

St. Patricks Infants National School
Gardiners Hill
Cork



Scoil Phadraig Naofa
Naionain
Cnoc Ghairdinéir
Corcaigh

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Parents/Guardians Report

MINUTES OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

DATE OF MEETING:	October 10, 2022
TIME OF MEETING:	7pm
VENUE:	School Staffroom

BOARD MEMBERS		PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Chairperson	Fiachra O Suilleabhain	X	
Secretary	Anne O' Connell	X	
Treasurer/ Parents Nominee:	Andrea Hanover		X
Community Nominee	Carol O'Hea	X	
Patrons Nominee	Stephen Moroney	X	
Teachers Nominee	Cian Cadogan	X	
Community Nominee	Lisa Calnan	X	
Parents Nominee	Michael Buckler	X	
<i>The above listed act as a corporate body</i>			

AGENDA ITEM	DECISION/ ACTION	BY:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today's meeting is being held in accordance with section 13.3 of the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019-2023 • Board members asked to observe the usual protocol of contributing formally, through the Chair to allow one voice be heard at a time 	Chairperson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board must remain quorate throughout the meeting. 	
Opening Prayer/ Reflection	We seek blessings on the tasks before us, Bless our efforts with clear insight, our deliberations with wisdom, our work, with clarity and accuracy, and our decisions with impartiality.	Chairperson
Confidentiality	Board members reminded all matters discussed are confidential as per Section 8 of The Governance Manual	Chairperson
Minutes of Previous Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes forwarded a week in advance • Minutes proposed by, and to be signed by: Stephen Moroney • Minutes seconded by, and to be signed by: Carol O Hea • Minutes adopted by and to be signed Fíachra O Súilleabhain, Chair 	Chairperson
Matters Arising from Previous Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	Chairperson
Correspondence	<p><u>FOR INFORMATION:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspectorate Circular re SSE • School Meals Inspection in process <p><u>FOR DISCUSSION:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board suggested that a celebration of all that we are in St. Patricks Infants be planned. • Website data to be updated 	Chairperson

<p>Finance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Covid Funding for Term 1 continued ● 2 buses ordered to Farran Woods - cost 430 per bus. 90 children - will the Board sponsor 1 bus and we can ask for a voluntary contribution of €5. Yes ● School Accounts/Auditors Authorization to be signed and forwarded to Accountant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Deep Cleaning Request</u> <p>Covid grant of €4712.04 for the year received. CC to estimate total expenditure on Covid supplies for the year to determine if there would be any remaining balance which could be potentially used for a Christmas deep clean.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consideration of ideas for additional resources paused until the cost impact of the energy crisis, increased insurance and other increased costs is known after winter. 	<p>Treasurer</p>
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Principal's Report	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT and SELF EVALUATION - LITERACY/NUMERACY/ SPHE/ DEIS PLAN:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DEIS review with PDST - Literacy, Transitions, WellBeing - Looking after Ourselves, Relationships and Behaviour Management, Attendance - Numeracy to be updated in line with Literacy approach, HSCL/Parental Inclusion - further work using EAL/Erasmus project ● Classes visiting Mayfield Library, Church, Grotto and lots of local walks ● PLC update - new webinars each term and schools to close for 1 half day per term ● Greek staff visited as part of the Erasmus exchange project at the start of September ● The Schools Nurse came in to do Seniors Hearing and Sight on Sept 14th. Vaccinations at a later date. ● We are participating in the Heritage in Schools Programme ● Blast Artist in Schools programme applied for ● Mayfield GAA commenced weekly training - working specifically on gross motor skills ● Well being for Pupils and Staff to be the focus in the DEIS plan ● ICT - wireless and system upgraded. We will need to budget for future needs - tablets, upgrading of the whiteboard system. Webwise to be promoted at HSCL level. An ICT staff skills analysis is underway using the PDST 'My Selfie' process ● Hot Meals trial in Senior Infants, Room 8. Parents will be notified and if all in agreement the scheme will start after Halloween. DE has halted the same. The Board are concerned as to why Boys School can get hot meals and Infants can't. Anne to follow up with DE as a matter of urgency. ● Bishop Gavin and Fr. Michael visited last Friday and did a full school walk through. We were honoured and delighted to welcome them. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>HSCL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principals Campus meeting and HSCL meetings resumed on September 29 <p style="text-align: center;"><u>SCP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A new programme on Wellbeing is being introduced this year across all SCP schools in our group. ● A new referral system is in place - 8 week blocks only offered <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BULLYING/RACISM</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nothing to report. 	Principal
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STAFF - APPOINTMENTS/TRAINING/ DEVELOPMENT/ NEEDS

