

# National Governors' Association

## BULLETIN BOARD

BB 9/09

1 September 2009

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*The Bulletin Board is circulated to NGA Member Associations and to Co-ordinators of Governor Services to advise on NGA's work and important consultations and publications.  
It is a membership benefit.*

*Please share this information widely, through your email contacts and at local meetings, to keep governing bodies better informed of, and more involved in, current activities and national issues.*

### FOR ACTION: NGA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### **Autumn Regional Meetings:** *advance information*

**London:** Saturday, 3 October; 9.30 for 10.00am; NCVO, London

**South East:** Monday, 5 October; 10.30 for 11.00am; NCVO, London

**North East:** Tuesday, 6 October; 7.00 for 7.30pm; Durham County Hall

**North West:** Wednesday, 7 October; 6.00 for 6.30pm; Swallow Hotel, Preston

**East of England:** Wednesday, 14 October; 6.00 for 6.15pm; Priory Hotel, Bury St Edmunds

**West Midlands:** Wednesday, 14 October; 6.00 for 6.30pm; NGA Office

**Yorks & Humber:** Wednesday, 14 October; 6.30 for 7.00pm; Holiday Inn, Wakefield

**South West:** Saturday, 17 October; 10.00 for 10.30am; Express by Holiday Inn, Taunton

**East Midlands:** Tuesday 20 October; 10.30 for 11.00am; Water's Edge, Rutland

**Please note: elections for Regional Directors will be held in the South West and Yorks & Humber**

#### **National Events:**

**NGA Annual General Meeting:** Saturday, 7 November 2009, Council House, Birmingham – Guest speaker will be Christine Gilbert, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools. There will also be a presentation by the School Food Trust; other presentations to be confirmed.

**NGA Winter Conference:** Wednesday 27 January 2010, Russell Hotel, London. A departure from usual NGA practice, this event is not a members' conference, but an event for professionals who work with governing bodies. Aimed at governor services managers, school improvement partners and others whose professional role brings them into contact with governors, this event will celebrate good practice and allow people to peek over the walls of the professional silos and acquire a comprehensive understanding of the various groups who work with governors and governing bodies. For more information see under *Events* on the NGA website. [www.nga.org.uk/events.aspx](http://www.nga.org.uk/events.aspx)

### FOR INFORMATION

#### **1 NGA News ~ please note changes and additional items**

#### **NGA Board Elections: PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU VOTE**

There are six candidates standing for election for three General Director places. The candidates are, in alphabetical order: Colleen Arnold, Mark Blois, Clare Collins, Terry Douris, Frank Newhofer and Paul Rosen.

A ballot form and the candidates' 250 word statements are on the *About Us* section of the NGA website: <http://www.nga.org.uk/NGA%20Board%20Elections%202009.aspx> Local associations are entitled to fill in one ballot form. Any individual members or GB members are also entitled to fill in a ballot form, as are local authority members.

*The closing date for receipt of ballot papers is 2.00pm Thursday, 5 November 2009*

**NGA Membership Benefits:** Members of the executive committees of local associations are entitled to receive a copy of the NGA magazine *Matters Arising* to their home address, access to the members' only section of the NGA website and the e-newsletter direct to their email address: If you have not yet let us have the names, addresses and email addresses of your executive members, or if they have changed, please let us have the information as soon as possible. Without those details your association is not receiving its full membership benefits.

**NGA Newsletter:** The first e-newsletter of the new term will be issued on Friday, 4 September.

**Legal Support for Governing Bodies:** NGA has come to an agreement with a legal firm to provide some legal support for governing bodies. For details visit:  
<http://www.nga.org.uk/Resources.aspx>

**Email Forum:** The Email Forum will be re-launched in a revised format this month. Further details of how to sign up to the Forum will be included in the newsletter on Friday 4 September.

**NGA Office:** The NGA has welcomed two new members of staff:

*Administrative Assistant* – Anicka Bashir, the NGA's Administrative Assistant, has left the NGA and has been replaced from 1 September by [Lee Washbrook](#)

*Membership Officer* – the NGA appointed [Anthea Koerbin](#) on a temporary contract to work as our Membership Officer.

## **2 Policies ~ a request to members**

We are trying to collect copies of policies on pupil behaviour and discipline and on school uniform, and examples of Home-School Agreements. We should be very grateful if members would share these with NGA. *Please email to: [gillian.allcroft@nga.org.uk](mailto:gillian.allcroft@nga.org.uk) or send hard copies to the NGA Office.*

## **3 White Paper: School Accountability ~ Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system**

The White Paper was finally published on 30 June 2009. The NGA has produced a full briefing for members, which can be found on the website: [www.nga.org.uk/briefing.aspx](http://www.nga.org.uk/briefing.aspx) – in the members' only section of the website for which you will need your membership log-on number and password.

