

Report of the Board of Management Meeting on 25th March 2026

Present: Madeline O'Connell, Lil Bruen; Eileen Gildea, Stephen O'Hara, Georgina Martin, Olivia Vaughan, Pauline Davoren, Eileen Ryan

Apologies: Deirdre Collins, Teresa Silke, Dara Bruen

Recording Sec: Jarlath Burke

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 4th February were ratified on the proposal of Stephen O'Hara, seconded by Lil Bruen.

Matters Arising:

The Principal updated on correspondence to Revenue regarding an historic transation which is due to be refunded to the school. E Ryan to work on this with Revenue.

The Board congratulated the U19 boys basketball team on the All Ireland success.

The Principal discussed the safety of the boundary wall with St. Paul's Primary School. Prices to be sought in relation to resolving the issue and will be discussed at future meetings.

The Principal updated the meeting on the recent ACCS convention.

Finance Committee Report:

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by Madeline O'Connell and was ratified by the Board on the proposal of Stephen O'Hara, seconded by Eileen Gildea.

Correspondence:

Eileen Ryan updated the Board on recent Dept of Education circulars and ACCS bulletins.

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

One application for Marriage leave was approved.

The Board received confirmation from the FSSU of the submission of the 24/25 accounts by Mr Tony Reilly, accountant.

The Board agreed to facilitate the annual request by Monaghan Education Centre to release the Guidance Counsellor for the Professional Support Programme of Guidance Counselling Supervision for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Irish Inspection Report:

Eileen Ryan presented a report on the recent Irish inspection which took place as part of a national study on the teaching and learning of Irish at primary and post primary level. The report was based on oral feedback given by the inspector to the Irish department and management, as no individual school report will be written in this inspection model. The Board congratulated the Irish department on the very positive report and commended their work across the curricular and extra-curricular initiatives in the subject.

Leadership and Management Review:

The Board ratified the proposal of the Principal to initiate a Leadership and Management review. This was proposed by Madeline O'Connell, seconded by Georgina Martyn.

Principal's Report:

The following updates were given by Eileen Ryan:

An outline of curriculum planning for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Student achievements – Congratulations to the panel of 15 players and their coach, Mr. Thomas Callaghan, on their outstanding victory in the U19 Boys' Basketball All-Ireland Final on 26th February 2026. Congratulations were expressed to the senior public speaking competition who qualified for the All Ireland Final of the Knights of St. Columbanus Public Speaking competition, to two students on receiving the Special Irish Recognition award at a presentation in UG on 5th March 2026 and to past pupil Julia Dzwonkowska, LC 2025, on being acknowledged with an Academic High Achiever at the UCD Entrance Scholars Awards Ceremony on 12th February 2026.

An update on the following: the recent Bothar Bhrochaid Walk, the current union position on the Croke Park hours, the schools planned new communications app – Unique schools, current Emergency works applications – gym roof and plumbing, recent financial contributions received and reports made under SEAI and Schoolbooks grant scheme, School activities since the previous Board meeting and a behaviour update to include suspensions.

Applications for personal leave / force majeure granted by the Principal and payments claimed on OLCS since the previous meeting, including substitution, part-time hours and EAL allocation hours were reported on.

The Board wished Clare Goonan well on her upcoming maternity leave.

The Board expressed its condolences to Rebecca Breheny, Mary Leech and Patty Bruen on their recent bereavements.

Mandatory Reporting:

Eileen Ryan presented the following reports:

Child Protection Oversight Report.

Anti-Bullying Report.

State Claims Agency.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Madeline thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

The Board congratulated Madeline on the recent birth of her grandchild Maddie, in Melbourne.

Next meeting: 20th May 2026.