

Board Meeting Agreed Report – February 4th, 2025

The Minutes from the meeting of November 12th were accepted and the agenda for this meeting was adopted.

Principal's Report:

School Activities & Events

- The Board was updated on recent **student activities**, including participation in competitive sports (volleyball, soccer, basketball, athletics), the Model United Nations in UG, and a local Computer Science event in the Portershed called 'Hackathon'. The Board was also updated on the success of the school show, *High School Musical* and the recent TY trip to Barcelona.

Staff CPD

- The Board was updated on recent subject-specific **CPD**, as well as **CPD** in the areas of SEN, leadership, first aid and GCE.

PGC Update

- A **PGC Committee** meeting will take place tomorrow night, Feb 5th. There are plans to produce a cookbook (part of our School of Sanctuary work).

Student Council Update

- The student council members updated the Board on the work of the council in the following areas:
 - Plans to introduce a whiteboard/graffiti space for students to write inspirational comments/quotes. This will be implemented following the Mocks.
 - The recent wellbeing initiative 'Feed Good Fridays'
 - Ongoing work towards securing the Gaelbhratach (Irish language flag/award)
 - Healthy lifestyle policy
- The Student Council was thanked for its ongoing work.

Teaching and Learning:

- A new Teaching, Learning and Assessment Team is in place. This team is currently working on reviewing current practices around OneNotes, in consultation with students, staff and parents/guardians.
- Work is ongoing in the area of Erasmus+. An application for funding has been made and we hope that this will help make student exchanges more accessible, as well as providing rich opportunities for staff CPD abroad.
- JC and LC Mocks are underway and will conclude on Friday February 7th.
- Senior Cycle Options and Careers Fair will take place on Tuesday Feb 11th. Parents/guardians of TYs, 5th Years and 6th Years will be welcome to attend.
- The Board was updated on recent TY activities including their work experience and community placements, as well as chess and drumming workshops and other outings.
- A recent online information night took place for TY parents/guardians on Senior Cycle, which included information on LCVP (Leaving Certificate Vocational Programmes) and LCA (Leaving Cert Applied). The school hopes to introduce LCA next year, but this is dependent on the number of students who apply.

GCE

- We are currently involved in project with UG called Global Education Time. This is in keeping with our ethos and involves further highlighting the ethical curriculum across subject areas.

Other Updates:

- The refurbishment of the bathrooms is still underway and will conclude this month.
- The replacement of classroom LED lights has also been sanctioned as part of the current works.
- Work is ongoing to address WIFI concerns.
- Further repair work to our roof is required following recent storm damage. Issues with the roof and loose plaster meant that the school had to close for one day, but roof flashing has now been made secure. It is not clear when the more in-depth repair work will take place, but it not expected that it will impact school opening.
- There are no further updates on our permanent accommodation in Garraun at present.
- Enrolment 2025-2026: 315 applications and 15 late applications were received (a total to date 330 applicants). 72 places have been offered. 165 remain on our waiting list.
- Interviews have taken place in for 4 APll positions. The successful interview candidates are awaiting appointment following the appeals' window.
- The Board extended its congratulations to Gabrielle Campion, who has been seconded to Oide.
- The Child Protection Oversight Report was completed. The Anti-bullying oversight report was completed.
- The Board approved the school's Protected Disclosures Policy Document (a JMB template document).

Next Board of Management meeting is scheduled for March 11th, 2025