

Board of Management of Gorey Educate Together NS, 28th March 2012: Report to families and staff

Attendees: Karen Loughran (Chairperson,) Raymond Swan (Secretary,) Colin Webb, Tracy Smith, Allen Holman

Apologies: Sarah Anderson, Aideen O'Donnell

The Chairperson has approached another potential Community Representative, and that person is considering joining the Board of Gorey Educate Together.

1. Minutes from previous meeting adopted, (Karen Loughran, Raymond Swan)
Report to families and staff was agreed. Secretary to post on school website and Board mailbox.
2. **Treasurer's Report**
(Figures were not to hand)
3. **Enrolment**
Projected enrolment for September 2012: 360 approx.
Almost all available school places have now been filled.
Principal to remind families of current pupils to pre-enrol younger siblings as early as possible, i.e. our 'first-come-first-served' enrolment policy.
4. **Staffing**
Parental leave application.
Panels of relief cleaners and relief after-school supervisors to be established. Advertise via school newsletter during summer term 2012.
Part-time & relief school secretary to be recruited during summer term 2012. Advertise via local press.
Panel of Special Needs Assistants to be recruited during May 2012 for vacancies which *may* arise during the school year 2012-2013. Advertise and recruit in accordance with Department of Education circulars.
5. **Principal's report**
(See school newsletters)
School Musical: The Board acknowledged the great success of the project.
6. Board approved School Calendar 2012-2013.
Principal reported that the school will operate extended school year for children with autism, (July 2012.)
7. **Facilities** (Outdoor Classroom)
Wheelchair & pedestrian access ramp will be constructed April 2012, (during school holidays.)
Play equipment: The Board considered proposals from three established Playground Installers, along with feedback from 5th and 6th class pupils on each of the designs.
Follow-up: Raymond Swan to circulate additional information to the Board, as it becomes available. Allen Holman and Raymond Swan to meet with representative from *Crawford Group* for details regarding specifications, construction, etc.
8. **Child Protection**
The Principal reported to the Board in accordance with Department of Education and Skills Child Protection Circular 0065/2011.
9. The Board ratified the draft **Attendance Strategy** as school policy, (subject to proofing.)

Implementation of the policy should be judicious. (Obligations to National Educational Welfare Board excepted.)

The Board expressed thanks to Imelda Wright (deputy principal) for her work on the document.

10. PTA link

Query re: parents' participation in Dublin Mini-Marathon as a fundraiser for the school.

11. AOB

Two requests from groups re: Hire of School Hall were declined by principal. (No arrangements in place.)

Educate Together (National) Annual General Meeting: all details on www.educatetogether.ie

'Cycle to School:' Allen Holman to explore the issue locally.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd May 2012, 8pm at the school