

## **Agreed Report of the Board of Management Meeting November 1<sup>st</sup> 2021**

**Present:** Eoin Kennedy, Bill Reidy, Elaine Linehan, Frances O'Mahony, John Sheehan, Humphrey Moynihan, Paula Burke.

**Apologies:** Monsignor Gearóid Dullea.

1. **Minutes** of the previous meeting were proposed and seconded. All matters arising are to be dealt with in the Principal's report.
2. **Correspondence:** One SNA has requested a day's leave on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022. Viva Voce choir has requested permission to recommence practising on Tuesdays in Eglantine. Permission was granted for both requests.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** The school is waiting for accounts to be returned from the Auditor (School Accounting). The Parents' Association accounts are to be submitted also. The School Credit Unit account has been closed. All account statements should be completed by December 14<sup>th</sup>.  
It was suggested that a simple statement of the school's finances, stating opening and closing balances and income and expenditure, be prepared for each BOM meeting going forward. It was agreed that a progress report on the school accounts would be forwarded to members in advance of each Board meeting.  
Due to the increasing number of auxiliary staff in Eglantine, the usual individual Christmas gratuities will not be paid. Instead, the Board will give a donation to the Social Committee of the school which will benefit the whole staff.
4. **Child Protection Overview Report:** Principal presented the CPOR.
5. **Principal's Report:** The principal reported good attendance in the school overall and no change in staffing levels.

**The Modern Language Pilot Scheme** (teaching of French) is to commence in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Classes in the school. Six one-hour sessions will be delivered in total.

**Special Education:** The NEPs psychologist will visit Aoibhneas next week and draw up a report. The SENO will visit the special class the following week to review the SNA allocation in the light of the needs of the children in Aoibhneas.

**Reporting of Covid Cases:** The principal sought the permission of the Board to report Covid cases within the school to

- (i) the whole school community and (ii) the parents of the class group in question, once all GDPR requirements are met. The Board granted permission and the principal will convey this information to the parent body via e-mail.

**Extracurricular Activities:** After-school classes will resume. Each provider will have to present the appropriate documentation, including a Covid plan and Garda vetting.

**In-School Activities:** Decisions re. the recommencing of in-school activities will be made in light of the Covid pandemic going forward. The Suzuki outreach scheme offered by CSM can only proceed as an after-school activity.

**Staffing:** A teacher has been appointed to cover the Maternity Leave in 2<sup>nd</sup> class. Another teacher has been appointed to act as CLASS (Covid Learning Support Scheme) teacher for the 25 weeks to which this school is entitled.

**Policies:** The Gaeilge Ó Bhéal policy and the Staff Leave policy were presented to the Board for ratification. A vote of thanks was given to Mary Coakley for her special contribution and work in preparing the Gaeilge policy. The SESE History and the Anti-Bullying Policy are to be completed in due course.

6. **Enrolment:** The chairman referred to a document issued to Board members discussing the national population trends and falling birth rate and the implications thereof for school numbers going forward. He also adverted to the WSE in 2017 and the ensuing report, which he felt impacted negatively on school enrolment. A discussion followed which mentioned the fact that Ballinlough Parish has matured and numbers of children being enrolled has fallen across the board. The point was also made that parents will send their children to newer co-educational schools in the Douglas area for reasons of convenience. The principal will raise the issue of boosting enrolment at the next staff meeting and will look for suggestions. The option of opening a second special class was also mentioned.

The next meeting will be on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

***Paula Burke***

***November '21.***