# WESTVILLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY



NEWSLETTER ISSUE ONE 2021



IN THE FIRST SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY NEWSLETTER FOR 2021 , WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT THE ROLE THE SGB PLAYS WITH SCHOOL GOVERNANCE.

The SGB is a legislated body that provides an essential governance and support role for the professional management of the school by co-developing key policies and procedures relating to all elements of school life. within a legal framework provided by the South African Schools Act.

The SGB's primary role is one of governance while the primary role of the principal and management team is the day-to-day management and running of the school. It is critical that the SGB and Management team work well together, for the well-being and effectiveness of the school community.

THE SGB IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING KEY ACTIVITIES:

- Aims and overall vision of the school
- Setting and reviewing Policies, Processes and Procedures (with the school management) to ensure the provision of high quality education
- School hours, uniform, admissions and employment policies
- Care and development of the property of the school
- Governance of all school finances
- The SGB represent the School and enters into contracts on behalf of the School

The SGB encourage partnerships with people who have expertise to assist the school and facilitate the fair creation of and implementation of school rules and policies that ultimately protect and promote the rights of pupils and staff.

The SGB chairman plays a strongly supportive role, building meaningful and relevant relationships, especially with the Headmaster, but also with other SGB members, other school SGB's and members of the school community, to ultimately provide a stable environment for decision making which will enhance and reflect changes made to benefit the whole school.

In summary, the running of the school is a partnership between the state and pupils, parents and educators, accepting joint responsibility for the organization, governance and funding of the school.

We are grateful for all the different role players within our school who have put our staff and pupils best interests first and who are making sure that the School is progressive and relevant for future generations.



THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HAS BEEN TASKED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE WBHS CAMPUS TO HELP SUPPORT THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL AND ENABLE STRATEGIC BUDGETING AND POTENTIAL FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FUTURE.

The SGB governance role ensures that the correct checks and balances are in place before finances are committed to any of these projects. The Strategic Development Committee identifies initiatives, The SGB Properties committee validates technical specifications and tender requirements as necessary, The SGB Finance Committee approves the finances and the SGB or WBHS Foundation (depending on the funding route used) finally approves the implementation. The Strategic Development Committee and school management are then responsible for managing the implementation.



## COMMONS CRICKET NETS

The Commons cricket nets have been successfully upgraded and have added significant value to our junior cricket training.

#### **6 HUBERTA ROAD**

Number 6 Huberta has undergone an incredible transformation and should be ready for our boarders to move into a few weeks after the start of the third term. The tarred parking lot has now created a proper break area for Grade 8s, and further development of the area will take place next year.

#### OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURT

The old mini-astro will soon provide a much needed extra court for Basketball, as well as a few other sports with a multi-surface court. The newly built stands for this court will also open up the Grade 10 break area, providing a bigger seating area for them. At the same time this project has revealed an opportunity for the Art Centre to have a much needed upgrade, and this will be spearheaded by the Foundation.

### MATRIC BREAK AREA

As a legacy to their time at WBHS, the 2001 Matrics, as part of their reunion year, have earmarked the Grade 12 area for an upgrade and will be contributing to this cause. The SGB is in support of this project and has approved for this to be a WBHS 2021 School project. This area structurally has needed an overhaul for a number of years, so it will be a practical and aesthetic project.

#### ASTRO CHANGEROOMS

At the Astro site at WGHS, WBHS in conjunction with Westville Senior Primary , are currently installing a much needed new change room facility for use during the hockey season.

Subject to the necessary funding, WBHS would like to see the completion of the Grade 10 and 8 break areas as well as the creation of a new Grade 9 area and the restoration and extension of the Grade 11 area. In addition to these there are several other school maintenance and development projects that are being identified and planned.









The SGB would like to thank all of those parents, businesses, old boys and supporters who have contributed to the WBHS Foundation, WBHS Trust or the school. It is their generosity that has enabled a lot of these initiative to take place.

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THE SGB HAS FACILITATED INTENTIONAL CONVERSATIONS AROUND MATTERS OF DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND TRANSFORMATION AT WBHS.

THIS HAS INCLUDED STAFF AND LEARNERS, AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SCHOOL THAT IS EFFECTIVELY TRANSITIONING FROM A DIVIDED PAST TOWARDS A UNITED FUTURE.









The range of perspectives on transformation from the various contributions has resulted in the establishment of three task teams that are exploring each area of focus – i.e. Engaging Diversity, Creating Culture and Driving Excellence. These teams are comprised of staff members and learners (Blue Tie leaders and LRC members from all grades).

One important aspect of our journey was the drafting of a WBHS Statement of Intent in 2020, which acknowledges our shortcomings in the past, and our concerted desire to build towards a more inclusive future.

This was endorsed by all sectors of the school and is available on the WBHS website and will be on display in the foyer area of the school.

We believe that diversity is an asset and valueadd to the school, especially if engaged with constructively and with empathy. We believe that this process will develop Cultural Intelligence (CQ) in our boys, which is such a vital ingredient for them to thrive in our diverse society and world. We invite our entire community of staff, pupils, parents and old boys to be a part of this important journey.



## TENDER PROCESS AT WBHS

THE WBHS SGB, AS PART OF OUR DUTY OF GOVERNANCE, IS ACCOUNTABLE FOR HOW THE FINANCES ARE MANAGED AT WBHS AND WE HAVE IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF OUR MAJOR CONTRACTS THAT ARE UP FOR RENEWAL THIS YEAR.

WBHS will be adopting a tender process for a number of these services. We would like to give our parents an opportunity to put in tenders for these services in line with this tender process. When appropriate these will be advertised on the D6 within the coming months, with an invitation for parents to obtain details and to send in proposals.

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