



## **Agreed Report of BOM meeting 12/11/20**

**Location: Boardroom De La Salle.**

**Date: 12/11/20**

**Time: 17.45 hrs.**

1. Welcome to new Board.  
As there are 7 new members on the new board the gathering started with introductions. The composition of the Board is as follows: Nora Widger, Le Chéile (Chair), Br Martin, Le Chéile (Continuing), David O'Connor, Le Chéile (Continuing) Frances Threadgold, Le Chéile, Margaret Walsh, ASTI teacher rep., Eric Campbell, ASTI teacher rep., Laura O'Hanlon, parents rep and David Brennan, parents rep. As principal Mick Walsh will be acting as the secretary to the Board.
2. Opening prayer/reflection  
The Chairperson opened the meeting with a prayer (typed on the agenda). It was agreed to use this prayer going forward.
3. Adoption of Agenda  
The agenda was proposed and seconded.
4. BOM training JMB  
During the introduction members discussed training. All have watched the JMB training video, and all new members have booked into on line training with the JMB later in the month.
5. Appendix to School Self-Evaluation Report: legislative and regulatory checklist  
As a result of ICT issues the school is currently undergoing this report was unavailable. It will be circulated to the Board before the next meeting.
6. Minutes of previous meeting  
The minutes were briefly addressed. They were proposed and seconded.
7. Matters arising  
There were no matters arising
8. Correspondence  
A letter from the NCSE regarding the school applying to accommodate a special education class for students with ASD was discussed. It was decided to respond to the letter indicating that we will proceed with the process of applying to participate in the project. The letter to NCSE will be dispatched early next week.

There were a couple of requests to engage in fund raising. There were some issues around fund raising in the terms of previous boards. This will need to be addressed at the next meeting.

9. Policies  
The policies listed on the agenda were ratified at the last BOM meeting. There was some concern with the Code of Behaviour that was used by the previous Board. It was decided to have a look at it to determine if it is fit for purpose for the current board.



There appears to be a culture of some students walking away from staff members when asked to speak about a particular issue. This is causing unrest and needs to be addressed in the code of behaviour.

It was agreed that there is a need for a subject option/change policy. It was suggested that this may be in existence as part of the whole school guidance plan.

The Dignity at the workplace policy was mentioned, so it was decided to have a look at this at the next meeting. There will be a staff meeting next where these will be brought to the staff.

It was agreed to do an inventory of our policies and draw up a suitable schedule to keep track of drafting new policy and reviewing existing policies. It was agreed that having robust policies will be very important to the business of the BOM and the day to day running of the school.

#### 10. Finance

The monthly accounts and budgets were presented to the Board. There was discussion around these. The school accounts secretary informed us that the budget is currently being reviewed. The existing one was done pre COVID. The monthly accounts show a small positive balance, but this needs to be reconciled with ongoing business.

A finance sub-committee was established. The sub-committee has agreed to meet prior to each ordinary meeting of the Board.

ICT in the school is currently causing serious difficulties to administration and learning and teaching. Since the COVID refurbishment it has not functioned correctly. Ocean ICT have informed us a quick fix will cost circa €5,000 and an overhaul circa €15,000. It was decided to give the go ahead for the more expensive option as it will be better value in the long term. The board was informed that there will be adequate funding from our annual ICT grant to fund the upgrade.

It was agreed to share (with the members of the Board) a report done by the FSSU looking at the school finances before the next meeting.

A brief mention was made to a proposed project to build an astro turf pitch in the school. The implications of this need to be further examined.

#### 11. Principals report

A document prepared giving a daily account of the comings and goings was made available to the members. People were in agreement that this is a very useful way of disseminating information of the daily routine of the school.

The Board agreed to sign off on applications for personal days and applications for parental leave. A couple of teachers applied to be allowed supervise elements of the state examinations. This will need to be addressed at the next meeting with the possibility of a policy being developed with regards to staff working with the SEC during term time.

The Board agreed to sign off on giving the principal authority to suspend students up to five days. A list of those suspended was presented to the Board.



The Board were informed of the upcoming organisation of the November 2020 Leaving Certificate examinations.

The Board were informed that study had commenced. A report had been sent to the Board from the organiser of study.

## 12. Child protection

- I. Principal's oversight report - Form signed off on with nothing to report.

In AOB it was recommended that the BOM write Mick Walsh and Tom Bourke into our procedures as the DLP and DDLP respectively. This was agreed and has been done.

## 13. Anti-bullying report

The Board were informed that sent letters out to the Year Head team seeking information of bullying incidents. The resulting information was shared with he Board.

## 14. Middle Leadership and Management

Members were informed that an advertisement for a vacant Assistant Principal 2 position has been placed on the staff room notice board. The interviews will be held ASAP.

The management structure of the school was explained to the new members of the board and the importance of DES circulars in the governance of all aspects of school life.

## 15. Buildings report

The board were informed that there is an additional accommodation project currently underway in the school. Members were updated.

In light of our interest in this project and in providing for students with ASD in a special classroom it was decided to commence a building subcommittee. The members were agreed by the Board.

## 16. Ethos

A brief insight was given, into the De La Salle Animators and Anam Cara groups that are working in the school to promote ethos and positivity in the school.

## 17. Action Plan for this Board

In a brief discussion the Board suggested that we develop an action for the current Board that included: school finance, policy development, learning and teaching, buildings and the creation of a positive school environment. It was felt to grow the contribution of the Parents Association in terms of number and input in the school.

## 18. Any other business

See item on Child protection

## 19. Schedule of meetings for current year.

We set the date for the next meeting as:

10/12/20 to be held in the Board Room in De La Salle college at 17.45hrs.

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