

**Southwark Governors' Association
Nomination for Management Committee**

Name

MARTIN PETER DEUTZ

School Name

COMPASS SCHOOL SOUTHWARK

Category of governor

INDEPENDENT GOVERNOR, CHAIR OF FGB

When were you first appointed as a governor?

SEPTEMBER 2013

Please set out below why you would like to be elected to the management committee and what skills, knowledge and experience you think you can bring.

As a long-standing governor, and now as a chair of governors, at Compass School, I have become very conscious of the demands which the role of governor places on all governors, and of the tensions between our position as non-executive lay-people and the significant responsibilities which we take on. I see the SGA as being key to our doing the best we can in this unique role and I am very keen to help the Association in its valuable work by serving on its Management Committee.

I have found the SGA a very useful source of information and support in ways which go beyond the Council's own training programme for governors. The SGA is able to offer informative talks on a wide range of issues and themes selected by the Committee, and we benefit from hearing the latest news from Council members and officials. And the level of discussion between governors, prompted by the talks, is a great opportunity to share experiences and understand the context in which governors are dealing with the issue under discussion. The members of the Management Committee have a key role in developing interesting and useful programmes for SGA meetings, and as I feel very passionately about the challenges faced by our schools and students I would like to contribute as a committee member to the development of our programme. I would also like to help broaden the participation in SGA events by governors from across the Borough's schools.

Range of schools and dialogue

It is my impression that some types of schools seem to be under-represented at SGA events, with an apparently lower participation from secondary school governors and from governors who serve at schools run by Academy Trusts. I feel that governors in all types of schools would benefit from greater interaction, and from being informed about and debating issues which affect students throughout their schooling. If elected I would seek to encourage the committee to reach out to governors across our schools community and would be happy to invest my time and effort in helping with this.

Topics

If elected to the Management committee I would advocate for a wide range of topics to be covered, with a focus on themes which are relevant throughout our students' education. Issues which I believe we could usefully learn about and debate include:

- further understanding of the mental health and wellbeing challenges facing our students and strategies for dealing with them;
- literacy and numeracy, including factors affecting the development of literacy and numeracy, and interventions to address under-achievement through the whole educational journey of our students;
- responding to diversity and inclusion both among students and among teaching staff, and in the composition of governing bodies;
- understanding how, as non-executives, governors can best monitor the culture of a school, including the workload and general wellbeing of staff, and ensure that the school is a healthy and safe environment for all;
- the process of applying for and being allocated places at secondary schools, and how this affects students and their families, and the connected question of the transition from primary to secondary school;
- preparation for the new rules on the teaching of relationship education and sex and relationship education;
- factors affecting parents' engagement in the education of their children, and the relationship between them and their children's school, and how schools can build effective partnerships with families;
- air quality in Southwark and its health impacts on children and young people and their education and wellbeing;
- how PRUs operate, what happens to students who are sent to them, the data on permanent exclusion and subsequent outcomes, and alternatives to permanent exclusion.

If elected to the committee I would be happy to work with colleagues to explore with SGA members what they would like to see covered at our meetings.

About me

I was one of the founders of Compass School Southwark, working from 2011 to 2013 on its setting-up, and I have been a governor since it opened in September 2013. From then until July 2018 I chaired the finance committee. In July 2018 I became the chair of the governing body.

I was initially approached to help set up the School because of my professional background as an accountant and my experience in financing public projects and in working with officials and ministers in government departments. I was previously (2006 to 2010) Commercial Director at the Department of Energy and Climate Change, and before that I was a partner at KPMG, a global accounting and consultancy firm.

Since I retired early, in 2011, I have been very fortunate to be able to dedicate much of my time to my role as a governor, and now chair of governors. My primary *professional* contribution has been in areas where, as a single academy trust, the School has needed particular support: initially in supporting the leadership team

through the start-up phase, and subsequently in financing, financial control, budgeting, financial reporting, engagement with our freeholders and the DfE on commercial and financial issues, operational matters, governance, and engagement with the ESFA and the RSC.

But over time and especially since becoming our chair of governors I have become closely involved across the entire range of functions and issues at the school. I have become fully conversant with the data through which school leaders and governors monitor all aspects of school performance and am now experienced in participating in and guiding the strategic and accountability functions of the governing body. I make a point of engaging with our staff, students and parents so as to enrich my understanding as a governor of how our community experiences the School.

I believe that I bring: a number of professional skills which may be relevant; extensive experience, throughout my career, as a participant in and chair of committees and project boards; a good understanding of the challenges that governors and their schools face; a commitment to the rounded education and wellbeing of our young people; experience in supporting and challenging the leadership team; and effectiveness as a public speaker and advocate for the organizations that I represent.

As I have become more familiar with the challenges faced by our community and the School, so I have become more aware of the ways in which the SGA can help me to develop *and* to contribute to our education community – hence my interest in serving on the Management Committee.

**Please return this form by Thursday 14 November 2019 to Ela Cleary
This form will be shared with Southwark governors prior to the Annual General Meeting.**