

Agreed Report of Board of Management Meeting 25th May 2021 – 7 pm (via Zoom)

Present: Eoin Kennedy, Bill Reidy, Monsignor Gearóid Dullea, Frances O'Mahony, Humphrey Moynihan, Elaine Linehan, Paula Burke.

Apologies- John Sheehan

1. Minutes of previous meeting were proposed and seconded.
2. Agreed Report of the previous meeting was discussed, proposed and seconded.
3. Any matters arising to be dealt with in Principal's report.

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer delivered his report to the Board. The school accounts are in a very satisfactory state. Going forward, it is hoped that the accounts will be finalized by October 2021 by School Accounting.

5. Principal's Report

- Parental contribution should be a flat rate paid in 2 instalments rather than different amounts at different class levels
- 73 new pupils (three classes) are to be welcomed in September and 78 children are leaving from 6th class in June. Our current enrolment is 485 pupils which is 11 over the retention figure of 474. Current levels of staffing will remain the same for the coming school year. Numbers will remain smaller in the junior classes and three classes will be merged into two at the end of 2nd class.
- Infant Open Days will be held on the 9th, 10th and 14th of June.
- I.T.- a parent has researched ways in which the current internet provision in the school could be improved and a plan has been put in place for the installation of a line over the school roof by Virgin Media. This will facilitate remote teaching from within the school building in the future if necessary.
- Standardised Tests will take place as normal and the school reports will issue via Aladdin.
- Special Education- an exceptional review of SNA Allocation is being sought as our current provision of 3.3 posts is not sufficient for the needs of our incoming Junior Infants. Our school Special Education

Coordinator was tasked with completing the paperwork to support additionality for the existing pupils with significant needs within the school.

- Covid: The Board was informed of a confirmed case of Covid 19 in the school. All the students deemed as close contacts have now returned to school. There has been a prevalence of Covid cases in the Ballinlough area and Mr. Kennedy has been engaging with the Public Health Team on a daily basis. Current measures within the school will be retained until further notice. The HSE has commended the school for our efforts in this regard.
- Upcoming Events: Summer camps will take place in the school over the summer holidays. Due caution will be exercised. Resumption of after school activities in September will be reviewed.
- Tree surgery: A report will issue from Larry Phelan (Tree Surgeon) who will identify trees on the premises which need to be cut back or removed due to Health and Safety concerns. This body of work needs to go to tender and the cost will be considerable (5,000-10,000 euro).
- School Roof: There are leaks in the flat roof of the school which will need to be repaired. The roof has been patched to date but the extent of the necessary repairs may be partially or entirely covered by the DES Emergency Works Scheme. A report will be commissioned and drawn up before work can commence.
- School Interior: A significant amount of work was completed last summer within the school building. This summer it is proposed to floor the three Junior Infant rooms and provide new storage units for these rooms (Numbers 14, 15 and 16). The PE hall will be refloored and a display cabinet for school trophies will be installed. The cost of these improvements in addition to repainting will amount to 42,000 euro. This budget has been approved by the Board and the work will be completed by the end of August.
- Survey of School Grounds: Loic de Haye (parent and consultant architect) has completed a survey of the grounds with a view to possible development of the existing environment.
- Parents' Association: A very successful 'Cash for Clobber' fundraiser was run in April. The 96 FM 'Giving for Living' No-Uniform day raised 2,600 euro for Cancer Services.

- School Policies: There were 3 policies circulated to board members which have been worked on by staff sub-committees this year. These included the Oral Language policy (informed by the new Primary Language Curriculum), the Special Educational Needs policy and the Assessment policy. The Irish Teanga Ó Bhéal policy is to follow and all 4 policies will be ratified by the Board in July for implementation in the next school year. The sub-committee on the Teacher Leave policy is to meet in September.
 - 6th Class Graduation: The graduation will take place on Tuesday 22nd June and the three ceremonies for the individual classes will be recorded and sent out to parents electronically. P.A. equipment will be hired. The Parental Reflection will be read by two members of the Parents' Association in the course of the ceremonies.
 - Appointments: One official appointment is to be made and ratified at the next Board meeting on July 15th at 8 pm.
6. The Chairperson acknowledged the difficulties of the past year and expressed appreciation to the principal and staff of the school for their response to the demands made of them.

Paula Burke

June, 2021.