BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR!

What is a school governor?

School governors are people who want to make a positive contribution to children's education . They are the champions of the school experience for students, their families and for the staff in school and as such, with the Headteacher, do all they can to ensure schools are great places to be.

Governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the country and have an important part to play in raising school standards. The role of the governing body (known in Castleman Academy Trust schools as the School Standards Board) is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school. Time and time again Ofsted (the national inspection body for schools) has noted that the most effective schools demonstrate effective leadership and management - including by the governing body.

What do governors do?

The governors' role is not about fundraising, neither it is about cheerleading for the school - though governors might do both those things. School governors support the Trust Board in monitoring, evaluating and improving education in member schools.

Individual governors may not act independently of the rest of the School Standards Board and decisions are the joint responsibility of the School Standards Board.

The role of the School Standards Board is a strategic one, its key functions are to:

- Support the Trust and the Headteacher in setting the aims and objectives for the school
- Support the Trust and the Headteacher in achieving those aims and objectives
- Monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives
- Be a source of challenge and support to the headteacher (a critical friend)

The headteacher is responsible for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and the implementation of the strategic framework established by the governing body.

Interested in finding out more?

There is a wealth of information available from the National Governors' Association website:

http://www.nga.org.uk/