

27 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

PARENT SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER ELECTION

To support our school on its improvement journey in bringing 'outstanding achievement for all' to your children we are seeking new members for the school's local governing body, the School Advisory Committee. Ambitions Academies Trust aims for a positive and purposeful partnership with parents as this is undoubtedly of great benefit to all of the children.

One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor on the School's Advisory Committee. The committee's main objectives are to provide support and challenge to the school, ensure that all pupils receive a high-quality education and plan for future development and improvement.

Parent members are welcomed as valued members of the governance team and play a vital role in ensuring the committee is aware of the views of parents and the local community. We are confident that there are parents prepared to volunteer to take on this key role and give their time and commitment to help us continue to develop and provide the best possible education for our young people.

LeAF Studio currently has two parent member vacancies for an enthusiastic and committed parent or carer to join the School's Committee.

The Committee meets once each term with meetings taking place at the school. Committee members are also expected to visit the school each term, during the school day, for monitoring visits and are encouraged to support school events.

There are no special qualifications needed as the most important aspects of the role are to have a keen interest in the school, a willingness to play an active part in the Committee's work and a readiness to participate in school life.

New committee members will undertake a comprehensive and supportive induction programme. Governance training and ongoing support will also be available.

If you are interested in applying for the role please complete the attached form and return it to the school office by Friday 22nd October. If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will be held on Friday 12th November and all parents will be sent a voting paper.

When nominating yourself or someone else for the role of parent committee member, you are nominating the person you believe has the skills and commitment to undertake the role. You are also nominating someone you trust to represent the views of parents when working with the other committee members and the Principal and to promote high standards. The parent committee members' role is not to represent individual parents' views or to report back directly to parents. Nominations must be from parents, or individuals exercising parental responsibility, of a child at the school at the time of application.

The enclosed information sheet summarises the circumstances under which someone is not able to serve as a committee member.

Should you have any questions about the role please contact Mrs Collins, Clerk to the School Advisory Committee at her emma.collins@leafstudio.co.uk email address.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Lapskas".

Mrs N Lapskas
Principal



AMBITIONS
Academies Trust



Parent School Advisory Committee Member Nomination Form

Please enter, in BLOCK LETTERS, the name and address of the person being nominated for election.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Telephone No. _____

Parent/Carer of: _____

Signature of person nominated: _____

Signature of proposer (if different to nominee): _____

Name and address of proposer (if different to nominee): _____

I wish to submit my nomination for the election as parent committee member.

I confirm that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons set out in the Articles of Association and Regulations provided to me.

Personal Statement

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return your completed Form to the school office, for the attention of Mrs Collins, by Friday 22nd October. If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will be held on Friday 12th November. The returning officer for this election is Mrs Carol Box, Governance Lead for Ambitions Academies Trust.

School Advisory Committee Member qualification and disqualification criteria

Under Schedule 4 of the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012, a person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a committee member if that person:

- Is under 18 years of age.
- Is a registered pupil of the school.
- Is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order; debt relief order or an interim debt relief order, or their estate has been sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced.
- Is subject to a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, a disqualification order under the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order).
- Has been removed from the office of trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body.
- Has been removed from the office as an elected governor within the last five years.
- Is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children or young people.
- Is barred from any regulated activity relating to children.
- Is subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002 or section 128 of the Education and Skills Act 2008.
- Is disqualified from working with children or from registration for child-minding or providing day care.
- Is disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State.
- Subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has been sentenced to three months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the five years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment or election as a governor or since becoming a governor.
- Subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has received a prison sentence of two and a half years or more in the 20 years ending with the date preceding the date of appointment or election as a governor.
- Subject to certain exceptions for overseas offences that do not correlate with a UK offence, has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more.
- Has been convicted and fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the five years ending with the date immediately preceding appointment or election, or since appointment or election as a governor.
- Refuses a request by the clerk to make an application to the DBS for a criminal records certificate.

An individual would be disqualified from being a governor at the school they currently hold office at if they:

- Have, without the consent of the governing board, failed to attend their meetings for a continuous period of six months beginning with the date of the first such meeting the governor fails to attend. A foundation, LA, co-opted or partnership governor who is disqualified on these grounds is not qualified for election, nomination or appointment as a governor of any category at that school for 12 months starting on the date on which they are so disqualified. (SI 2012/1034, Schedule 4)

In addition to the criteria stated above:

- A person is also disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor of a school if the person is an elected member of the LA or is paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any 12 consecutive months.
- A parent governor is **not** disqualified from continuing to hold office if they cease to be a parent of a registered pupil at the school.
- A person is disqualified from appointment as an LA governor if the person is eligible to be a staff governor of the school.
- A person is disqualified from nomination or appointment as a partnership governor if the person is a parent of a registered pupil at the school, is eligible to be a staff governor, is an elected member of the LA, or is employed by the LA in connection with their education functions.
- Upon ceasing to work at the school, a staff governor is disqualified from continuing to hold office as such a governor. (SI 2012/1034, Schedule 4)