

Report of the Board of Management meeting of 17th September 2019

Present: Madeline O'Connell, Sr. Mary Corr, Amanda Soares, Gary Cunnane, Lil Bruen, Pat Gilmore, Nora Fahy, Mary Colleary, Yvonne Hanbury, Eileen Ryan, Jimmy McClearn

Apologies received from: Jarlath Burke,

Election of Officers:

Madeline O'Connell was elected as Chairperson of the Board for the coming academic year following formal proposal and seconded. This role was accepted by Madeline, who then formally opened the meeting by welcoming all staff and students back to school following the summer break.

The following members were appointed to the Finance Committee: Madeline O'Connell, Eileen Ryan and Amanda Soares.

Delegation of Authority to the Principal:

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 to make financial decisions up to the value of €5000 was agreed. Authority was given to the Principal to suspend a student to a maximum of 3 days and up to 5 days following consultation with the Chairperson.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of June 18th were adopted by those present.

Matters arising.

The tender for the canteen was awarded to the existing company – Get Fresh Catering. It was agreed to give a copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement to the members of the Parents Association as having it just on the website may not be sufficient to satisfy our obligations. It was also agreed to send the link to the statement on the website to all parents via text message.

Correspondence:

Eileen Ryan gave the ACCS login details which Board members can use to access all circulars and bulletins.

Leaving Cert Results:

The Board congratulated the Leaving cert class on their excellent results and their teachers for all their hard work and encouragement. A breakdown of the points obtained was provided to the meeting and a full analysis of the Leaving cert results will be available at the next meeting.

Finance Committee Report:

The income and expenditure reports for the summer months (June, July and August) were distributed and discussed by the Board. The committee explained that new financial procedures are now in place, which is being overseen by the FSSU (Financial Services Support Unit). Under the new regulations a collection of reports will be available to the full Board at each meeting, which will be analysed by the finance committee and a synopsis presented to the Board.

Principals' Report:

The school report was presented to the Board. 1st year enrolment currently stands at 71, with 7 students from EROC in Ballaghaderreen due to begin in the next week, into various year groups. The increase in enrolment was acknowledged by the Board as very positive news.

Lisa and Aoife O'Rourke were congratulated on their recent boxing accomplishments.

Discipline was discussed and it was agreed that the new Admissions Policy should include a statement on a students' return to school following suspension period. This should include the parent and student agreeing to 1. Accept the C.O.B and 2. Support the C.O.B. This will also be included in the new Enrolment form which is being developed in line with new data protection guidelines. The Board gave authority to the Principal to set down conditions for a student's return to school following suspension. This will be discussed further at next meeting.

School musical is scheduled for 23rd – 25th October.

Board of Management training has been booked for Tuesday 15th October in the school and will be facilitated by Áine O'Sullivan, ACCS.

The Board members were made aware of upcoming Child Protection training.

Adoption of Child Protection Procedures – Children First:

The Child Protection Procedures were adopted in their entirety and without alteration by the Board. Designated Liaison Person is Eileen Ryan, Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Jarlath Burke.

Mandatory Reporting:

1. Bullying Report – An account of all bullying investigations was given.
2. The Child Protection Oversight Report - no report in any of the listed areas were made to TUSLA since the previous meeting.
3. State Claims Agency – A report of all submissions made to the SCA since the last meeting was presented.

Confidentiality Statement:

The absolute need for confidentiality regarding Board of Management meetings was discussed. The Confidentiality Statement was signed by all present.

Meetings for 2019-2020 academic year:

It was proposed to change the time of meetings for the coming year to the earlier time of 4.30pm. All present agreed to this.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 22nd October at 4.30pm.

Madeline thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was then closed.