



Meanscoil na Toirbhirte

Presentation Secondary School

Lios Tuathail
Co. Chiarraí

Listowel
Co. Kerry

Presentation Secondary School Listowel Board of Management Tuesday 21st May 2019

The Board invited the Student Council and the Parents' Association to meet with the Board.

The Executive of the Student Council Megan O'Sullivan, Laney Clancy, Gabrielle Kiely, Mairead Barry and Aibhín O'Neill presented an excellent report to the Board. The students also answered questions that the members of the Board put to them. The Board thanked the girls for their contribution.

The Student Council presentation will be included in the Annual Report 2018-2019.

Members of the Parents' Association met with the Board, Deirdre O'Neill, Eilis Walsh, Caroline Foran and Mary O'Carroll engaged with the Board in a lengthy discussion on a number of issues regarding the strengths and challenges of the school.

The strengths identified:

- ✚ The parents praised the excellent communication between the school and the parents through individual meetings, evening information meetings, emails, texts, letters on the website, social media and the availability of management and staff to meet with parents at short notice. It was pointed out that this engagement with parents is very much appreciated by the parent body.

The challenges identified were:

- ✚ The financial pressures on parents, the new online payment system is sending a lot of text messages to parents at present. The Principal spoke about the individual discussions that take place with parents, family discounts offered, the availability of 'School Books Grant Scheme for Needy Pupils' and the financial pressures on the school to stay within budget.
- ✚ Affirmation practices in the school: the Awards Day was discussed, parents wondered if a limit of one subject department award per student could be adopted in 2019-2020. It was also suggested the TY class be included in the overall 'Class of the Year Award'. The Principal highlighted the fact that 183 awards were given out on the Awards Day. She also highlighted the other affirmation practices in the school apart from the Awards Day, the Merit Card, the Merit Stampers, formative feedback given to students on an ongoing basis the Improvement Card and the *Hidden Hero Letter* for parents



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- + The 6th Years Debs was discussed, it was agreed by all present that a Summer Debs would be more suitable rather than an October event. The Principal reminded all present that the school is not responsible for the Debs event at all. It was suggested that the Parents' Association in all 3 post primary schools in the town could meet to discuss the matter.
 - + A discussion took place regarding the school uniform re how short some of the girls wear the skirts, the Principal informed the parents' Association members that she is looking into the issue.
 - + The Principal suggested that the Board of Management consider meeting with the Parents' Association at another time of the year as well as the May meeting. The Board will invite the Parents' Association to meet with the Board before Christmas every year from now on.

BOM Agreed Report

- The Board wished the 3rd and 6th Year students well in their state exams. The Board thanked their teachers for their commitment and professionalism in supporting the students.
- The Board completed the Child Protection Oversight Report for April 2019
- The Board approved the 'Policy & Procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the Curriculum' document. The Board will approve the Review of the Substance Use Policy at the June meeting.
- The Board approved a Review of the Behaviour Code which will begin in September
- The Principal updated the Board on the new building development.
- The Board reviewed the school finances.
- The Board approved an application for the DES Summer Works Scheme
- The Principal updated the Board on all Teaching and Learning issues
- The Principal informed the Board about all school activities since the last Board meeting.
- The Draft Annual Report for 2018-2019 will be presented to the Board in June, the Final Draft will be approved by the Board in August 2019.

- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th June 2019