

# Board of Management of Gorey Educate Together NS, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020: report to families and staff

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**Attendees:** Karen Loughran (Chairperson,) Colin Webb (Treasurer,) Raymond Swan (Secretary,) Olive Doherty, David O'Shea, Angie Dooley, Sarah Anderson

**Apologies:** - David Bolger

*This meeting was held in the school's PE Hall, with more than 2m physical distance between all Board members.*

1. **Minutes from previous meeting adopted** (Sarah Anderson, Colin Webb)

*Matters arising:* -

Current daily school attendance: 87-89%.

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 €

Chairperson signed accounts Authorisation Letter. (Principal to forward to Doyle Fielding Accountants.)

Principal to include annual Voluntary Contributions appeal in a forthcoming school newsletter.

3. **Principal's Report**

The Board updated the school's Covid-19 response plan.

Principal to notify families in advance of the changes/update.

4. **Enrolments**

Enrolment on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020: 397.

DES is reducing pupil/teacher ratio from September 2021: the allocation of teachers to our school will remain unchanged.

The Board agreed an Admissions Period/Admissions Notice as follows: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

5. **Staffing**

The Board noted the retirements of ----- and ----- , after 14 and 8 years of service to the school.

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6. **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.**

7. **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.**

8. **Code of Behaviour**

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**9. Parent Teacher Association link**

The class reps system will be maintained, (including the updating of the contact lists for each class.)

Fundraising: the possibility of 'virtual events' is being considered, e.g. sponsored walk within 5km of each home.

**10. New Second Level School**

The Board welcomed the DES announcement of a third Second Level School for Gorey.

The Board noted that a local campaign group is in place, campaigning for Educate Together patronage. The school will offer assistance to the group, (home-school communication, etc.)

However, the campaign must be led by the parent group rather than this Board of Management.

**11. AOB:**

Home-School Communication/Parent-Teacher Meetings: Teacher email addresses and Dojo accounts are available to all families. Telephone contact is also available. Face-to-face parent teacher meetings are postponed until further notice, in line with public health guidance. (The school continues to facilitate a very small number of essential face-to-face meetings.)

Principal to share the above information with families via school newsletters.

The Board acknowledged with thanks the donation of €2,000 to the school's special classes for children with autism from C & R Print, Enniscorthy. Principal to write to the company and to acknowledge the donation in school newsletters, etc.

**Date of Next Board Meeting:**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, at the new time of 7.30pm**