

St. Corban's Boys National School.

Fairgreen, Naas, Co. Kildare

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Board of Management Meeting 4

Thurs 23rd April 2020

NOTE: This meeting was held as a Conference Call Meeting on Zoom due to the restrictions relating to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

Agreed Report

Board of Management

The fourth meeting of the current Board of Management was held on Thurs 23rd April 2020.

Current Officers of the Board:

Chairperson: Johnny McMahon

Secretary: John Drewett

Treasurer: Marjorie Quinn

Health & Safety Officer: Jan O'Donoghue

Members: Robert Kennedy

Carrie-Ann Devitt

Deacon Fergal O'Neill

Linda Donnelly

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 25th February 2020 were reviewed, adopted and signed.

Covid 19 Pandemic Distance Learning Plan

School closed on Thurs 12th March 2020 as per Government / DES directive.

Phase 1 March 12th to Easter Holidays

Books were sent home with pupils and opportunities for parents to collect books for absent boys were provided over the next week.

Teachers posted work for their class on the school website each day up to Easter Holidays.

Parents were contacted through the school website, teacher email addresses, Aladdin texts.

Role of Class Teachers/SETs is now to engage the pupils in Distance Learning.

Role of SNAs: All SNAs have completed the survey and all but one had done the Vetting.

They are waiting for the HSE to contact them about redeployment. Until they are re-deployed SNAs should contact parents of pupils on their caseload.

Secretaries are working remotely.

Caretaker/Cleaners restricted from accessing the school.

Teacher survey and Parents' surveys have been carried out to inform our plans.

Phase 2 Last two weeks in April

Week 1 - All teachers and SETs make contact with all parents to ensure good communication and provide support. Begin formal processes of providing feedback.

Teachers to establish priority learning maintenance areas and priority new learning areas to focus future plans.

Teachers continue to use website, email and Aladdin Connect as our distance learning system continues to evolve.

Proposed plans for the next two weeks and the plan going forward.

May Holiday week the school is on holidays and teachers will only offer suggested work for that week.

Phase 3 May and June 2020

Plans for May & June are to improve distance learning/feedback/ focus on priority learning areas for specific years in Gaeilge/English/Maths/Other subjects.

Devise plans for remote teaching of agreed priorities and system for providing feedback/evaluation/assessment.

Standardised Tests were due to be done in May. We await DES instructions on them.

Staff Appointments

Current enrolment is 519 pupils in the school.

Interviews were held on Thurs 12th March 2020 for Fixed Term Post to cover the remainder of a career break from 18/03/2020 to 30/06/2020. Pilar McAuley was appointed to the post.

Staffing Plan for next year. The School has 20 mainstream Class Teachers allocated based on last September's numbers. Staffing Form has to be signed and will be returned to the DES confirming this situation. These extra teachers will be assigned at future meetings.

Teachers will be issued with the Class Preference Forms for expressing a preference on what class level they would like next year.

Child Protection

The Child Protection Oversight Report was shared by the Principal with the Board of Management. It was discussed, accepted and signed by the Chairperson.

Ms. Bonner is the new Deputy Designated Liaison Person.

Mr Drewett is the Designated Liaison Person.

Finance

The school accounts were submitted, discussed and approved by the Board.

Teacher In-service CPD

The DES has sanctioned two half days for PLC In-school Training with a Webinar for this year. The two half days cannot be combined into one day but must be taken separately in the

last two terms. The School held its first PLC Training Seminar in St Corban's on Weds 11th March 2020 from 12: 20 – 14:30. We spent the last 30 mins planning how we would respond to an emergency school closure due to Covid 19.

New Building Project

Soil surveys have been completed. Dampness survey was completed. A building survey scheduled for Fri 13th March was postponed due to Covid 19. Subsequently partially done except for ceiling space and wall surveys on older side of building.

Change to process for payment of invoices relating to school building project. Invoices are now sent directly to the DES who approve the payment and lodge money to school account.

School Concert

School Concert planned for end of May, has been cancelled because of Covid 19.

Living our Ethos

Confirmation Mass took place on Fri 28th Feb 2020.

Flowers and a gift were presented to retiring Sacristan as the Board requested.

Postponement of Communion planned for May. Update from Parish Team informed us that the ceremonies are postponed until further notice.

Policy Ratification

The school's EPV Policy was given to Board members to be reviewed at the next meeting.

School Self-Evaluation & School Improvement Plans

The following plans continue to be implemented in the school for this year.

Plan 1: Literacy Plan – Primary Languages Curriculum – Planning and Implementation in English and then Gaeilge – Planning Template

Plan 2: Digital Learning Plan – Year 2 – Infrastructure Upgrade final phase – Staff Development projects

Plan 3: New School Building Project

Plan 4: Literacy Plan – Sixth Class Library development to join in with new Junior Cycle English reading lists.

Plan 5: Student Council – setting up and maintaining a Student Council to give students a voice.

Plan 6: Gaeilge development in the school – Aoine Bheo to begin in January – PLC in Gaeilge to be developed and new teacher practices and pupil learning experiences to be engaged in and embedded.

Plan 7: School Concert in May

Plan 8: Enhancing Communication among all Stakeholders in the School – pupils, teachers, parents, Parents' Association and Board of Management.

PTA Update

Fill the Van on Fri 20th March 2020. Cancelled.

Bag pack in Dunne's Stores on June 6th 2020.

Meeting on Weds 4th March 2020 at 8pm.

PTA consulted about the Admissions Policy.

Substitute Teacher Crisis

The lack of trained substitute teachers continues to be a major problem.

ISLM Team

ISLM Team Meeting met on Mon 2nd March.

Croke Park Hours / Staff CPD

A Staff Meeting was held on Mon 09/03/2020 2020 for 2 hours.

Maintenance

The maintenance costs of managing such an old building continue to be a challenge.

Plumbers and electrical services were required since the last meeting incurring significant expense.

Next Meeting

Date: Tues 26th May 2020

Venue: Zoom Meeting

Time: 7pm