

Minutes of the Board of Management Meeting.

Bray School Project NS.

13th February 2018.

In attendance; Deirdre Crowe; Stephen Tully; Paddy O' Sullivan; Fonz Scanlan; Breffni Maher; Carol Lanigan and Sinead Jones.

The meeting opened at 8.05. The minutes from January meeting were approved. The proposed budget meeting scheduled at the January meeting did not take place due to other commitments.

Staffing

The first item on the agenda was staffing. The chairperson reported that the interview process for the new secretary position had been completed and that the successful applicant has accepted the offer. There will be a period of transition of approximately three weeks while notice is worked out etc.

The retention figure for staff for 2018 –19 is 226. This is the number of students required to retain our current number of class teachers.

Staff Report

Staff training day in the Blackrock Education centre - Teachers found the language training more focused and felt it left everyone feeling more positive about the new language curriculum. Special needs assistants were equally happy with the seminars they attended.

Sixth class are working hard on the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. It's going well and they are moving on to the next phase.

Fifth and sixth class are having yoga classes with Aoife Ni Mhurchu this term.

Our SENO, Catherine Darby has visited to carry out a review of SNA allocation. Special ed. staff are preparing applications for the next school year.

Helen Finnegan, NEPS psychologist has visited twice in the last month.

The digital learning framework is still progressing. The school have been invited to participate in filming to highlight the work being undertaken as part of the pilot project.

Friendship week (Feb 26th - March 2nd) as part of the week there will be a focus on the review of the anti-bullying policy. Staff will incorporate some art work to celebrate Maren Howarth.

Principal's report

Principal outlined the enrolment situation for infant and ASD classes. There is a very high level of demand for places in the ASD class.

The lack of substitute teachers continues to pose difficulties.

School will participate in the Million steps programme – pedometers will be provided by Wicklow Sports development unit. (19th - 23rd February).

A TV company has been in contact to explore the possibility of collaboration on a programme of 'firsts' featuring the incoming Junior Infants.

The I pad trolley will be delivered after half term

).Student Council.

The student council report to the board requested that the board look to improve the grounds for older students. They suggested that the gym trail be developed and that older students have a hangout area. New supplies need to be bought for yard time – balls, chalk etc.

Students have identified charities they wish to support – they would like to have some type of talent show. They also requested that they be given more active homework, particularly in the last term.

The Board noted the success of the BSP Buskers who raised 835 euro for Laura Lynn in December.

The PTA meeting was postponed so there was no report.

Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer noted that it had been a month of very high expenses. The total of 35,000 was considerably higher than the previous January. The possible reasons for this were discussed at length. There were some anomalous events and unusual transactions.

The new annual projection is for a 34k deficit. with adjustments this could be reduced to 17k.

There is no longer any reason to maintain the book a/c as Aladdin payments will now go through the current account. The deposit account should also be closed.

The incoming secretary has significant financial experience in her previous role.

Principal agreed to remind staff to curb expenditure.

Policies.

Child safeguarding statement is to be completed by March 11th. Prior to this a risk assessment to be carried out. Staff will complete this and share with the board by the first week of March. Carol will contact PTA to have input from parents in to the process of drawing up lists and identifying areas of risk.

Acceptable Use policy

The policy requires review with introduction of new devices/apps and events such as filming on behalf of PDST.

Inclusion.

Sinead is continuing the research of details of this policy. Breffni to assist Sinead with this.

Data Protection and GDPR

Stephen to look at relevant templates. These policies linked with CSS and acceptable use policy.

Fundraising

PTA to organise another event – to be advised.

The board agreed to issue a voluntary contribution letter. It was agreed to maintain it at the current level for this school year.

Buildings

Emergency works – tenders have been sent out, the Board noted that the delay in proceeding has been ridiculous given the size of the project.

Executive

The board were informed of the meeting held on Saturday 10th.

The working group on the patronage issues spoke. The information was presented without any debate. All presentations are available to view on the website.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm. The next meeting will be held on 13th March.

