

## Board Meeting Agreed Report – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Minutes from the meeting of June 3<sup>rd</sup> were accepted and the agenda for this meeting was adopted.

### **Principal's Report:**

#### *School Activities & Events*

- The Board extended its congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> Year students, as well as the teaching and support staff, on the wonderful Leaving Certificate results of the first graduating class of GETSS.
- The Board was updated on recent student activities, including cyberbullying and internet safety talks, whole-school Bí Cineálta workshops, competitive volleyball and soccer matches and a talk for Negotiated Learning students by the Mayor of Galway. Climate Action and Geography students attended the Galway Climate Festival.
- The Board was updated on recent TY activities including outdoor pursuits, a GCE workshop in Brigit's Garden, a mental health workshop.

#### *Staff CPD*

- A wide range of subject-specific staff CPD has been undertaken since the start of the year, as well as CPD other areas including leadership, AI and SEN. Whole-staff training on the new Child Protection Guidelines will be delivered by Oide on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Student Council & Student Leadership Update*

- Our Student Council has been elected. Training has taken place for Student Council members.
- Six 6<sup>th</sup> Year Prefects have also been elected. Prefects will be assigned specific areas of leadership and a specific year group to work with.
- TY students will participate in the GAA Future Leaders over the course of the year.
- 10 students are currently completing an Environmental Leadership Course .

### **Teaching and Learning:**

- SSE: In 2025-2026 we are building on last year's School Improvement Plan around independent learning and intrinsic motivation, while incorporating our work in the area of Positive Behaviour Support (PBS). The school is currently working on a pilot PBS programme with the NCSE. Focus will be on consistency of approach, with distinction between equity and equality.
- Whole-school, drop down lessons have taken place around PBS and our Bí Cineálta Procedures for Preventing and Addressing Bullying . A similar Study Skills drop down lesson will follow later this term.
- A new structure for planning and target setting for students enrolled in our Autism classes is now in place. Whole staff CPD has been delivered.
- Our LCA programme is now up and running.
- Junior Cycle results are due to be available on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Other Updates:**

- Our Open Night took place on September 24<sup>th</sup> and was very well attended. Our admissions window opens tomorrow and closes on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have 72 places available for first years in the coming academic year.

- Works to our current buildings that took place over the summer break include repair of the roof of the gym and the new building. The staff workroom has also been renovated to include four new workstations for staff with desktops for staff.
- The Board was briefed on a meeting that took place in August regarding our new build. We are currently working with the design team and 2031 is the expected date for project completion. The architects tasked with designing our new build will visit our current school building on October 10th.
- The Board was briefed on our successful Erasmus+ grant application. Funding will facilitate inbound and outbound mobilities for students, as well as CPD opportunities for staff. The Erasmus+ Team was commended for their work in applying for and securing the funding.
- Updates to Child Safeguarding documents were reviewed and the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment documents were ratified by the Board.
- The Child Protection Oversight Report was completed.
- The Anti-bullying oversight report was completed.
- The Bí Cineálta Anti-bullying Review was undertaken by the Board.
- The Board initiated the biannual Post review process.
- The competition for APIs will open in the coming days.
- The updated attendance strategy for 2025-2026 was reviewed by the Board.
- The Board extended its congratulations to Katriona Woods in her new Permanent API role and to Esther Merino in her Acting API role.
- The outgoing Board members were thanked for their significant contribution to school life. The new Board will convene on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

***Date of next meeting TBC***