

**Grange Post Primary School Board of Management**

**Tuesday the 14th of December 2020 (6:30-7.30)- remote**

**Minutes of Board Meeting 14/12/2020**

1. **Attendance:** S. Kilgannon (SK), D. Egan (DE), R. O’Grady (RO’G), D. Gilroy (DG), D. O’Connor (DOC), F. Folen (FF), E. Harte (EH)
2. **Apologies:** H. Keaney (HK) & F. McGowan (FMcG)
3. **Conflict of interest**: None identified
4. **Board of Management Training-** EH informed the Board that he next training session has been scheduled for the 19th of January for 1.5hrs and will deal with Child Protection. SK stressed the importance of all members attending.
5. **Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters Arising**- no matters arising. ROG proposed. FF seconded. Board agreed unanimously.
6. **Principal’s Report-** EH had provided awritten report on the progress of the school since re-opening. SK asked for feedback. The Board wish to acknowledge the significant contribution of Una Shelly to Grange PPS over her time as a Home Economics teacher and SEN Coordinator here and wish her every best wish for her retirement. The Board thank Mary Lynch and Paula Fogarty for their contribution to our school and students over their time as SNA’s with us and wish both of them every best wish for their retirement. The Board congratulate Siobhan O’Reilly on the birth of her daughter and Aedamar Frawley on the birth of their son.

The Board wish all candidates for the upcoming AP1 position the very best of luck ahead of interviews. EH commended DOC and FF on their hard work promoting the school for enrolment in the context of Covid 19. EH stressed that they still linked in digitally with all 6th class students in all feeder schools and set up a live and interactive Open Evening- the first of its kind in Grange PPS, involving a very heavy workload. DE congratulated the school on its Open Evening and having participated in it reported that it was very professional and informative. The Board unanimously congratulated the school and thanked DOC & FF.

1. **Teaching and Learning –**EH provided an update on theTerm Tests and challenges they posed.Difficulties with the travel of teachers to Oxfield in the context of Winter weather and Roadworks was highlighted by EH. No alternatives are currently available.
2. **Financial Report** – verbal report given by EH. Cost of PPE is a concern as the grant did not cover it sufficiently and the school budget had to bridge the gap. Heating costs have also significantly risen due to open windows and doors. EH cited it as a positive development that a new minor works grant is to be issued by the department to all schools and that the 2021 IT grant will issue early. Priority is given to providing teachers with a school device and making some laptops available to 6th year students in the event of a lockdown or at weekends. Voice amplifiers have also been ordered for teacher who wish to use them. EH stated that the school hoped to assign some funding from the new budget to rent the canteen area of the complex to provide hot food to student from January through to Easter. EH will contact the complex in relation to this as soon as possible.
3. **Building Application** update given by SK. Board concerned at the slow pace of progress of the extension i.e. planning not submitted yet. SK will bring this up at the next MSLETB meeting and look for further information and a timescale. ROG will support. SK will report back to EH and she will update Board members accordingly.
4. **Student Council –** FF read out a report from the Chairperson of the Student Council outlining their progress and their plans. SK commended Jack Carroll on an excellent report on behalf of the council and the Board concurred and wished them every success in their plans. ROG specifically commended their plan to move the to a more accessible area.
5. **Parents Association –** no report to hand.
6. **Child Protection-** Board updated on the requirement to hold face to face meeting to present Child protection oversight report. The Board agreed that our next meeting will be a face to face meeting for that purpose of one hour duration to deal with a full agenda. All members unanimously agreed. Child Protection Audit will take place this evening on the next item.
7. **Policy review-** Child Protection Policy was reviewed and checklist carried out in full. New Safety Statement will be on display following the meeting. ROG proposed the Child Protection Policy and DG seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favour. Anti-bullying Policy reviewed and audit carried out in full. DOC proposed the policy and FF seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favour. EH stated that a new Well-being Policy to support and compliment child safety and Anti-bullying has been distributed to all Board members. SK proposed that this new Policy will be discussed at the next Board meeting. Board members agreed unanimously. EH will add this item to the next agenda.
8. **A.O.B –** FF wished to thank DOC for his Trojan work to get the new website up and running. The Board concurred.
9. DG wished to acknowledge the fundraiser for SHOUT being spearheaded by Grange PPS students. The Board concurred.
10. DG wished to acknowledge the achievements of Caroline Currid on participating in the All Ireland. The Board concurred.
11. **Date of Next Meeting-**
12. January/ February, date to be decided, giving a minimum week notice, at the discretion of the Chairperson and Principal.
13. **AGREED REPORT**
* The Board of Management want to thank all teachers, students and parents for their work since September and wish them and their families all the very best for their Christmas Break
* The Board has carried out audits and are satisfied that Grange PPS is fully compliant with Child Safeguarding and Anti-bullying procedures.
* The Board commends the work of the Student Council.
* The Board congratulates Una Shelly, Mary Lynch and Paula Fogarty on their retirement and thanks them for their hard work over their time in the school.

**Draft minutes signed by :**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Chairperson) Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Secretary) Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**