## **4 Governance Review**

Still no news!. The change in Schools' Minister from Jim Knight to Vernon Coaker delayed matters yet further. As a result of a request by some members of the Ministerial Group, there is to be a final (!) meeting in September (still no confirmed date). This will, with luck, sign off the Report for publication.

As soon as it is published we'll alert members to the report and consultation dates. *Please respond to the consultation, late as it may be!*

## **5 Meetings Digest**

*August has been almost devoid of meetings. NGA's Eastern Regional Director attended a meeting with GO East. The remainder of the world seems to be dozing its way through the 'summer'.*

## **6 The NGA First Certificate in Governance**

Changes have been made to this distance-learning programme. It will be available in its new form in mid-September.

## **7 Liberating leadership: not all leaders are teachers**

If you are a governor in the East Midlands, West Midlands or East of England, you may be interested in an NCSL Leadership Network event on 28 September 2009 (9.15 – 2.45) at NCSL's

Learning and Conference Centre, Triumph Road, Nottingham, NG8 1DH. The event is aimed to headteachers, senior leaders and governors. To view the programme go to:  
<http://www.ncsl.org.uk/liberating-leadership-programme-280909.pdf>

To register go to: <http://www.ncsl.org.uk/aboutus-index/aboutus-calendar-index/aboutus-calendar-event-display.htm?id=25705>

For directions to the venue, visit *How to find us* at:  
<http://www.ncsl.org.uk/aboutus-index/findus-index.htm#findus-index-txt-nottingham>

## **8 Models of Leadership Events – Autumn Term**

*Practical approaches to Models of Leadership for 21st century schools*

NCSL will be running a series of one-day events on the Models of Leadership, in nine venues across the country in the autumn term.

The workshops are free and open to school leaders, local authorities and governors. It is advisable to book early as places are strictly limited. Booking will be on a first come, first served basis.

For further details and registration can be found using the following link:

<http://www.ncsl.org.uk/modelsofleadership-index/modelsofleadership-connect-index/modelsofleadership-connect-eventsandseminars.htm>

## **9 Teachers' TV**

*Just for Governors* – online resources:

The governors' area of the website - [www.teachers.tv/governors](http://www.teachers.tv/governors) - includes expert advice, the 'best of the web' reviews, a poll of school governors and links to programmes. There is a wealth of additional material online designed to help improve the performance of school governors. These range from detailed lists of related websites, through downloadable supporting documents, to a new library of complete high-quality presentations addressing CPD (Continuous Professional Development) issues. They are completely free to use, and have been extensively tested during development. They are ready to use 'off the shelf' in training or can be customised better to meet the needs of an individual school.

*Governor presentations*

Teachers' TV's governor training presentations provide useful material to facilitate 30-minute discussion sessions at meetings. Each presentation includes video clips and discussion starters to spark debate about good practice.

Programme information can be found by visiting the home page at: [www.teachers.tv](http://www.teachers.tv) and clicking on *Full TV Guide* at the foot of the page. Every Monday night at 7pm is **Governors' Hour**.

TTV can be found on Sky 880, Virgin TV 240, Freesat 650 and Freeview 88 (4–6pm). TTV programmes can also be viewed online at: [www.teachers.tv](http://www.teachers.tv).

## **10 London Child Poverty Awards 2009 ~ NB NGA London members**

The London Child Poverty Awards 2009 were launched by Stephen Timms on Thursday 23rd July. The aim of the awards is to celebrate and promote the work being done by individuals and organisations across the capital in tackling child poverty. The award ceremony will take place on 16th November and the DCSF is looking for nominations by 5th October.

*Detailed information on what the awards themselves are and how to enter can be downloaded via:* [www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/childpovertyawards](http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/childpovertyawards)

## **CONSULTATIONS: NEWS and ACTION**

### **11 Science and Learning**

This consultation is carried out on behalf of the Science and Learning Expert Group, jointly hosted by the DCSF and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). In order to create a scientifically literate society, it is imperative to provide the best possible science education to the next generation. This consultation seeks to establish the perceptions from both the science and education communities, and from young people and their parents, about the strengths and weaknesses of the current provision in science and mathematics.

