

St. Corban's Boys National School.

Fairgreen, Naas, Co. Kildare

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Board of Management Meeting 23

Tues 31st May 2022

Agreed Report

Board of Management

The twenty-third meeting of the current Board of Management was held on Tues 31st May 2022. It was held in the Staffroom in the school.

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

Yvette Delaney

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of Tues 05 April 2022 were reviewed, adopted and signed.

Covid 19 Distance Learning Plan

The COVID 19 Return to School Plan was updated with amendments.

We purchased another supply of hand- sanitiser.

We are un-winding our Covid procedures and moving back to a more normal set of school procedures. We have received the grants for PPE/Sanitiser and Cleaning from the DES.

We will use the remainder of the grants to ensure that the school is deep cleaned and equipment that was used up replaced.

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 Deputy Designated Liaison Person.

Mr Drewett is the Designated Liaison Person.

Child Protection Training has been completed by all Staff members and all of the Board of Management. We have a register of the personnel and the training they have undergone. CPOR Report to be discussed and signed by the Chairperson and the Principal.

Anti-bullying Report

Principal Drewett advised the Board that there had been no issue relating to bullying reported to him, since the last meeting on Tues 05 April 2022. CPOR Report was discussed and signed by the Chairperson and the Principal.

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Admissions

Fifty five Junior Infants have been enrolled for next year. Three new Ukrainian children have enrolled in the school as we had places in Third Class and First Class. We continue to offer supports – books, expenses, uniforms. We have also enrolled one Ukrainian boy in Junior Infants for the coming year 2022/2023. We continue to have a large number of applications for places from families who have moved into new housing estates around the town.

Staffing

We had 483 pupils on roll on September 30th 2021 and this entitles us to Principal & 19 Classroom Teachers for the coming year, which is the same as last year.

The DES has sanctioned our 7th SET as a cluster post. We have formed a cluster with Rathmore NS.

School Community

The photographer Thomas Anthony took a Staff Photograph on Friday 27th May 2022. He also takes photos of our Infants and our Sixth Class each year. We hang these photos in the school hallways.

School Calendar

The school calendar for next year which was ratified at the last Board meeting has been circulated to all Staff, Parents and posted on the school website

Special Education

We received our Allocation of Special Education hours from the NCSE on April 14th 2022. We have been allocated 172.50 hours which is a drop of 2.5 hours on last year's allocation. This equates to 6 teachers and one post of 22.5 hours. There must be 25 hours to make a post. We needed to create a cluster to complete the post. We have created a new Special Education cluster with Rathmore NS where we have 22.5 hours each week and they have 2.5 hours each week. The post is a permanent post based in St Corbans. We create an agreed plan on how the cluster will work. The Shared Teacher will attend Rathmore each Thursday from 11:25 to 14:25. The DES has sanctioned this post. We

have notified the Panel Operator. We will nominate a teacher from our Special Education Team to fill this post.

ICT Developments

ICT Grants:

- Digital Strategy ICT Grant €22,015:70
- Digital Divide Grant €13,360:00

We have set up our website on Google Sites as we had difficulty with Weebly. We are restocking the website with information and material. We have purchased 10 new laptops for teachers and we are drawing up a plan to spend the grants available.

Library Book Grant

We have received a Library Book Grant from the DES. We will draw up a plan to spend it.

PTA Update

The PTA ran an Easter Raffle online and raised €6,040. The PTA provided a goody bag for all pupils in Second Class to celebrate First Holy Communion. They also organised the teas & coffees for Junior Infant Parents at the Junior Infant Observation Day on May 26th 2022. The PTA also organised and funded the Ice-cream Van visit for Mon 30th May.

ISLM Team

The ISLM Team continues to work on the embedding of School Improvement Plans and in supporting projects around the Student Council and Covid Plan implementation.

Croke Park Hours

Staff Meeting on May 09 2022 from 14:30 to 16:00.

We continue to use them for CPD using Education Centre webinars, Staff Meetings, Parent-Teacher Meetings and Class-level meetings.

Maintenance

We had to repair a broken window in the toilets opposite Room 8.

We had to call on Computer Solutions to address issues with our Broadband.

We have some issues with our bell system. A new timer had to be installed at a cost of €1,068:87

We have received a quotation from Skellig Engineering for the maintenance of the mechanical plant in St Corban's at a cost of €970 for the year.

We may need to purchase more furniture for classrooms – tables & chairs for extra students and to provide extra table and chairs for when we split classes on EPV days.

We need to purchase another filing cabinet to store pupil files.

We had to call Moone Pest Control out to deal with an ant infestation.

