

Board of Management of Gorey Educate Together NS, 11th February 2019: report to families & staff

Attendees: Karen Loughran (Chairperson,) Colin Webb (Treasurer,) Raymond Swan (Secretary,) Louise Redmond, Angie Dooley, Sarah Anderson, Olive Doherty

Apologies: Allen Holman

1. **Minutes from previous meeting adopted** (Colin Webb, Louise Redmond)

Matters arising:

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Report to families and staff was agreed. Board Secretary to post on school website.

2. **Treasurer's Report**

Current account:	€
School books account:	€
Savings account:	€
Credit Card:	(€)
PayPal A/C	€

3. **Enrolment**

Current enrolment: 434.

Offers of places (mainstream) for September 2019 continue. - -

Offers of places (special classes) for September 2019 continue. - -

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4. **Staffing**

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5. **Child Protection**

The Principal reported to the Board in accordance with sections 9.4 to 9.8 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017.

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Principal to attend 'Child Protection & Safeguarding Inspections Seminar' during March, (organised for Principals by the Department of Education & Skills.)

6. **Anti-Bullying**

The Principal reported to the Board in accordance with Department of Education and Skills Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, 2013.

7. **Visit to Gorey by Joe McHugh, Education Minister.**

Board considered letter from Michael Darcy, TD.

Chairperson, Principal and PTA Rep to attend meeting with Minister.

The Board agreed that the following 3 issues should be highlighted to Messrs McHugh and Darcy:

- a. *Whilst there are 2 Secondary Schools in Gorey which provide for Gorey town and local area, there appears to be a need for further secondary education provision in the area and we would ask the Minister to consider same. Parents are concerned regarding the provision of school places.*
- b. *There has been great difficulty with the availability of substitute teachers in the area and this has put a lot of pressure on school staff and children within classes.*
- c. *Gorey Educate Together National School and a number of schools in the area provide excellent teaching and support to children with special needs. However, there is a need for other specialist services to compliment what the schools are able to offer. For example, the provision of dedicated Speech and Language Therapists and Occupational Therapists to our schools, as has been provided in other parts of the country, would be of great benefit to the children and their families alongside services for children who present with difficult to manage emotional and behavioural issues but for whom there are long waiting lists.*

8. Parent Teacher Association link:

PTA meeting to be held tomorrow, February 12th.

The recent school disco was well attended and organised.

Local businesses may help to cover the cost of recent purchase of hurling helmets. ('Thank You' cards to be arranged.)

9. AOB:

Hire of PE Hall: -

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Date of Next Board Meeting:

Monday 11th March 2019, 8.00pm at the school