



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

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## **Board of Management**

### **Agreed Report of Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

#### **1. Prayer**

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Sympathy was extended to Catherine Boyle (Teacher) on the death of her mother and to the family of Joan Attridge, former member of staff.

#### **2. Minutes**

The minute of the 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 were read and approved.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

None

#### **4. Correspondence**

4.1 Department circulars were listed to the Board:-

4.2 A letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 was received from CEIST acknowledging receipt of minutes.

4.3 A letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 was received from CEIST acknowledging receipt of Child Safeguarding Statement February 2025 and Notification to Patron of CSS Review 2025.

4.4 An application was received requesting Job-Sharing for the school year 2025/2026. The Board were happy to grant same.

4.5 A letter was read informing the Board that Ms. Celine Howard will be retiring from her teaching position from 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2025. The Board wishes to take this opportunity to thank Celine for her significant contribution to education at St. Columba's College and wished Celine well into the future.

#### **5. Ratification of Policies**

5.1 **Acceptable Use Policy** – the Board were happy to ratify the policy.

5.2 **School Tour Policy** – the Board were happy to ratify same.

#### **6. Finance**

A finance meeting took place prior to the board meeting. A report from the Finance committee was presented to the Board.

#### **7. Schoolbook Scheme**

- The Principal presented the Department guidelines to the Board and informed them that it will be extended to Senior Cycle this year. The e-Tendering process was outlined to the Board.

#### **8. Feedback from Subject Inspection (Gaeilge)**

Inspection carried out on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> February.

The inspector met with school management, Irish subject coordinators, visited 5 teachers for one-hour classes each and met with a student focus group (2 students selected at random by the inspector from each year group).

The findings were very positive with a number of small recommendations to be made.

#### **9. Review of Middle Management and Leadership Roles**

9.1 The Board were informed that a review of the post structure must be carried out every two years. A presentation was distributed to the Board on the various stages of the process.

9.2 This process must be completed by the end of May, 2025.

9.3 The Board were happy to initiate the process.

## **10. Ongoing Plant Development and Maintenance**

### **10.1 Major Building Project**

It is planned that the CFT documentation will be issued to the pre-approved main contractors next week.

### **10.2 Funding for Science.**

The DES will issue funding for the purchase of equipment/materials required for the introduction of the Revised Specifications in Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

### **10.3 Lighting and Lifts**

### **10.4 Health and Safety Audit**

## **11. Bullying Issues**

### **11.1 Bullying Issues**

A report was presented to the Board.

### **11.2 New Anti-Bullying Policy**

Work is continuing on the BÍ Cinealta Policy and procedures by engaging with students and parents.

### **11.3 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.

### **11.4 Saturday Detention**

Saturday Detentions took place on 8<sup>th</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 for those who have persistently arrived late to school/class without parental consent.

### **11.5 Discipline Issues**

Suspensions were listed to the Board.

## **12. Child Protection Issues**

The Principal presented the CPOR to the Board.

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

### **13.1 Teaching and Learning**

- Irish Subject Inspection
- Oide In-service and current CPD
- Mock Exams
- Development of new school website
- RACE Applications
- Information meeting parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> and TY students regarding Senior Cycle Programmes
- National Grouped Reading Tests (NGRT)
- CBA's, SLAR Meetings and Junior Cycle Profile of Achievements 2024
- Evening Study
- HSE National Vaccination Programme
- PISA Main Study
- Aspire Programme
- Senior Leadership team – CPD attended

### **13.2 Curricular Activities**

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

- Career Guidance:
- BT Young Scientist Exhibition
- First Aid Courses for Transition Years
- The TY Dragons Den
- Young Social Innovators (YSI)
- Street Law Programme:
- TY History Trip to Derry
- Senior Maths Team Quiz
- Sports Leadership Programme
- Coding/Robotics
- World Book Day

### **13.3 Extra-curricular Activities**

Thanks were 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 includes:

- Training and competitions continued for the following Gaelic teams:
- Training and competitions have continued for the following Soccer teams:
- Training and competitions have commenced for the following Rugby teams:
- Training and competitions have continued for the following Basketball teams:

- Athletics
- Pickleball
- The Baking Club
- Primary School Football blitz

#### 13.4 **Parents Council**

The Parents Council have organised a launched a 50/50 Easter Draw in aid of the college Development Fund. The draw will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April. The Parents Council will also host a Quiz Night in the B&S Golf Club on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

The Council also been involved in the recent policy reviews including our Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Safeguarding Statement, School Tour Policy and Acceptable Use Policy.

#### 13.5 **Upcoming events**

- Lá Glas –
- Sechtain na Gaeilge
- Subject planning evening on 7<sup>th</sup> April
- TY Tour to Poland on 9<sup>th</sup> April
- LC Oral Exams
- Golf Classic on 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Staff meeting on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May
- TY Strictly Come Dancing in May
- Prize-giving on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May
- Leaving Cert Mass on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- TY End of Year on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

#### 14. **Staff Issues – OLCS Claims**

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

#### 15. **A.O.B.**

The meeting concluded with the preparation of the Agreed Report.