

Board of Management Meeting 20th August 2016

In attendance were ;

Jerry Cronin, (Chairperson), Michael Cregan, (Secretary), Liam Lenihan, Vincent Murphy, Pat O’Riordan, Diana Bogan-Carey, Anne O’Sullivan and Eurkaria O’ Grady.

The chairperson Jerry Cronin opened the meeting with a reflection prayer and thanked the Board for all the hard work and dedication throughout the year and stated that he was looking forward to working with the Board for the coming year.

Minutes of the Meeting:

Minutes of the meeting were read and were proposed by Diana Bogan-Carey and Pat O’Riordan. The Board unanimously agreed the minutes.

Matters Arising:

The Board was presented with the minutes of the meeting with Parents’ Council. The Board thanked the chairperson and the secretary for meeting the Student Council and Parents’ Council and thought it was very worthwhile. They asked the secretary to do an overview of sport in the school and evaluate the possibility of employing more coaches in the school especially to coach hockey and basketball in order to strengthen these sports for the future.

Musical

Agreement was reached to proceed with a school musical. The secretary was asked by the Board to talk with teachers to see if classes can be covered for the week leading up to the musical as there are exam classes to be considered.

The Board was presented with costing for the musical. The Board felt it was reasonable but it would have to consider the time off which the teachers were taking. The Board asked the secretary to thank Anne and Suzanne for their commitment and enormous work that will happen in the next few weeks and express their appreciation.

Correspondence:

The Board was informed that the school would be closed on 30th September 2016 as 168 days have been planned . This was proposed by Vincent Murphy and seconded by Diana Bogan-Carey and was unanimously agreed.

A letter was received from a Yoga group enquiring about the use of school facilities. This was proposed by Pat O’Riordan and seconded by Liam Lenihan.

There was a request from the Community Games Committee and Special Olympics to hire the pitch once per week. The Board felt this was a worthwhile community project. This was proposed by Pat

O’Riordan and seconded by Liam Lenihan and the Board unanimously agreed to the use of the Astro-turf pitch at a nominal cost.

The Board was informed about the Debs Ball which was a huge success and Big Boss Events Co. was complimented. The Board felt it was a good development even though it cost a small bit extra and the Board asked the principal to proceed with plans for the Debs Ball for next year. This was proposed by Eukaria O’Grady and seconded by Vincent Murphy. The Board agreed to the Debs Ball 2016/2017 and that Big Boss Events would be the organisers of the event.

The itinerary of the school tour to Munich which is going ahead in November was presented to the Board. The Board was satisfied that it was still okay to take that trip in the present circumstances.

Also the Board was informed about the proposed Ski trip in February and the Camino trip which will be coming up in April and the Board ratified the Camino trip which was proposed by Vincent Murphy and seconded by Diana Bogan-Carey. The Board unanimously agreed the trip.

Open Night

The Open Night will be going ahead on 22nd September and teachers can only attend on a voluntary basis. The Board was concerned about this especially with the new school being built in Mungret and asked the secretary to encourage as many staff as possible to attend

The admissions policy 2017/2018 was presented to the Board. The Board agreed to take 120 students for the academic year 2017/2018. This was proposed by Liam Lenihan and seconded by Pat O’Riordan. The Board unanimously agreed to take 120 students for 2017/2018.

The revised Calendar for 2016/2017 was presented to the Board. This revision was to make allowance for the loss of the Croke Park hours

There was a letter from Mrs. Helen Christie regarding the school regatta. The Board thanked Helen Christie for her help in this regard.

The additional special needs allocation was presented to the Board.

Principals report 29th August 2016

- Climbed Croagh Patrick
- Attended meeting in LEC
- Had Parent Council Meeting
- Ran Parent Council night out
- End of year mass
- Ran 3rd year parent information night
- Ran 4th year graduation
- Ran orals for 5th years
- Ran all house exams
- Attended funeral of Ellis Humphries’ brother with Chairperson
- Completed interviews
- Leaving Cert and Junior Cert exams running
- 11 special centres
- Wrote to Department re school Building Project

- Bi-weekly meeting re accounts
- Tag Rugby
- 5th Year Trip to Fota
- 2nd Year Trip to Crag Cave
- Students to the Open Day at army barracks
- TY trip to Cork
- Leaving Cert results excellent
- Students returned to school
- Working on repair to part of roof
- We had Dr. Roger Downer talk to staff
- Croke Park hours suspended due to industrial action
- New Art room up and running
- Climbing Keeper hill on Friday with TY students

Building Project

The school was informed by the department that the building project is still in the pipe line. The secretary had been in touch with the Department and written several letters and also e-mails to Sharon at the department but there has been no reply. The Board asked the secretary to talk with Eilis Humphries with a view to getting her to contact with the Department as soon as possible regarding the building project.

Staff Matters

The Board was briefed about the upcoming industrial action. At present all the Croke Park hours have been cancelled so there are no meetings after school. The Board asked the principal to keep a close eye and to keep them up to date as developments unfold nationally and to make sure that any issues of a national nature stay national and not become a local issue.

Leaving Certificate Results

The principal presented in graphic form the results of Leaving Certificate for 2015/2016. He also mentioned that the school ranking is now 67 up slightly on previous years but explained the reason is actually because of the 120 we have a greater number of students who don't make it to university and they struggle here and there is a greater number of students with special needs in these years. The Board complimented the principal and staff on the results, especially as over 20% of the students received results that were twice the national average which is a huge success and complimented Kate O'Connor for achieving 7 A1s - a huge achievement which the school should be very proud of. We are also very proud of students at the other end who struggle academically and yet are so well catered for in the school. The principal was asked to pass the Board's compliments on to all staff.

Appointments:

Various teachers have been appointed,

These appointments were proposed by Diana Bogan-Carey and seconded by Vincent Murphy

Accounts

The Accounts were discussed and appear very positive.

