



MANCHESTER CREATIVE STUDIO BOARD MEETING
Thursday 29th August 2013, 6.00pm

Present: Raja Miah (RM), Amina Lone (ALe), Ben Barsky (BB), David McCall (DM), Max Larcombe (ML), Steve Kuncewicz (SK), Robert Croll (RC), Liz Forrester (LF), Denise Proctor (DP), Allyster Lee (AL), Marc Collett (MC)

Apologies: Andy Lovatt (ALt), Bernard Phillips (BP), Dave Barter (DB)

Chair: David McCall

Minutes: Allyster Lee

Welcome: DM introduced AL and MC to the board, AL will be assisting in administrative duties and MC will be leading the Statutory Consultation process. ALt and BP sent their apologies.

Minutes: The board signed off the minutes from the previous meeting.

Matters Arising:

- Admission Policy

RM and LF updated on their meeting with DfE. Minor tweaks needed to be done with admission policy, of which BP has taken charge. This should be ready to be signed off at next board meeting.

- Budget

LF brought up ongoing dialog for Principal recruitment. Board agreed employer engagement is needed before hiring principal to drive the job description. Best date for Principal to start set for after Easter 2014.

Statutory Consultation: MC introduced the basic process involved in a statutory consultation, which needs to happen before funding agreement based on Section 60 of Education Act 2011. Statutory consultation must occur over a minimum period of 6 weeks starting 2nd September 2013, ending 14th October 2013.

A built in review process has been put in place to allow directors of the studio school to respond to any issues brought forward by public stakeholders and extra time allocated to carry out additional consultation if needed. Public feedback meeting will also be held as part of engagement process. RM, LF and MC will draft report, address any issues and then sign it off before submitting to DfE, then to Secretary of State.

Three core areas of the community will be targeted – community groups, young people and employers. ALe aims to arrange 10 focus groups in 10 different geographical areas and also make contact with all councilors in Greater Manchester through email and/or 1 to 1 meetings. LF and BP to engage with Manchester Schools Alliance and extend invitation to secondary school heads.



Manchester Creative Studio, Fourways House, 57 Hilton Street, Manchester M1 2EF
0161 236 5126 info@mcstudio.co.uk www.mcstudio.co.uk

RM set consultation target of 500 individuals. Board agreed to ML's suggestion to bring in simple activities (eg. Makey Makey) to better deliver the MCS vision. The online survey link (below) is now live and board will circulate through networks.

Online survey link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mcstudio>

MC stated that survey link, Admissions policy, SEN policy and Model Funding Agreement documents need to be added to website as referenced on statutory consultation. MCS fact sheets of USPs to be produced by MC to ensure board members are well briefed to engage networks.

Building: RM shared good news about acquisition of Gulam House on Blossom Street. ML stated 2 firms - ISG and Bramall have shown interest in bidding for MCS project. First contact with them on Friday, 30th August, all board members welcomed to attend.

BB introduced idea of painting a street art mural on sidewall of building, narrowing 2 artists – Connor Harrington and Phlegm. Board agreed on the idea on the basis that resident groups directly in the area should be consulted.

Marketing: ML updated the board on marketing strategy workshop held 21st August 2013 led by John Keiller from Common Good. ML to circulate first draft of marketing strategy to the board. General plan is to run series of events, workshops, record interest and followed up by education team to provide curriculum details and officially recruit students. DfE's target is 25 students signed up by Christmas.

Working Groups:

- Employer Engagement

DM updated the board on progress with the employer engagement working group. The group met recently and have mapped out a way forward which includes forming an employer advisory board which reflect the three key areas of the specialism, who can then work with the curriculum team for more specialist advice. This will start by targeting existing supporters then recruiting new members to fill any gaps. The group have also put together a straw man of what content should be covered within the specialism. This will be taken to the advisory board for comment.

- Curriculum

LF updated the board on working group and brought up debate on Key Stage 5 curriculum pathways. Board agreed a standard A-level framework needs to be available but ITQ should also be in place to offer personalised specialist qualifications based on credits, as long as qualifications are transferable and widely recognised. The board also agreed MCS employer board needs to consist of a range of subject specialists to advise on specific curriculums for education brief.

- Community Engagement

RC updated on progress for community engagement and emphasised the difference between the statutory consultation, community engagement and recruitment and tailored approaches to each engagement. ALe suggested setting up a local community forum, which involves representatives from resident groups to add value to the community.



Manchester Creative Studio, Fourways House, 57 Hilton Street, Manchester M1 2EF
0161 236 5126 info@mcstudio.co.uk www.mcstudio.co.uk

Next Meeting: It was agreed that the next Board meeting would be on Wednesday 25th September at 18:00 at Fourways House. This will focus on the marketing strategy, planning of student recruitment and update on statutory consultation.

CLOSED: 7.40pm