

BOM Meeting 09/11/21

In attendance:

Canon Mark Hayden, Christian Ó Morchoe, Matt Bater, Kate McDermott, Eric Hendy, Claire Urquhart, Geoffrey Masterson, Hazel Donnelly.

Thanks:

- Canon Mark expressed thanks to all present for their continued diligence as members of the Board.
- Mr Bater wished to minute a special thank you for all staff for their diligence over the challenging period of time, showcasing great teaching and learning ability throughout.
- Mr Bater wished to commend the SNAs within the school for their drive to highlight inclusivity and promote a culture of inclusion in Gorey Central School
- Mr Bater wished to commend the Class teachers on their ability to adapt to new forms of home school communication caused by Covid 19 restrictions and their efforts in ensuring parent teacher meetings were facilitated appropriately.
- Mr Bater wished to thank the Special Education Teaching Department within Gorey Central School for their efforts in providing the support to children in accessing the curriculum at all levels and ensuring all who need the extra support receive it.
- The Board thanked Mr Bater for his ongoing work in a very challenging time within the education sector.
- Mr Bater wishes to also thank the children and parents/guardians for their understand and continued support to the school during what has been a turbulent time within education.

Staff update:

- The Board of Management would like to acknowledge the wonderful service our recently department SNA Jennifer O'Neill gave to the school and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

School Meals Service:

An agreement for school meals to continue for a period of at least 3 years from September 2021 has been signed.

Allergies:

- The Board of Management commended the school staff on their ability to create an environment where all allergies of both children and staff are catered for and encouraged continued good work in this area.

Policies:

- The following policies were ratified: Child Protection, Anti Bullying, Health and Safety and Digital Learning policy.

Uniform:

- The Board of Management discussed the possibility of changing our school uniform, formal, sporting and current options were discussed. The Board voted unanimously to keep our uniform as it is in its current form.

Safety:

- Fire Drill was completed on 30th September and it went very well
- Health and Safety inspection completed by the schools Staff Safety Representative and The Board of Management Safety Officer. Very few issues arose, all that did arise have been subsequently tended to.

Erasmus:

- An update on the current project, From Idea to Reality, was given, including the staff mobility which is due to take place in January.

COVID-19:

- Covid-19 response plan is regularly checked and reviewed. Reminders are issued to staff as needed also.

Fundraiser:

- The board of Management wish to commend the PTA for the fantastic efforts in fundraising for a new sensory playground with the school.

Building work:

During the summer holidays 2021-22 essential maintenance took place on two flat roofs within the school as well as upgrading our plumbing system to ensure adequate supply of hot water was available.

A new 30 bike shed was also added to encourage environmentally friendly journeys to school

School Accounts

The Board of Management acknowledged that the school accounts are in a good position currently, however due to ever increasing costs in the running of a school, due diligence is essential to ensure that they stay this way.

Principal's report:

- GAA has taken place in the junior end (September and October), it is now starting in the senior end (November and December).
- Rhythm and Shakes sessions are booked for all classes in November
- Tag rugby has taken place in the senior end for 6 weeks. A tournament is to be held for 5th and 6th class pupils on 29th November
- Extracurricular classes namely Ukulele to be restarted with Covid precautions in place.
- All classes have settled back into school very well during the first few months with lots of fun exciting learning activities taking place.