

Board of Management Meeting 15th November 2017

In attendance were:

Jerry Cronin – Chairperson, Michael Cregan – Secretary, Eukaria O’Grady, Liam Lenihan Andrew O’Regan, Vincent Murphy, Pat O’Riordan, Sue Flynn, Anne O’Sullivan,

The chairperson introduced Eddy Duffy of HDS prior to the meeting and thanked Eddy for completing the audited accounts and then asked Eddy to make a presentation of the audited accounts to the Board. Eddy gave a comprehensive report and the chairperson thanked him.

The meeting was then opened by the chairperson with the prayer “Good Humour” by Saint Thomas More.

The chairperson welcomed new member Sue Flynn and thanked outgoing member Diana Bogan-Carey.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and were proposed by Liam Lenihan and seconded by Anne O’Sullivan. Most matters raised were on the Agenda and these were referred to the Agenda.

Correspondence:

There was a letter in relation to students going on a trip to Rwanda with Bother next year. An investigation on the feasibility of students travelling there as part of 4th year projects is ongoing.

All Child Protection issues were processed correctly to the Board felt and all circulars associated with it.

There was a letter from Sr. Margaret Sheehan who is an FCJ sister working with various trusts in Sudan. The Board proposed the school would make a donation of €1,000 and a fundraising and awareness campaign would also be run at a later date to assist with this project.

The allocations for 2017 which were updated on 18th September were presented to the Board.

A letter from Dr. Des Fitzgerald, president of UL, was read to the Board in relation to his visit to the school and his meeting with the Principal..

A letter was received in relation to Garda Vetting to be returned by 21st December 2017.

The Parents’ Council held its AGM which over 200 people attended.

Circular 83/17 was presented to the Board.

There was a letter from the Dioceses of Limerick regarding the ANOIS programme, we have two groups participating this year.

The secretary explained the school is required to do a general school strategy and present it to Tusla.

A report from Allianz in relation to the lift was presented to the Board.

A statement was presented to the Board in relation to all grants received by the school over the past three years.

There was a letter from James Kelly in relation to his school tour which he is hoping to run next year for 2nd years to Italy.

There was a letter from Ciara O'Mahony proposing a trip to Iceland. The Board discussed the cost of such a trip and decided that they needed time to reflect and that it would be put on the Agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

There was a letter in relation to Triona Hourigan who is doing work in the University of Limerick in relation to E-Learning. Dr. Triona Hourigan has been involved in research which has been beneficial to the school and the Board felt this research would also be beneficial and unanimously agreed that Triona be given permission to work on this.

Principal's Report:

- Politics & Society in-service
- London tour a great success
- LCVP in-service
- Ploughing Championships students received 5 cattle
- Geography Field trip
- Junior Cycle for Teachers in-service
- Outdoor Pursuits – Transition years away for a week
- Ecology trip
- 1st Year Science trip to U.L.
- 2nd World Marathon challenge-U.L.
- 5th Year Biology trip
- N.C.S.E. Hearing in-service
- Junior Cycle for Teachers in-service
- JCT in-service school closed for a day
- ASTI training
- Gaisce training
- Debates
- Middle Leadership in-service Galway
- Politics & Society in-service
- Italian tour a great success
- Completed de-fib training for 16 staff members
- Open night completed
- Attended AMCSS meeting with chairperson
- Ran school mass
- School open each Saturday and Sunday and over Hallowe'en
- Attended NCCA meetings
- Have had retreats to most classes in school
- Having meeting with Allianz. Insurance gone up by 6%
- Have begun work on bathrooms
- Had AGM of parents council received a cheque of 15,000euro
- Appointed a caretaker
- Installed new cameras

Also discussed was the difficulty with Facebook as we currently have it blocked and we are trying to upload information on social media promoting the school . the Board agreed to talk with our IT provider on this matter.

Ethos:

Ethos was discussed, we are following the gospel values and the area for discussion at this meeting was “Spirituality”

Staff Matters:

Interviews took place for the new caretaker in the wake of Tomas leaving and names were presented to the interview board and Marcin Bloc was presented for consideration by the Board . The Board unanimously agreed to his appointment subject to a 6 month probationary period.

Junior Cycle Reform:

The Principal explained that Junior Cycle reform was taking place in the school. We had our day in-service and we are waiting for our second day sometime around March/April.

A.O.B.

The Board said they must start to review all policies before Christmas to ensure that all our policies are up-to-date for the next Board.

Agreed Report:

School accounts

Staff matters

School charitable involvement

School attendance

School Tours

School and Social Media

School Activities – Extracurricular

School Building

Ethos

Board Plans Review

Policy Formation

The next meeting was set for Monday 11th December and the meeting then concluded.

Jerry Cronin

Chairperson

