

Agreed report of the Board of Management Meeting of Bray School project NS.

January 21<sup>st</sup> 2020

In attendance; Mary Diskin; Stephen Tully; Breffni Maher; Carol Lanigan. Emily Collins. Sinead Jones, Rosemary Fitzgerald and Ronan Stokes.

Meeting began at 8.05 and ended at 9.45pm

This was the first full meeting of the new board and the first meeting attended by Ronan Stokes who was introduced to the other members. All board members have now formally accepted their positions

Prior to the formal opening of the meeting Carol informed the Board of the problems which had arisen with the boiler which heats the majority of the school building.

This had 'packed up' in the late afternoon and both Malcolm and Robbie Carter's efforts to revive had been unsuccessful. CL had received advice from other principals who had had a similar experience and on that advice called a company for assistance. It was agreed they would come out early on Wednesday. Contingency plans were discussed and put in place. The Board agreed that ideally the system be replaced rather than further piecemeal repairs be carried out on a system that is no longer sustainable. An application for a replacement system has been made to the DES under the Summer works scheme 2020 –2024.

The recent passing of artist and singer Nancy Falco was noted and her contribution to the David Bowie night was remembered by the board. Condolences to her family and friends.

## ETHOS

Mary suggested that the board reflect on Ethos at each meeting of the board. It was agreed that this should be a part of all meetings. With 'child centeredness' as the focus the board discussed the recent document produced by the Dalkey School Project NS on the impact of proposed changes on the delivery of supports to children with additional needs. It is a very comprehensive briefing document which parents and professionals could use to raise the matter with local politicians. There was some concern that parents of children with additional needs might construe one paragraph as portraying their children as a 'problem' but it is evident that this campaign, 'Kids behind the cuts' is a necessary and timely effort to raise this issue with politicians and the public. The board agreed to share this with the school community.

## Any other matters

Rosemary raised the question of additional language teaching in school. This had been piloted in some schools in the area and it is something that the board will examine in the future.

## Minutes and Matters Arising.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved and signed.

No matters not included on Agenda.

The agreed report was discussed and the board decided to reinstate the regular and prompt sharing of the agreed minutes via aladdin and the website.

The Board then went to deal with the regular agenda items;

## Correspondence

E mail from insurers re Cover requirements for renters of premises.

The Admissions Bill has now been enacted. The chairperson had received correspondence. BSP does not have to make any changes at this stage.

## Staffing

Getting subs remains an issue.

## Staff Report

No major issues.

Staff concerned about delivery times for ICT equipment.

## Principal's report

Principal's report is provided to the board each month.

Headings;

Numbers No change.;

enrolment; Ongoing

Attendance; Not back to normal after drop in December due to viruses.

Staffing; No change. Student teacher in 6<sup>th</sup> class.

Buildings/Infrastructurer/ICT Window installation all snagged. New computers ordered.

New Lighting in entrance hall. ~Repairs to cabling of whiteboards carried out.

Safety equipment installed by Malcolm in Class 7 toilet.

Ethos; Value of the month Courage. Chinese New year this week. Imbolg next week.

Curricular; The provision of coaching by external coach. This was discussed at length both as a specific and a general issue for the board. It was agreed that parents would be asked for a contribution towards coaching and playball and the matter will be revisited before next year.

## Treasurer's Report

This had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The current financial position is healthy and in line with budget. The board discussed appropriate ways to share the financial information with the school community.

## Student Council Report

The student council met on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

They organised a Fundraiser for barretstown for the last day of term.

They have requested comfier seating. Equipment for the playground and a 6<sup>th</sup> class zone.

This was discussed at the board and every effort will be made to

## Parent Staff Association

The PSA met and have proposed some 'active' fundraisers for this term including Yoga and Couch to 5k. Details soon.

## Building/Summer works.

One window will be replaced this week.

## USE of Buildings by Outside agencies.

The insurance company provided advice on the cover required by all users of the building.

## .Child Protection/Child Safeguarding

This is reported on at each meeting. The principal states whether there have been any reports of concerns, if she has sought advice from Tusla and if any reports have been submitted to Tusla about Child Safeguarding since the last meeting. This information is sensitive and highly confidential and cannot be discussed or shared.

## Bullying/Behaviour

Under our Code of Behaviour and Anti Bullying policy the principal informs the board about disciplinary and issues that have been determined to be of a bullying nature. These are confidential to the Board.

## New Board Roles and Programme of work.

Roles and responsibilities were discussed. Emily Collins agreed to remain as treasurer. Breffni will be recording secretary. All members will take responsibility for different tasks and policies as the need arises.

There was insufficient time to devote to a proper discussion of Policy initiatives but given that all schools are required to have a policy on Wellbeing in place by 2023 this will be an important focus of attention. Carol will circulate some curricular and other priorities prior to the next meeting which will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

The executive have not yet met as yet this year so there was no update.