

Report of Board of Management Meeting: 4th September 2024

Present: Deirdre Callanan; Sr Mary Corr; Margaret Larkin; Jimmy McClearn; Madeline O'Connell; Eileen Ryan; Amanda Soares

Apologies: Lil Bruen; Nora Fahy; Jacinta Freeman

Recording Sec: Jarlath Burke

Condolences:

The Chairperson opened the meeting by extending condolences on behalf of the Board to Sr Mary Corr on the death of her brother during the summer break.

Election of Officers: The following were nominated and ratified to positions on the Board:

Chairperson: Madeline O'Connell was proposed as Chairperson of the Board for the coming academic year by Sr. Mary and seconded by Deirdre Callanan. This role was accepted by Madeline, who then formally opened the meeting.

Finance Committee:

The following members were appointed to the Finance Committee: Madeline O'Connell, Eileen Ryan and Amanda Soares on the proposal of Jimmy McClearn and seconded by Sr Mary Corr

Delegation of Authority:

It was agreed that the Board gives authority to the Principal to make the day to day decisions in relation to the running of the school. Approval for field trips, school tours, staff-leave and fundraising was given and the Principal was asked to give a report of any such activities at the subsequent meetings. Authority was given to make financial decisions and to suspend a student to a maximum of 3 days and up to 5 days following consultation with the Chairperson. Delegation of authority to the Principal, Eileen Ryan, was ratified on the proposal of Amanda Soares and seconded by Deirdre Callanan.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 13th June were ratified on the proposal of Deirdre Callanan, seconded by Sr Mary Corr.

Matters Arising:

Jimmy McClearn thanked the members for their good wishes on his recent re-election to Galway County Council.

The Board complimented the school on the new school uniform & school jackets.

Eileen Ryan updated the board on the rollout of the PhoneLocker pouches and assured the Board that the initiative is proving successful so far.

Correspondence:

Eileen Ryan updated the Board on Dept of Education and ACCS circulars and updates, including Bí Cineálta guidelines, guidance around parents leave, THES hours substitution scheme.

Applications for parents leave and parental leave were considered and ratified.

Correspondence from Mary Kelly, Clifden CS, seeking nomination to go forward for election to the ACCS Regional Executive. This was agreed.

Finance Committee:

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by Amanda Soares and was ratified by the Board on the proposal of Jimmy McClearn, seconded by Deirdre Callanan.

Eileen Ryan updated the Board on the forthcoming repairs to the roof and the emergence works application to cover the cost.

Principal's Report:

The following updates were given by Eileen Ryan:

Student Enrolment & teacher allocation

Applications for personal leave granted

Payments claimed on OLCS

Placement teachers for the 2024/25 academic year

Student achievements & Leaving Cert 2024 results. Eileen Ryan presented a summary document providing analysis of the Leaving Cert results. The Board complimented the students on staff on the results achieved and complimented the data provided by the Athena document.

Adoption of Child Protection Procedures for Post Primary Schools (2023):

The Child Protection Procedures (revised 2023) were adopted in their entirety and without modification. The New Mandatory Template: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was also adopted by the Board of Management on the proposal of Sr Mary Corr and seconded by Amanda Soares

Annual Review of Child Protection procedures (2023):

Mandatory Template 2 was completed to carry out the annual review of the Child Protection Procedures for PP schools (revised 2023) and was proposed by Jimmy McClearn, seconded by Deirdre Callanan.

Annual Review of Anti-bullying procedures:

The Annual Review of the Anti-Bullying Policy & Implementation was carried out using Appendix 4 checklist. Proposed by Sr. Mary Corr, seconded by Deirdre Callanan

Mandatory Reporting:

Eileen Ryan presented the Child Protection Oversight Report.

Eileen Ryan presented the Anti-Bullying report.

State Claims Agency Report was presented to the Board.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Madeline thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

Next meeting: 17th October 2024.