



Board of Management meeting  
**Thursday, 22 April 2021**  
**Report to the School Community**

1. Opening Prayer was read by Tony Joyce
2. Ethos Reflection *“To seek truth...to love what is good...to strive for excellence” Frances Teresa Ball. After more than a year of the pandemic, during which our students’ personal development has been curtailed, how can we support the realisation of Frances Teresa Ball’s vision?*
  - a. *Consideration was given to how students had missed out on so much as a result of the lockdown and school closure. It was agreed that the school community was very happy to be learning and teaching together in person.*
  - b. *A discussion took place regarding the 6th Years’ graduation and how it could take place in the circumstances - various options considered. It was agreed that it should be communicated to students that a plan was being worked out. While many students will worry that there won’t be a proper end to their time in Loreto, they will want to be safe for their exams also.*
3. Principal’s Report
  - a. School Musical Proposal:
    - i. The principal outlined the proposed joint musical production with the CBS (March 2022). It was agreed by the Board that this would provide the Transition Year students with a fantastic educational experience.
  - b. Loreto Schools meeting for Guidance Counsellors had taken place.
  - c. Bebras computing skills finalists (15 TY students)
  - d. TY driving skills was a new addition to the TY programme.
  - e. Two students Maria Godden and Naomi Trait - national Olympic trials (swimming) this week.
  - f. The principal presented the results of a survey of parents who had applied to enrol their daughters in the first year class of 2021. The survey showed a very positive disposition to Loreto in relation to the range of subjects available, academic performance, quality of teaching, sports, music and other extra-curricular activities.
4. Parents’ Association report.
  - a. Feedback on the results of the parents survey was given. The results of the survey are available to parents in the Compass portal in the Parents Association folder in ‘School Documents’
5. School Self-Evaluation
  - a. Assessment Plan for Junior Cycle 2021 approved.
  - b. House exams for all students (except 6th Years) to take place on the week of the 24th of May (school finishing a week early this year to facilitate Accredited Grades).

6. Covid response plan
  - a. 5th Year students returned before Easter and remaining students last week. So far things have gone very well with no positive cases.
  
7. Leaving Certificate 2021
  - a. Practice Exams: took place in the school over a couple of weeks (evenings and Saturdays).
  - b. Orals: took place on the Friday, Saturday and Tuesday at the start of the Easter break.
  - c. Practical Exams (Music): Thursday of second week of Easter break.
  - d. Student Portal - students and parents informed.
  - e. Written exams in June - further significant modifications have been made to the written exams.
  - f. LCVP: LCVP exam is being held for all students outside of school time on May 8th (Morning)
  - g. Accredited Grades:
    - i. An outline of the system was presented.
  
8. Planning for final term
  - a. Prize-giving ceremony - to take place on the 18th of May
  - b. Graduation Mass - discussed above.
  
9. Assistant Principal Vacancy:
  - a. Acting position - Assistant Principal II - recruitment process commenced.
  
10. Child Protection Report was presented in accordance with legislation.
  
11. Financial Report
  - a. The reconciled bank balances were presented and it was reported that the finance committee was satisfied with the current financial performance of the school.
  
12. Items and times for next meetings
  - a. 18 May
  - b. 21 June
  
13. There being no other business, the report was agreed and the meeting concluded.



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Colm Keher,  
Secretary.