



St. Columba's College, Stranorlar, Co. Donegal.

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Board of Management

Agreed Report of Meeting of 5th February, 2025

1. Prayer

The meeting opened with a prayer.

2. Presentation by Student Council

2.1 The Chairperson welcomed Mr. Kieran Mc Glinchey (Teacher) two students to the meeting.

2.2 They presented a very informative presentation to the Board with all the activities and events organised by the Student Council over the year.

3. Minutes

The minute of the 18th December, 2024 were read and approved.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Correspondence

5.1 Recent DES circulars were listed to the Board.

5.2 A letter dated 12th February, 2025 was received from CEIST acknowledging receipt of minutes.

5.3 A query was received requesting a risk assessment related to 1 hour classes and toilet breaks. Art HQ are happy with the current policies in place.

5.4 The Board were informed that an Irish Inspection will take place on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th February.

6. Ratification of Policies

6.1 **Child Safeguarding Policy** – the Board were happy to ratify same.

The Board ratified Tom Rowan as DLP and Georgina White as the DDLP.

6.2 **Anti-Bullying Policy** – the Board were happy to ratify same.

7. Finance

A finance meeting took place prior to the board meeting. The board were informed that the budgets are on line to date.

8. Ongoing Plant Development and Maintenance

8.1 Major Building Project

Authorisation was received on Monday 20th January from the Department of Education Planning and Building Unit to proceed to the Tendering Stage for our proposed major extension and refurbishment of our facilities.

8.2 Ongoing Maintenance

- We received permission to proceed to get quotations for the replacement of equipment in the technologies rooms. This new equipment will be transferred to the technology rooms in the new build once completed.
- The DES will issue funding for the purchase of equipment/materials required for the introduction of the Revised Specifications in Biology, Physics and Chemistry.
- The installation of lighting on the grass pitch was completed earlier on 29th January.

9. Bullying Issues

9.1 Bullying Issues

The Principal presented a report to the Board.

9.2 New Anti-Bullying Policy

On 19 June 2024, Minister Foley announced the publication of the Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.

9.3 Meeting with Staff from the School Completion Programme

A number of students who are struggling with school attendance continue to be supported by the project Workers in the School Completion Programme.

9.4 Discipline Issues

There were no suspensions since the last meeting on the 5th February.

9.5 **Saturday Detention**

The next Saturday Detention will take place on the 8th February, 2025.

10. **Child Protection Issues**

The Principal presented the CPOR to the Board.

11. **Staffing 2025/2026 – Applications for Job-Sharing/Career Break/Secondments**

11.1 Two applications were received for job-sharing

11.2 Five applications were received for Job-Sharing for the 2025/2026 school year.

11.3 The Board were happy to grant all requests subject to the appointment of a suitably qualified replacement teacher by 30th June 2025 and Department approval.

11.4 A letter was read from Mr. Steven O'Reilly informing the Board that he is resigning his post. The Board wished him well in the future.

12. **Staffing Allocation/Curriculum Planning/Timetabling/SEN Provision**

The Principal presented a report to the Board

13. **Principals Report including Teaching and Learning**

13.1 **Teaching and Learning**

- School Closures
- Professional Learning 'Planning for Change' in-service facilitated by Oide
- Professional Development opportunities for senior cycle revised specifications.
- Enrolment for 2025-2026
- Ceiliúradh CEIST
- Full attendance
- CBA's, SLAR Meetings and Junior Cycle Profile of Achievements 2024
- Timetables for Junior and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2025.
- The Candidate Self Service Portal for Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied students (CSSP).
- Mock Exams:
- Parent Teacher Meetings
- Evening Study
- RACE Applications
- Information meeting for parents of 3rd and TY students regarding Senior Cycle Programmes
- National Grouped Reading Tests (NGRT)

13.2 **Curricular Activities**

Listed below are some of the curricular activities which have taken place since the last Board meeting:

- Christmas Charity Appeal:
- Catholic Schools Week and Wellbeing Week
- Career Guidance events
- BT Young Scientist Exhibition
- First Aid Courses for Transition Years:
- Screening of French Film in Balor Theatre:
- Rotary Youth Leadership Competition
- Poetry Workshop

13.3 **Extra-curricular Activities**

Thanks was expressed to the staff members who give so much of their time to facilitate these activities for the students. Some of the extra-curricular activities since the last Board of Management meeting included:

- Congratulations and well done to Odhran Mc Brearty who won the Best Secondary School Sports Boy Award at the Donegal Sports Awards in the Mount Errigal Hotel on 31st January. This is the second year in a row that Odhran has won this award and it is well deserved. Well done also to Caoimhe Gallen, Riona Doherty, Katie Dowds who were nominated for awards.
- Training and competitions continued for the following Gaelic teams:
- Training and competitions have continued for our following Soccer teams:
- Training and competitions have commenced for the following Rugby teams:
- *Training* and competitions have continued for the following Basketball teams:
- Athletics

- 2nd year class Eoin, who raised the most money in the recent pentathlon and the winning boys' and girls' team on the day will travel on their mystery tour.
- The Baking Club continued into the 2nd term

13.4 **Upcoming Events**

- Oide Whole School Planning Day on 14th February
- 2nd Year Parent Teacher Meeting on Tuesday 20th February
- JMB Allocations meeting in February
- Deputy Principals will attend the NAPD Regional Conference in Cavan on Thursday and Friday, 6th and 7th March
- Staff Meeting on Thursday 13th March
- Annual Holiday on Tuesday 18th March

13.5 **Senior Leadership team – CPD attended**

13.6 **Parents Council**

The Parents Council continue to meet on a monthly basis. They assisted with the programme for the school musical and the nightly draws.

The Parents Council have launched a 50/50 Easter Draw in aid of the college Development Fund. The draw will take place on Friday 11th April.

14. **Staff Issues – OLCS Claims**

A list of staff paid through our On-Line Claim System was outlined to the Board.

13. **A.O.B.**

The Meeting concluded with the preparation of the Agreed Report.