



Dave Lake – School Governor

What made you want to be a governor at Bow School for Boys?

When my son joined Bow School, I said to him that I wanted to “keep an eye” on the School, so I asked him to see if there were any vacancies for the Governing body. He came home that day with an application form. I can say that keeping my eye on the school has kept me very busy.

What does your role entail?

As well as being the governor in charge of training, I am also the mentor governor for new starters. In addition to that, I am chair of the Health and Safety and Standards Committees. For me that’s a comfortable work load, to which I enjoy, as I have always been involved in committees in my working life with the Trade Unions, and Residents, and Tenants Associations.

What is the most rewarding thing about your role?

I get a lot of reward to know, that while I put in the effort that I put in, that it has helped to make a difference to any given situation. A recent example was at a meeting with the Schools maintenance contractors, I put pressure on them to have 4 classrooms (in the Main building) have their windows repaired. I didn’t want them to have to wait another 3 years before we move to a new school before Teachers and Students have a reasonably ventilated classroom. They have now been repaired. It’s also rewarding to have meaningful discussions with teachers and officials on behalf of the school and to speak on the same level. That’s a Big thing for me, as I knew nothing about education 3 years ago.

What is your favourite book?

I am not a great reader as I never get time to sit down and read. I do have a few reference books and I read a lot of Newspapers and reports but not books. Back in my school days I do remember reading George Orwell books, **1984**, a Big Brother type of story, and **Animal Farm**, as in “All Animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others”.

Who inspires you?

Sir Alex Ferguson springs to mind; he started his working life in the Scottish ship yards as a plater's helper and went through a series of progressions to be the longest serving manager in the history of Manchester United and the longest serving of the current league managers. There are a few things which I wished he hadn't done, but on the whole he is defiantly an inspirational character

If you could invite three famous people for dinner who would you choose and why?

If there was a choice of alive or dead, the ones no longer with us would be Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra and Winston Churchill.

My three guests still alive would be,

Nelson Mandela, because, considering he was locked up for over 25yrs for his anti apartheid movement to become the first South African president to be elected in a fully representative democratic election, he holds no grudges or has no bitterness and is committed to peace. A truly dignified and inspiring man.

David Beckham, because he is a great example of achieving anything you can if you put your mind to it. An East End boy, who is genuinely a nice person, and a great ambassador for football, and the country.

Robbie Williams, because since he first left Take That, and from release of **Angels**, has not turned back. He has had his problems with taking drugs but has seemed to have put that nonsense behind him now. A true entertainer and now back with the group again.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I was born in Manchester, and if there is one thing that I can thank my late father for is that he brought me up to support Manchester United. I had a season ticket for such a long time and enjoyed travelling from London, but over the years it has become too financially restrictive. These days however, United are televised so much, so I don't tend to miss much.

Other things I do are to listen to all types of music, and my favourite type of music currently is R&B/Dance. I am a Big fan of Black Eyed Peas, Cee Lo Green , and Chris Brown.

Tell us a secret about yourself

I was once a DJ in a Disco Pub (1970s) in Manchester for 2 years. I first had an interest in being a DJ at my local youth Club, and was invited to audition for the Disco Pub (as they were known)