



Brannoxtown CNS (BCNS) Board of Management

Agreed Report 02/02/2021

Date	02 February 2021 (Sixth meeting of the Board)
Time	7:00pm to 8:30pm
Meeting	Virtual Meeting: MS Teams
Attendance	Ms. Deirdre O' Donovan (Chairperson, Patron Nominee); Mr. Conor O' Toole (Patron Nominee); Ms. Mitzie Day (Parent Nominee); Cllr. Tracey O' Dwyer (Community Representative); Ms. Dawn Heffernan (Teacher Nominee) and Dr. Sarah FitzPatrick (Principal and Secretary).
Apologies	Mr. Robin Ball (Parent Nominee) and Mr. Mark Egar (Community Representative).

1. Chairperson's Welcome and Agenda <i>Agreed</i>	The Chairperson welcomed members and the agenda was agreed. The Chairperson commended staff on another very successful virtual Open Day (20/01/21).
2. Minutes <i>Agreed</i>	The minutes of the November meeting were formally approved.
3. Principal's Report 3a. Correspondence <i>Noted</i>	Correspondence was received from/sent to the National Council for Special Education (NCSE), Mick Greene, IPB Insurance Assessor and Kevin Conlon, ATR Group Project Manager, KWETB Finance Section and DES Allocations and Payroll (regarding reinstatement of the promotional post allowance). On behalf of the Board, the Chairperson extended congratulations to Dawn Heffernan, now Deputy Principal at Brannoxtown CNS.
3b. Enrolment <i>Noted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current enrolment for 2020/2021 on November 26th is 35. Two students are due to transfer to Co. Tipperary following a relocation. • Our second of three Enrolment Open Days was held on Wednesday, January 20th. The third virtual Enrolment Open Day on March 24th will be a webinar. The recorded event can be emailed to parents on request. • Five children will graduate from 6th class in June 2021. • A total enrolment of 52 is required to gain an additional mainstream teaching post.
3c. Child Protection <i>Noted</i>	There have been no reports to HSE/Gardaí since the last Board Meeting or since the school opened.
3d. Anti-Bullying <i>Noted</i>	There have been no incidents of Bullying since the last Board Meeting or since the school opened.
3e. Staffing <i>Noted</i>	There's no change to staffing since the June Meeting: principal, one class teacher, one Special Education Teacher (SET) and one part-time SET. The school staff also includes a Secretary and Janitor (both part-time).
3f. Special Educational Needs <i>Noted</i>	An update was provided on SET provision. Targets on children's support plans have been reviewed and explicit teaching continues via Zoom in wellbeing, emotional regulation, vocabulary development, comprehension and spelling. The school has invested in additional online support programmes for children. Engagement with parents continues via

	messages, emails and phone calls. Reviews of support plans will be scheduled following further information on school reopening.
3g. Curriculum initiatives <i>Noted</i>	An update was provided on the following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Workshop: Daily Writing Practice • Words Their Way: Weekly Word Sort • Weaving Wellbeing: Character Strengths & Positive Relationships • Blue Star Programme • Active Schools • Green Schools • Creative Schools
3h. Sacramental Preparation <i>Noted</i>	An update was provided on plans and preparations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Penance and Communion • Confirmation
3i. Community Involvement <i>Noted</i>	The principal noted the invaluable contribution of community members in clearing flood water from the school on January 11 th . Our immeasurable thanks to: <i>Richie Kelly</i> , who raised the alarm and coordinated the response and also to: <i>Agnes Keohane, Carol and Tony Scully, Dermot Fitzgerald, Des Courtney, Kevin Brady, Liz Kavanagh, Niall Gaffney, Pat Mangan, Levi Doyle and Ben Merrins</i> . The school's input to the February Bridge magazine and Week 16 Facebook post named and thanked all who helped. Brian Byrne is scheduled to visit the school to discuss the flood and take photos for an article in the February 11 th issue of the Kildare Nationalist.
3j. Parental Involvement <i>Noted</i>	Sarah noted that all actions agreed at the November meeting were completed. These included the creation of an online form to gather parents' feedback on school policies.
4. Virtual School <i>Noted</i>	The school's plan for Virtual School combines 'real time' classes using Zoom and 'offline learning' using Class Dojo which includes online portfolios. This plan is based on feedback from parents during the 2020 lockdown, i.e., to maximise live teaching/class time and minimise/cut-out planning by parents. Feedback has been very positive and attendance has been excellent. The school will continue to seek and review feedback and to consider any adjustments to facilitate families while continuing to lead and support children's learning at home.
5. Building Repair and Improvement <i>Noted</i>	Three work packages are currently underway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Works in the 1885 school-house. • Attic Works in the 2013 building to address legacy issues. • Flood Recovery Works in the 2013 building from 11/01/21.
6. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy <i>Agreed</i>	Dawn Heffernan provided a brief overview of the new <i>Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy</i> . The <i>Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy</i> was agreed for publication with minor edits.
7. AOB <i>Noted</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates for next Board meetings were confirmed, all Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 23rd March, 2021 ○ 11th May, 2021 ○ 15th June, 2021 • The Chairperson thanked the principal and staff for the additional time required to plan and manage Virtual School and for supporting families with daily 'virtual teaching'. The Chairperson also acknowledged the additional effort required by the principal and staff to respond to the flood. Deirdre thanked all staff on behalf of the Board. • The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.