

Board of Management of Gorey Educate Together NS, 29th May 2013: report to families and staff

Attendees: Karen Loughran (Chairperson,) Raymond Swan (Secretary,) Tracy Smith, Deirdre Flynn, Angie Dooley, Allen Holman, Sarah Anderson

Apologies: Colin Webb (Treasurer)

1. Minutes from previous meeting adopted, (Allen Holman, Angie Dooley)
Report to families and staff was agreed. Secretary to post on school website and Board mailbox.
2. **Treasurer's Report** (Presented by Secretary)
Current account 8th May 2013: €
Deposit account 22nd May 2013: €

The formal accounts for the 2011-2012 school year are close to completion (prepared by Eugene Doyle & Co, Enniscorthy)
3. **Principal's Report**
Recent school events were outlined, as per school newsletters.
4. **Incidental inspection by DES inspector, 13th May 2013**
Principal outlined inspector's oral feedback. Main findings: impressive work in the classrooms; good quality lesson provision; teachers generating interest; good engagement and participation by pupils; good pupil management overall; some good collaborative working/learning in evidence. Main recommendations: Gaeilge – 'provide every opportunity for pupils to converse;' consider giving additional attention to the use of poetry & song in English and Gaeilge lessons; teachers' short-term plans should always include clear 'learning intentions;' review school's approach to assessment – agree to formally record progress (in non-core subject areas) at certain intervals.
5. **Special Education**
Formal sanction for the opening of the new special pre-school class for children with autism was received from the National Council for Special Education 27th May 2013. School will now commence making offers of places.
6. The Board considered and approved a **School Improvement Plan** to further develop pupils' literacy skills, as per DES circular 0039/2012 on school self-evaluation.
7. **Child Protection**
The Principal reported to the Board in accordance with Department of Education and Skills Child Protection Circular 0065/2011.
8. **PTA link**
Tracy Smith provided an account of the main activities of the PTA committee, including: after-school activities and parent class reps. (Possible rental of premises to teacher of French for after-school classes.)
9. **AOB**
Aideen O'Donnell will soon return to the Board, following family leave.
Outdoor Classroom contract.
The Board extended best wishes to all parents taking part in the forthcoming Mini-Marathon in Dublin.