with clear set of aims to support the development of all students.

RAJ GUJUDHUR – LEA GOVERNOR

I have been a school governor for at least 10 years now and I have a keen interest in children's education as having a good education opens for future career in life. I am Senior Project Manager and Team Leader within a Shared Digital environment serving the public sector to move services in an era of digitisation. I bring skills and experience which is beneficial to the school and the governing body. Therefore, as part of the Governing Body I can act on relevant information provided and am held to account for action for actions taken and work with them to effectively self-evaluate Highlands and consider the impact of the actions that are taken.

ALASTAIR HENDERSON – LEA GOVERNOR

I am an LEA Governor since from just about the time Highlands opened. My particular interests have been staffing and curriculum issues. I have worked for many years in a number of healthcare related organisations on policy issues. I live in Southgate and have children aged 26 and 23.

IAN LEBEAU – CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I am a university lecturer in English language, with experience of education both in Britain and abroad. Most of my present work involves teaching international students, who come to the UK from a wide variety of countries. I have also written a number of English language textbooks. I was previously Chair of Governors at a local primary school.

My son has been at Highlands since Year 7 and is now completing his Sixth Form studies. I joined the Governing Body in 2012, and was a parent governor until 2016. I am currently on the Curriculum and Standards Committee, and am Link Governor for the Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages.

I would like to help Highlands to maintain its outstanding status and make further improvements in the future. I aim to make a particular contribution in the areas of language, literacy and curriculum development.

IAN HICKMAN – CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I have lived in the Winchmore Hill and Southgate area for the last 30 years and have been a parent /community governor at Highlands, since the inception of the school. I am currently Chair of Finance, having spent a number of years prior to that as the Committee's Vice Chair.

I work for a multi academy trust at a senior level and prior to that was a Director for a national independent watchdog where from 2005 to 2010 I led their work on children and young people. I am also an Audit Committee member of the Education Funding Agency.

SUE CROSS – ASSOCIATE GOVERNOR

I have been a parent governor at Highlands for nine years, since my elder daughter started at Highlands. I have a MSc in Transport Planning and Engineering and am currently leading the High Speed 2 Transport Assessment, working for a global engineering company CH2M. I am a keen cyclist and runner. I am married to Neil and have lived in Winchmore Hill for 20 years. I have three children, the youngest of whom attends Highlands. I also have two daughters, both of whom studied GCSE's at Highlands. My elder daughter has just completed a BSc(hons) in Psychology at Northampton University and my younger daughter is taking a Foundation Degree in Inclusive Performing Arts at the Chickenshed Theatre, Southgate. I am the link governor for English (previously Maths) and the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) governor and have been responsible for faculty reviews for these disciplines.

ANDROULLA (ANDIE) MICHAEL – CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

I am a co-opted governor. I have two sons who attended Highlands and are now at University, studying Economics and Chemistry. I have an MSc degree in Applied Psychology and have been a civil servant for over 20 years, working in a number of different government departments. For the last few years, I have worked at the Department of Health, leading on a range of issues including patient choice policy, violence against women and children, families with complex needs, social investment and working with the voluntary sector. I have a range of interests, from reading and drawing to flying.

MS SARAH CHANDLER – PARENT GOVERNOR

I am a parent governor. I have two daughters at Highlands and believe it to be an excellent and ambitious school with a good pastoral approach. However, like many comprehensive schools it is currently under increasing pressure to save money and do more with less. I have an Engineering degree and am an Operations and Project Manager by profession.

I hope to be able to play a part in navigating the school through this uncertain period, by bringing my professional skills and experience to the governor team.

I am also a keen supporter of the HPFA and the important role it plays in fundraising for the school and fostering the school/family partnership. My intention is to support the Headteacher and Chair Of Governors in providing a secure and successful future for the school, its pupils, staff and wider community.

MR CHRIS JAMES – PARENT GOVERNOR

My daughter is currently in year 8 at Highlands. I was a parent governor at Chaseside Primary School for four years, including some time as the governor supporting Special Educational Needs. My background is in the voluntary sector and I am currently Director of External Affairs at the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Association with responsibility including policy, campaigning and communications. I have previously been Chief Executive of two other charities. I do think it's extremely important to be involved in your local community and the role of governor is an opportunity for me to use my skills to support the school.