

Report of Board of Management Meeting: 4th February 2026

Present: Lil Bruen; Eileen Gildea, Stephen O'Hara, Deirdre Collins, Georgina Martyn, Olivia Vaughan,

Apologies: Madeline O'Connell, Teresa Silke, Pauline Davoren, Dara Bruen, Jarlath Burke (recording secretary)

Acting Chairperson: Lil Bruen

Acting Recording Sec: Eileen Ryan

Presentation of 2024-2025 accounts:

Mr. Tony Reilly, accountant, presented the 2024-2025 accounts to those present. A discussion ensued regarding the deficit of €4,397 at the end of the year and the cumulative deficit over the past number of years. This was also highlighted in the Management letter supplied by the accountant to the Board. Tony Reilly took questions from the Board before they were ratified and signed off by Lil Bruen and Stephen O'Hara on behalf of the Board. Mr. Reilly gave an undertaking to upload the signed accounts to the FSSU on behalf of the Board prior to the deadline of 28th February. Lil thanked Mr. Reilly on behalf of the Board for his work in completing the accounts and for presenting them in such an understandable fashion. Mr. Reilly acknowledged the huge amount of work that Roisín Madden does on the accounts on behalf of the school.

Mr. Reilly then excused himself from the meeting.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 10th December were ratified on the proposal of Eileen Gildea, seconded by Deirdre Collins.

Matters Arising:

An update was given on items from the last Board meeting.

Finance Committee Report:

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by Deirdre Collins and was ratified by the Board on the proposal of Stephen O'Hara, seconded by Georgina Martyn. All checks were carried in accordance with the FSSU checklist and no irregularities were found.

Correspondence:

Eileen Ryan updated the Board on Dept of Education and ACCS circulars and updates, including the recent publication of Circular 0018/2026 – Standardisation of the school year for the years 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29.

Personal Day requests received from two teachers were sanctioned as in line with relevant circular.

Applications for Job Sharing and Career Break were approved by the Board. All staff members were wished well in their future plans.

ACCS Convention: An invitation was extended to all present to attend the ACCS Convention in Killarney from 4th – 6th March 2026. Eileen Ryan hopes to attend, leaving two places available should anyone wish to express an interest.

The Board agreed to nominate Ms. Mary Kelly, Principal, Clifden Community School to the 2026/2027 ACCS Executive. Eileen Ryan will complete the paperwork and return to ACCS.

Principal's Report:

The following updates were given by Eileen Ryan:

Applications for personal leave / force majeure granted by Eileen Ryan since the previous meeting

Payments claimed on OLCS

Student achievements – Congratulations to the U19 boys basketball team and their coach, Mr. Thomas Callaghan, on qualifying for the All Ireland Final of the Basketball League. Congratulations were expressed to the senior public speaking competition who came first in the regional finals of the Knights of St. Columbanus Public Speaking Competition.

Update on Emergency works and facilities

Update on equipment grants received and under tender process

Update on new School Meals Programme provider since 1st January 2026.

School activities since the previous Board meeting

The Board expressed its condolences to the Sisters of Mercy on the recent passing of Sr. Bernardine Morrisroe on 16th January 2026. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

Mandatory Reporting:

Eileen Ryan presented the Child Protection Oversight Report.

Eileen Ryan presented the Anti-Bullying report, including the number of new incidents of bullying behaviour reported since the previous board meeting, the total number of incidents of bullying behaviour currently ongoing and the total number reported since the beginning of the school year. A summary of all cases were presented under the headings, gender, type of bullying and strategies used to address the behaviour.

One report had been made to the State Claims Agency since the previous meeting.

SSE DEIS report:

A report of all seven areas of the DEIS plan was prepared by the DEIS coordinator for the meeting. Contents of the report were distributed and members were invited to read it in depth in their own time.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Lil thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting. All present thanked Lil for stepping into the role as acting Chairperson for the meeting.

Next meeting: 25th March 2026.