SSE & School Improvement Plans

SIP 1: Teacher Planning - ongoing

SIP 2: ICT Development - ongoing

SIP 3: Covid 19 Return to School Plan – being wound down.

SIP 4: Wellbeing Policy & Practices – in progress- surveys being completed.

SIP 5: Gaeilge – to be initiated, ground work being done.

Living Our Ethos

First Communion was held on Sat 21st May 2022 at 10:00 & 11:30 in The Church of the Irish Martyrs.

Fr Robert Petrisor has conducted our sacramental services.

Confirmation class retreats were held in Kildare Town on Mon 16th May & Tues 17th May.

We hope to organise a school mass before the end of the year.

We will have our Sixth Class Graduation Mass in late June.

Staff CPD

Teachers continue to engage with the Education Centres and to upskill on ICT and other courses. Teachers continue to receive CPD in ICT from Eoin Stakelum of the PDST. We focused on using ICT in Special Education and on developing our Digital Learning Plan for the coming year. Teachers completed Webinar 5 of the Primary Languages Curriculum on Fri 27th May from 12:25 to 14:25.

Policy Ratification

The Assistive Technology Policy was ratified.

Proposed Marjorie Quinn. Seconded: Carrie-Ann Devitt. Approved.

Energy Audit

The Tipperary Energy Agency conducted an energy audit on behalf of the DES on May 11th 2022.

School Building Project - Update

Principal contacted Ian Shek for an update on our Building Project and the planning permission on May 6th 2022. We received the following update on May 10th 2022 by email.

- No submission received by KCC – ie no objections from neighbours
- Planning FI letter received. The DT is reviewing each point raised by KCC, the majority of queries relates to roads and civil which forms a large bulk of work that needs to be carried out by our S&C Engineer. Point 7 requires further exploring and designing to satisfy the design principles set out by the Urban Design Framework. Our intention is to request a pre-plan meeting with KCC once we have a sketch proposed solution prior to formally respond to the FI.
- We have a new fire consultant appointed and will be onboard to advise on the project and complete the fire safety certificate.

Principal contacted Ian again on Weds 25th May 2022 for an update. He replied that he had reached out to the planning officer to set up a meeting to discuss the AI, was waiting for a date to meet KCC. He will reach out again to hopefully firm up a date so we can progress with the application.

Student Council

The Student Council guided by Shane Ryan organised an Easter Egg Hunt for Junior Infants to Third Class on Fri Weds 6th April in our school grounds. The Council continues to run Corbans News Radio which is broadcast every Friday morning on the school intercom.

Health & Safety

Hearing screening did not take place on Monday 16th May for Junior Infants. It was re-scheduled for Weds 1st June 2022.

Special Education

We have applied for 5 EAL hours each week to cater for our Ukrainian students. This was granted and we have 50 hours of EAL support for May and June.

Junior Infant Induction Programme 2022

Tues 17th May at 7:30 pm Zoom for Infant Parents

Thurs 26th May Infant Parents Open Day and Infant Initial Assessment for creating classes.

Tues 30th August Familiarisation Visit for Junior Infants to see classroom, meet teacher and get a photo taken.

September – Parents Information Evening with Principal and then Teacher in classroom.

Teacher Class Allocation

Teachers have been assigned classes and classrooms for next year.

Teacher EPV Days

We continue to work our way through the backlog of EPV hours built up over Covid.

School Uniform

It was decided to keep the school uniform from First to Sixth class with the tracksuit being worn on PE days. The Infants will wear only the tracksuit. Wednesdays will continue to be a non-uniform day. We may revisit this in the coming year and look at extending the tracksuit only up to Second Class.

Cigire Incidental Visit - Thurs 5th May 2022

The Cigire, Stephanie Fitzpatrick, paid an un-announced incidental visit to St Corban's on Thurs 5th May 2022 to complete an Incidental Inspection. She arrived at about 09:00 and asked to speak to the Principal. She informed us that she was here to conduct an un-announced incidental inspection. She asked to examine a Fifth and a Sixth Class. She reported that three lessons were good and one satisfactory. Written reports are not given for Incidental Inspections. The Principal and the Teachers met after school and the next morning to discuss the inspection. We emailed her to correct some of her observations and to highlight some things that she had not commented upon. The Staff discussed how we will implement her recommendations. We have drawn up a plan to prioritise them.

Finances

The Treasurer presented the balances on the Board's accounts as at 20/05/2022.

The Board adopted the Treasurer's Report.

Next Meeting

Date: Tues 21st June 2022

Venue: School Staffroom

Time: 7pm