



Le Chéile Secondary School, Tyrrelstown Board of Management

Agreed Report

12th September 2018

A meeting of the Board of Management of Le Chéile Secondary School took place in the school on Wednesday, September 12th 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Michael Denny (Chairperson), Áine Moran (Secretary), Leona Harrington (Recording Secretary), Anthony Hamilton, Brian McCann, Everistas Okafor, Margaret O'Shea

Apologies: Susan Bryson, Jenasky Cabrera, Mary Meaney

Ratification of Staff Appointments:

The Board ratified the appointment of all staff for the year 2018/19.

Posts of Responsibility:

A position of Assistant Principal I (Permanent) and an Acting Assistant Principal I have been advertised and staff have been encouraged to apply. The deadline for application is Friday 14th September, 5pm. The Board will organise a selection panel to conduct the interviews.

Principal's Report

1. Child Protection

The Principal presented the Child Protection Oversight Report.

2. Staff Announcements

Congratulations to Kim Byrnes who got married over the summer. Congratulations to Anthony Gainley - a founding staff member - who has taken a teaching position in Mayo.

3. Junior Certificate Results

The Board wishes to extend its heartfelt congratulations to all our 2018 Junior Cycle students who received their results today. We are very proud of all our students on their hard work. In particular the Board wishes to express its great gratitude to all staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment in assisting the students with this achievement. Well done to all.

4. Enrolment

We currently have an enrolment of 608, 316 boys and 292 girls.

5. ASD Unit

The Claddagh, ASD Unit, has opened with an enrolment of five students. Sean McNulty is coordinating the Claddagh class this year. Congratulations to all involved in this momentous task and best wishes to all for the coming year.

6. Staff CPD

Congratulations to all on their participation in the Dragonfly training day on assessment strategies on Monday 27th August 2018. The Board is delighted to hear that the School Self Evaluation focus this year is on assessment. Congratulations to all who participated in the CPD on supporting children with ASD in the mainstream classroom.

7. 21st Century Schools of Distinction Award 2018

The "21st Century Schools of Distinction" Award recognises and showcases the efforts of schools nationwide to develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning. The scheme recognises the often-extraordinary work being successfully undertaken by such schools in challenging conditions and with limited resources. Winning schools demonstrate excellence in several core areas, including innovative approaches to 21st century teaching and learning, mentoring, leadership development and post-secondary readiness. The panel made the following observations about us:

"Le Cheile Secondary School are very active in College Awareness Week. They make good use of their Guidance department and the team meet regularly which is important. Their student and parent voice are excellent and this is showcased by their very active school leaders. Activity amongst teachers and students of designing class content and the use of IPADs is very good as is their use of virtual learning platforms".

The Board is delighted to receive this great news and extends its congratulations to all staff for their work. The Board wishes to thank in particular, Brian McCann, Paul Kennedy and Deirdre Keane for their vision, initiative, and commitment to this project. Brian and Paul will represent the school in the College for Every Student international conference in November this year.

8. Transitions 18 - International Conference Innovative Learning Environments.

Dr Aine Moran has been invited to speak at this conference in Copenhagen on our model of creating an Innovative Learning Environment in the Irish context. The conference is a trans-disciplinary, research symposium focusing on innovative learning environments in schools and higher education.

9. STEAM Academy - Excellence in STEM fund

As part of our STEAM academy we have begun our Blue-Sky modules with 1st, 2nd and Transition students on Monday morning. Our Blue-Sky module is influenced by Brightworks pedagogy that involves three arcs: exploration, expression and exhibition. Blue Sky offers twenty different workshop style classes in topics as varied as bicycle maintenance, skincare, maths craft and economics. Students self-select which courses they want to be part of and develop their own project during the one hour Monday morning class. Students now take ownership of their learning, developing skills such as being self-directed in their learning, decision-making, and managing priorities in and out of school. Blue Sky groups are made up of students of different ages and experience. The Blue Sky module contributes to wellbeing by giving students choice, and fostering co-operation between students in different year groups thereby building up strong relationships. Blue Sky also encourages a type of learning that is broader than the exam focused curriculum.

The Board wishes to thank and congratulate all staff involved in the Blue Sky module.

10. Erasmus Partnership

The Board is delighted to hear of the new Erasmus partnership with schools in Hungary and Spain. The main objective of the project is that our participating students will discover their religious identity in an intercultural environment as well as exchange and develop new practices regarding how values connected to their identity can be used when facing modern challenges in the future jobs market. Aine Moran, Laura Cahill and Kathryn Scannell will travel to Budapest for a planning meeting at the end of October.

11. Irish Times Article

The Board wishes to thank Leah Collins for arranging with the Irish Times Magazine to publish a feature about the school which ran on the 25th August 2018. It received very positive feedback on its positive contribution to the debate on faith-based education.

12. Papal Visit

Congratulations all the staff, students and parents who braved the weather and participated in the pilgrimage from Tyrrelstown to the Phoenix Park for the Papal Mass.

Upcoming Events:

13 th September	6 th Year Higher Options Conference
25 th – 27 th September	TY Induction Trip
26 th – 27 th September	2 nd Year Camping Trip
28 th September	European Languages Spelling Bee
2 nd October	School Feast Day
4 th October	Open Night for Incoming First Years
5 th and 8 th October	School Closed
15 th – 16 th October	Transitions 18 Conference
18 th – 19 th October	NAPD Conference
23 rd – 26 th October	Erasmus Meeting

Meeting began at 7.00pm

Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

Dates for forthcoming meetings:

10th October 2018

7th November 2018

12th December 2018

23rd January 2019

27th February 2019

20th March 2019

8th May 2019