- UCC PH D student is researching CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) approach in the teaching of Maths in the 3 Junior Infant classes (refer Cian Cadogan). We are already using this approach in Gaeilge and English.
- Permission granted for Anne O Connell to continue working with PDST as an Associate on the Leadership team.

ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS (NEWB)

HOLIDAYS AND CLOSURE

- Halloween
- Christmas
- PLC webinar - half day closure- Oct 7

REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Lead in Water is still above safe levels. Reports sent to Stephen Dawson, Architect for further advice. Engineer and Architect did an inspection visit on Dec 10. Investigations continue on to the second phase. 2 sets of Lab results show lead is possibly from off campus, as pipes are cast iron there is a high level of iron content also in the water. Suggestion is to flush pipes regularly. Awaiting official report. Flushing was done but levels are still high and further investigation is ongoing - possible EWS application to be made to replace internal piping. The Lead in the Water is developing into a big job and an Emergency Works application is being prepared under our Roll Number 18154D. The valve at the gate is leaking which is the responsibility of CCC and they have been contacted. The water main into our school will have to be replaced and Lo Flo Testing and Tracing notes that the Lead is lodging in our system from outside. Waiting for CCC to get back. We continue to use bottled water. All bottles are recycled.
- We await word from the DE Buildings unit on another EWS application made last June regarding making safe the fire escape and stairways.. There are a number of additional safety issues - children are climbing into the downstairs windows from the astro turf area. The gate in the astro turf yard is not closing - A fence repair service is engaged to re-align.
- Covid Update - DE advises continuing best practice sanitation, airing of rooms and cleaning. Grant to come for Term 1. Covid cases on the rise within the school community.
- Parents/Guardians are smoking in the yard and when waiting to collect. An Aladdin notice was sent to all to refrain from doing so.
- Water leak in Room 10. Washer gone.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thanks to St Patricks College for donating 2 SEN tables to us. ● Covers to be made for wireless transmitters and wiring as needed ● Bus corridor plans - . Local representatives are invited to the campus to discuss. ● Administration of Medicines - Staff trained in giving Epipen or Midazolam medication to pupils prescribed the same if needed in an emergency. Medications are stored safely onsite. Issue of Staff giving any other medication e.g. judging if Zirtek, Calpol etc. is needed is not allowed. Children who display mild symptoms will be sent home or advised not to be sent to school in the first place (as per Covid advice). Inhalers are held in a safe place on site and children can self administer under supervision if needed. <p><u>SCHOOL ACTIVITIES - TOURS/ TRIPS/EVENTS/ ACTIVITIES VISITORS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lord Mayors Visit - Sept 15 ● Erasmus Greek Teachers visited the week of Sept 5. Anne to make a return visit the week of October 22. ● Laura attending Erazmus Teacher exchange in Milan - Nov 7 - 12 ● Farran Woods visit after Halloween for the whole school. Senior Infants will be met there by a Heritage in Schools advisor on Biodiversity. ● Santa to visit December 16 	
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of Child Protection checklist and notification to the Diocesan Office completed ● TUSLA notified re children who have CP records and left our school. All files are archived and stored in a locked press in the Principal's office. 	Principal
Policies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have been working on our Health and Safety, Code of Behaviour and Dignity at Work policies. These are currently in review. We are also developing policies and procedures around Respectful Behaviour, positive approaches, HSCL interventions and Communications. ● Policy on Epilepsy and Allergies prepared. ● Staff request emphasis on Well Being this year 	Chairperson
Sub Committee Activities Garden/ School		Principal

