

Report of Board of Management Meeting: 17th October 2024

Present: Deirdre Callanan; Sr Mary Corr; Margaret Larkin; Amanda Soares; Lil Bruen; Nora Fahy; Jacinta Freeman; Eileen Ryan (Principal)

Apologies: Madeline O'Connell; Jimmy McClearn; Sean O'Mainnín, Jarlath Burke (recording secretary)

Recording Sec: Margaret Larkin

Acting Chairperson: Lil Bruen

Presentation to the Board by representatives of the Student Council:

Two senior students Summer Rose and Miah Casey Hayes addressed the Board on behalf of the Student Council and gave account of their role in the school and their priorities for the coming year, supported by a very informative information sheet which outlined their planned activities and initiatives. They explained the recruitment process into the SC is all inclusive and welcomes anyone that is interested in being involved at any stage of the year. The students were thanked for their contribution to the school and the meeting, their very professional and respectful presentation and commitment to student voice within the school. Nora invited them to make contact with RWN regarding a possible collaboration on the Circle economy.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 4th September were ratified on the proposal of Sr. Mary Corr, seconded by Amanda Soares.

The minutes of the September and October special meetings via zoom were ratified on the proposal of Jacinta Freeman and Deirdre Callanan, seconded by Amanda Soares and Margaret Larkin respectively.

Matters Arising:

The phone pouches are working well to date.

Correspondence:

Eileen Ryan updated the Board on Dept of Education and ACCS circulars and information bulletins including the PME refund scheme, s&s clarification for 60 minute classes, Bí Cinealta procedures and clarification around SPHE syllabus to parents/guardians. The Board were informed of the allocation of one half day to schools by the DoE for this academic year in order to formulate a policy.

Four applications for personal days were granted, all being in line with the guidelines around the use of personal days.

A response to the Boards questions from the previous meeting was received from Castlereagh Crusaders Athletics Club with an outline map of the area being supplied. Further consideration to be given at subsequent meeting following further information.

The Authorisation Letter was signed at the meeting, to allow the accountant, Tony Reilly and Co. access to the school accounts for the purpose of compiling the 23-24 accounts.

Finance Committee:

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by Amanda Soares and was ratified by the Board on the proposal of Nora Fahy, seconded by Jacinta Freeman. This included the income and expenditure account up to 31st August 2024.

Junior Cycle Results analysis:

A synopsis of the Junior Cycle results analysis, which includes a comparison on CCS previous years, national averages and DEIS averages was discussed. The Board congratulated all involved in the very good results and the very positive comparisons with other DEIS schools in particular.

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

School Avoidance Pilot programme via Schools Completion Programme.

School awards 23-24

Past and upcoming school activities

A synopsis of the feedback was provided in a separate document on the findings and recommendations of the recent incidental inspection by Eimear Folan. The Board recognised the excellent feedback and congratulated all involved in the inspection.

Mandatory Reports:

The following reports were presented to the Board:

Anti-Bullying Report

State Claims Agency Report

Child Protection Oversight Report

This concluded the business of the meeting. Lil thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting. Eileen thanked Lil for stepping into the role as Chairperson in Madeline's absence and to Margaret for taking on the role of recording secretary in Jarlath's absence. The Board members wished Eileen well for her upcoming parental leave.

Next meeting: 5th December 2024.