The consultation can be found at: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/)

Responses may be made online to: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/) or sent by email to: [scienceandlearning.consultation@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:scienceandlearning.consultation@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk). Written responses should be posted to: Consultation Unit, DCSF, Area Ground B, Castle View House, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 2GJ

**DCSF deadline 18 September 2009**

**Deadline for comment to NGA 1 September**

## **12 Amendment to the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2003**

The DCSF is seeking views on proposed amendments to the Education (School Teachers' Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2003 which govern who can gain qualified teacher status (QTS). Subject to consultation and to Parliament it is aiming to bring amending regulations into force on 1 January 2010.

The consultation can be found at: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/)

Responses should be sent by email to: [teacherqualsregs.consultation@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:teacherqualsregs.consultation@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to Indira Sharma, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

**DCSF deadline 1 October 2009.**

**Deadline for comment to NGA 16 September 2009**

## **13 Schools Finance (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010**

The Department has launched a consultation on the new Schools Finance (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2010, to give effect to the Government's policy developments. The proposed changes to the Regulations will require all local authorities to implement an Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) from April 2010 for all providers of the free entitlement to nursery education. Additionally the Government is proposing changes relating to publication of schemes of financial management and changes to weightings for pupils dually registered at schools to undertake diplomas.

The draft Regulations and the consultation can be found on Teachernet at:

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/schoolfundingframework/>

Responses should be sent by email to: [Anita.McLoughlin@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Anita.McLoughlin@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to Anita McLoughlin, School Funding Policy Team, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

**DCSF deadline 29 October 2009.**

**Deadline for comment to NGA 15 October 2009**

## **14 A Carbon Management Strategy for Schools**

The school sector is responsible for 15% of public sector carbon emissions arising from energy use in school buildings, school travel and transport, the procurement of goods and services and the production of waste in schools. There is a need to reduce these emissions to prevent greater adverse impact on climate change. This consultation is to gather stakeholder views on the feasibility and priority of options for action in the sector, to reduce carbon and greenhouse gases arising from the operation of the school system, while still delivering core business.

The consultation can be found at: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/)

Responses may be made online to: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/) or sent by email to: [SchoolsCarbon.CONSULTATION@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolsCarbon.CONSULTATION@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk). Written responses should be sent to: Janice

Lawson, Sustainable Development Unit, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Building 3, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

**DCSF deadline 20 November 2009. Deadline for comment to NGA 5 November 2009**

Also see *The General Teaching Council (GTC) Registration of Temporary Teachers from Relevant European States Regulations 2009*. Views are requested on a change in regulations to allow qualified teachers from EEA states or Switzerland, who are allowed to work on a temporary basis in the UK, to have temporary registration with the GTC. The consultation can be found at: [www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations). Closing date: 7 October 2009

## **15 Publications available from NGA**

For NGA publications, visit both the Publications and Guidance sections of the NGA website: [www.nga.org.uk](http://www.nga.org.uk).

## **16 Other useful publications to be aware of**

### ***NEW*: Audit Commission – Valuable lessons: a value for money guide for school governors**

In June the Audit Commission published a report about value for money in schools. One of the conclusions of the Commission was that insufficient attention was paid to economy and efficiency in schools and that as a result the Commission could not be sure that the taxpayer was receiving value for money. Following the report the Audit Commission issued separate guidance for local authorities, headteachers and school governors.

The guidance for governors, *Valuable lessons improving economy and efficiency in schools*, was published in July 2009 and is available to download from the Audit Commission's website via this link: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/AuditCommissionReports/NationalStudies/valuablelessons/governorsguide30jun2009.pdf>

**Extended Schools Toolkit for Governors (Revised Edition April 2009):** This new and improved edition of the TDA's publication can be downloaded from <http://www.nga.org.uk/TDA.aspx> or ordered online from the Training and Development Agency for Schools at: [publications@tda.gov.uk](mailto:publications@tda.gov.uk) or by telephone on 0845 6060 323. (Reference TDA0664/03.09/COL).

**Recruiting Headteachers and Senior Leaders:** This publication provides a governing body with the practical guidance needed to find success in recruiting a headteacher. It can be downloaded free from the NCSL website: [www.ncsl.org.uk/publications](http://www.ncsl.org.uk/publications)

**School Improvement Planning Framework (New Edition October 2008):** To find this useful tool visit the Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA) website. It can be downloaded or ordered in hard copy: [http://www.tda.gov.uk/leaders/schoolimprovement\\_framework.aspx](http://www.tda.gov.uk/leaders/schoolimprovement_framework.aspx)