

28th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Parent Governor Election

Our request for nominations for the Parent Governor vacancies has now closed. However, because we have received more than three nominations, we will now hold an election by ballot for the three Parent Governor vacancies.

Every parent or guardian of a child at the school is allowed to vote. Brief biographical details of candidates **A, B, C** and **D** are attached for your information; please vote for the three candidates who you feel would best support the students at Edwinstree in the role of Parent Governor. Voting closes on Friday 11th June 2021 at 9am.

As there are three vacancies; you may vote for **three** of the four candidates

Please click on the link to vote:

<https://forms.office.com/r/seszivEmAy>

The votes will be counted on the morning of Friday 11th June 2021 by the Chair of Governors, who is the returning officer. The results will be published in our Newsletter.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Jo Gant
Headteacher

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Prospective Parent Governor biographical details – May 2021

CANDIDATE A

I have 20 years experience in education. I currently work as a Headteacher at a school in Welwyn Garden City. My son is in Year 7 and I want the best education for him and every pupil at Edwinstree in a caring environment where every child can achieve their full potential. Working within a school myself, I realise the difficulties in running and planning around a demanding school curriculum. My children's future, as your children's future is of the uppermost importance on my list of priorities, therefore, I would be delighted to be given the opportunity in making a difference in their education. I can bring a wealth of experience, from curriculum development, resource management, confidentiality and excellent communication skills as well as being approachable and reliable, coupled with my close interaction with children, and would be of great benefit. I would hope to be an asset to the school, dedicating my time to be a proactive and an effective school Governor. I am an enthusiastic, well-motivated individual and would relish the opportunity to making a difference to the education of the children at Edwinstree.

CANDIDATE B

I would love to become a Governor at Edwinstree school as I feel that I can fully commit to the role and will ensure that parental feedback is valued and shared, with both the senior leadership team and staff of Edwinstree. My daughter joined Year 5 this academic year and I am an experienced teacher of 14 years. I am currently a secondary school teacher; a Head of PSHE and teacher of Drama and Performing Arts. However, I have also taught in both the Primary and SEN sector and so fully understand the education transitions and needs of our young people. I am very passionate about educational attainment and student mental health and well-being. I would like to work in partnership with the school share my knowledge and experience, ultimately supporting the schools ethos of care and compassion. Furthermore, I am a good communicator, listener and facilitator of events; working well as a team player. I feel that I can fully commit to the term of office and thank you for taking the time to consider my application for this role.

CANDIDATE C

I have two children at Edwinstree with another to join in two years. After retiring from the police service two years ago and becoming a 'house spouse', I along with many other parents spent the past year home schooling four children. This provided an unprecedented opportunity to be part of my children's education. I wish to continue this by becoming a school Governor now that I have the time to dedicate to the position. My final police role concerned organisational transformation. I learnt the value of collaborative working and that change is a constant feature, which successful organisations embrace to improve. That being said, the skilful management of any change is crucial to maximise the improvement desired. At the heart of this is communication. No step should be too far too soon, nor its reasons unclear. There is no doubt that the school has had to adapt quickly in recent months and has done so admirably. I would like to think that my previous experience both as a manager of staff and of organisational change, as well as of risk-assessing and young persons' safeguarding, would prove of value to the board of governors and welcome the opportunity to become involved.

CANDIDATE D

I am a people person; a classic obliger who operates with integrity, Though I tend to work independently – owing to my level of seniority within my organisation I am a team player. I have built a solid career in health and safety, within the utilities industry, for the best part of fourteen years. I have recently developed a new passion for occupational health and wellbeing, particularly mental health. I care a great deal about my current role, as my primary objective is to help the business create a work environment that is psychologically safe as well as physically safe and enable individuals to thrive. If we go back to the previous sentence and replace 'work environment' with 'school' and 'individuals' with 'pupils', I believe we have similar values and a shared objective – this is my reason for applying for a school governor role. My skillset is varied; I develop risk mitigation strategies, write copy for internal publications and everything else in-between. I am also responsible for a small team I suppose I could also say that I am an influencer at work; leading from the front in respect of culture change, through implementing controls that mitigate the stigma associated with mental well-being.