



Board of Management meeting

**Report to the School Community**  
**Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 @ 7.00p.m.**

1. Opening Prayer – Brenda Cooper read a reflection for the month of November.
2. Minutes of 22.10.15 – Proposed by Ciara McDonald, seconded by Sheila Brennan and adopted by the Board.
3. Matters Arising
  - a. The Board was updated on the current enrolment numbers for the incoming first year class.
4. Correspondence
  - a. Department of Education and Skills – no circulars relevant to our sector since the last meeting.
  - b. School tour proposals: it was agreed that further information would be sought to ensure that all proposals would be viable and that it would be possible to cover for teachers supervising.
  - c. J.M.B. Bulletins 14 to 20 were summarised.
5. Building Programme:
  - a. Special Needs Classroom – Board updated on progress in relation to the new building.
  - b. Oratory: no decision made.
  - c. Staffroom: drawings considered by staff committee on Tuesday.
  - d. Assembly Hall – no further developments.
6. Principal's Report:
  - a. The appointment of Aisling Collins (art teacher) was approved by the Board (as proposed by the selection committee of Tony Joyce, Colm Keher and Marie Therese Gallagher).
  - b. A comprehensive report on school events was presented.
  - c. It was reported that two pupils had been suspended since the last meeting.
7. Kolkata Guidelines:
  - a. Development Education/Justice and Peace – board updated on activities
  - b. Report on conference on Catholic Education – attended by Tony Joyce and Paula Farrell (R.E. teacher).
  - c. A discussion about the school's contribution to the personal and holistic development of our students. A survey responded to by 276 students was considered. Also the topics of faith development, participation levels in sport and the availability of non-sporting activities were discussed.

8. Parents' Association Report

- a. It was reported that 20 parents attended their first normal meeting of the year and that the following officers were elected: Catherine Peters (Chairperson), Roisin Boyd (Secretary) and Helen Fitzgerald (Treasurer). The thanks of the Board were conveyed to the new officers.
- b. The fundraising plans were reported as follows: Christmas raffle and T.Y. fashion show. Both were approved by the Board.

9. Health and Safety – it was reported that a satisfactory fire drill took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> November.

10. Child Protection

- a. A review of the Child Protection Guidelines using the template checklist took place and the revised policy was to be circulated to the Parents Association and put on the school website.

11. School Development Planning:

- a. School Library – a report on the new opening hours and plans for the library was given.
- b. Health Promoting Schools a report on the work in this area was given.
- c. ICT in education – it was reported that a large number of staff members were receiving training in Google Apps/Classroom.
- d. Staff meetings:
  - 10 Continued work on subject planning and committees
  - 11 Meeting up-coming on the 2/11/2015
- e. WSE/MLL follow-on inspection – report published and deemed to be very positive. The Board recorded its thanks for the work done leading to such a positive report.

12. Finance:

- a. Membership of committee: it was agreed that Martin Hanrahan would continue as a member. It was also agreed that a member of the teaching staff should be invited subject to approval at the next meeting.
- b. The finance committee reported that the current financial position was satisfactory though it is very early to interpret the figures accurately.
- c. The reconciled bank balances as of 31 October were presented.
- d. Sports facilities: performance satisfactory. Possible cost for sanding and varnishing the floor pending.
- e. The need to reduce the flow of cash in the school was highlighted.

13. Items and times for next meetings: 13<sup>th</sup> January, 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

14. A.O.B.

- a. A document outlining the nature of Religious Education in Loreto was circulated. It was noted that the Department of Education course was followed and it is inclusive in nature.
- b. A discussion on student parking took place. It was agreed that signage should be explored to deal with the issue of non-Loreto users in the first instance. It was also agreed that the student council would be asked to suggest alternatives.

15. The report was agreed and the meeting concluded at 9.30pm.