

Board Meeting Agreed Report – March 26th 2026

The Minutes from the meeting of February 5th were accepted and the agenda for this meeting was adopted.

Principal's Report:

- A wide range of activities took place recently across the school, including the SEC JC Music Practicals and themed events such as Friendship Week and Seachtain na Gaeilge. Students participated in numerous workshops and initiatives, including the YSI Fun Run organised by 1st Years, a Green Teams bike repair workshop, and a coding workshop at Galway City Museum. Sporting events featured competitive soccer, volleyball and basketball games, as well as strong performances in athletics at the Educate Together Olympics and a bronze medal at the Connaught Chess Competition. Senior students also took part in a dedicated careers morning for TYs and 5th Years.
- The PGC wellbeing evening took place last night, featuring a book and plant swap. The event was very well attended. The Board expressed its thanks to the PGC for organising the event and for their ongoing work.
- A wide range of subject-specific recent staff CPD was shared with the Board, as well as CPD in the areas of leadership and SEN.
- The minutes of the most recent Student Council meeting were shared with the Board by our Student Council Affiliate Members. Topics discussed at the recent council meeting, including feedback on Project-Based Learning, plans for an upcoming Feel-Good Friday event, the launch of the new library, and concerns regarding paper waste. The feedback on recent PBL on GCE has been shared with school management for consideration from both student council and through a wider feedback consultation at whole-school level. Third Year students will liaise with Sarah regarding permission to leave the premises at lunchtime. The board was also provided the board with an update on the ongoing preparations for the Leaving Certificate Graduation and the development of the Yearbook.
- A wide range of subject-specific recent staff CPD was shared with the Board, as well as CPD in the areas of SEN, student care and technology-mediated learning.

Teaching and Learning:

- SSE: The school is moving into the review and evaluation stage. Planning will now begin for next year's SSE cycle.
- The Board was given an LCA update, which included details of the recent activities and assessments.
- The Board was also given an update on Junior Cycle, TY and Senior Cycle activities.
- Assessments: Oral exams will take place over Easter. Additional Assessment Components (AACs) have begun in Business, Biology, and Chemistry at Senior Cycle.
- SEN: A recent NCSE support visit focused on developing the SENCO team and supporting the school in engaging with the new circular. A follow-up visit is planned for May to work with teachers on target setting and co-teaching strategies.
- Apple Distinguished School: The school is preparing to renew its Apple Distinguished School status, with the updated application due on 15th June. As part of the submission, a 3-minute video showcasing Imagine, Inspire, and Impact is required.
- Erasmus+: An update was provided on current Erasmus+ activities, including the sharing of CPD opportunities for summer courses with staff. The team also acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the work of Esther Merino and the Erasmus team in coordinating and supporting these initiatives.

Other Updates:

- The Home Learning Policy was ratified, pending Student Council approval.
- The school's recently developed Anti-Racism Statement was shared with the board, including a student-friendly version of the document. Work is ongoing, as part of our School of Sanctuary work, on celebrating the multiple cultures represented in our school.
- The student-friendly AUP document was also shared with the Board. This will be incorporated into a lesson at whole-school level.
- The Board was updated that architect Richard Rice, on behalf of the DEY, reviewed accessibility issues with the school building, with proposed plans for a new lift and accessible bathroom in Building 1. A request was also made to address door access issues.
- The SPHE, RSE and SEN policies are currently under review.
- The Child Protection Oversight Report was completed.
- The Anti-bullying oversight report was completed.
- The finance reports are up to date and were made available to the Board.
- All 72 places have been filled for the coming academic year, with a large number of applicants remaining on the waiting list.

Date of next meeting: May 7th