

By: Rosalind Turner, Managing Director – Children, Families and Education

To: School Organisation Advisory Board Members – 4th February 2010

Subject: UPDATE ON PROPOSALS FOLLOWING THE CANCELLATION OF THE SCHOOL ORGANISATION ADVISORY BOARD ON 7th JANUARY 2010

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report updates the School Organisation Advisory Board on the recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education on the proposals due to be discussed at the cancelled meeting on 7th January 2010.

For Information

Introduction

1. (1) The reports listed below were due to be discussed at the meeting of the School Organisation Advisory Board on 7th January 2010. However, due to adverse weather conditions the meeting had to be cancelled;

- (i) Proposed Amalgamation of Walmer (Community) Science College and Castle Community College.
- (ii) Proposed Closure Of Wilmington Enterprise College and its Replacement with a Government Funded Academy.
- (iii) Proposed Closure of Astor of Hever School and its Replacement with a Government Funded Academy.
- (iv) Possible need for a New Primary School on the Goat Lees Estate, Ashford.

(2) In order to avoid delay in moving proposals forward it was agreed that Members would be contacted to request that any comments and recommendations were sent to the Board's Chairman.

Outcome

2. (1) On 12 January, following receipt of the comments and recommendations expressed by the Members of the School Organisation Advisory Board, the Chair, Mrs Valerie Dagger recommended to the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education;

- (i) to endorse the proposal from the governing bodies of Walmer (Community) Science College and Castle Community College, working with their external partners, to establish a new Trust School. Subject to the formal endorsement of the Local Authority an application would then be submitted by the promoters to the Secretary of State for exemption from the competition process.

- (ii) to undertake a public consultation on the proposed closure of Wilmington Enterprise College and its replacement with a government funded academy.
- (iii) to issue a public notice to close the Astor of Hever School and its replacement with a government funded academy
- (iv) to issue a competition notice for a new primary school on the Goat Lees Estate, Ashford.

Recommendation

3. The Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education subsequently decided to act in accordance with the recommendations from the School Organisation Advisory Board.

David Adams
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Background Documents:

None

Previous Committee Reports:

School Organisation Advisory Board - 7 January 2010