

## Report of the Board of Management meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Present: Ms. Madeline O'Connell (Chairperson), Ms. Amanda Soares, Ms. Eileen Ryan, Ms. Yvonne Ryan, Mr. Pdraig Kelly, Ms. Bernie Gormally.

### New Board member:

In his absence, Cllr Jimmy McClearn was welcomed by the Chairperson onto the Board of Castlerea Community School, nominated by the GRETB to take the place of Cllr Karey McHugh.

### Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> September were adopted by the Board. The minutes of the special meeting of the Board on 3<sup>rd</sup> October to ratify teaching appointments were adopted by the Board.

### Matters arising.

An update was given on the progress of the upgrade of toilets under the Summer Works Scheme. Recent delays in securing contractors by the assigned Engineering Company have been resolved and work is due to commence in the near future.

### Correspondence:

Various personnel requests were discussed and granted by the Board, in some cases with conditions attached.

The Board wish to nominate Mr. Adrian Jackson, Carrick - On - Shannon Community School, for the position of Connacht representative on the ACCS Executive Committee.

The Board were informed that all retrospective Garda Vetting of school employed staff has been completed by ACCS since Spring 2017, well in advance of the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. Teaching staff continue to be vetted through the Teaching Council.

### Finance Committee Report:

The Finance Committee presented the September and October financial reports for adoption by the Board. The Finance committee reported an analysis of the leave and claims made through the DES Online Claims System. They were satisfied will all activities and the reports were adopted by the Board. The Principal gave a brief update on the new Way2Pay payment system.

### Principal's Report:

The Principal presented the school report to the Board. 1<sup>st</sup> year subject sampling has now been completed. The 1<sup>st</sup> year Homework Club is now in operation and is being facilitated by members of staff, assisted by TY students completing their GAISCE Bronze Awards. The Board congratulated students on recent achievements including 3<sup>rd</sup> place in JC Technology Regional Awards, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in LC Technology Regional Awards of the Irish Technology & Engineering Teachers Association JC and LC awards. First and second place winners go forward to the National Final in Letterkenny on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. Three groups of TY students have qualified for the final of the BY Young Scientist Competition in the RDS in January and Five TY students recently competed in the Poetry Aloud competition, with one student selected to represent the school in the National Finals on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. All students and teachers were congratulated.

TY students were commended for their organisation of two recent events involving the community - Social Inclusion morning and Spooky Walk.

A report of recent disciplinary sanctions was outlined to the Board along with a report of all school activities (including extra-curricular, CPD, student supports, teaching and learning and faith formation) since the previous Board meeting.

Child Protection Report:

The Principal informed the Board of any recent referrals made by the school to TUSLA.

School Self Evaluation:

A comprehensive analysis of the 2017 Junior and Leaving Cert results was circulated and discussed by those present. The Board welcomed the increased uptake of Higher Level subjects at both Junior and Leaving Cert which in many cases far exceeded national uptake - 100% uptake of Higher Level in 9 subjects at Leaving Cert level. In a large number of subjects at Leaving Cert the attainment at both Higher and Ordinary level exceeded that at national level. The Principal thanked all teachers for their work in compiling the analysis and putting in place goals for the coming year. The Principal was complimented on the comprehensive nature of the analysis commentary for the Board.

Anti Bullying Report:

The Board were informed of recent investigations which were carried out by the school. In both cases the matter has been resolved and Appendix 3 of Anti-bullying procedures for primary and post-primary schools will not be required to be completed. Ongoing monitoring will continue. The Board were informed of a cybersafety workshop "Mind YourSelfie", which was organised for and attended by first year students.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Madeline thanked all for their attendance.

The date for the next Board meeting was provisionally agreed.