Citywest & Saggart Community National School

Fortunestown Lane, Citywest Dublin 24

Principal: Mike Byrne Deputy Principal: Orla Doherty



Pobalscoil Náisiúnta Iarthar na Cathrach & Theach Sagard

Lána Bhaile Uí Fhoirtcheirn, Iarthar Na Cathrach, Baile Átha Cliath 24

Príomhoide: Maidhc O' Broin Leas-Phríomhoide: Orla Uí Dochartaigh

Board of Management Meeting Minutes

Board of Management 2023 - 2027

Conor McGuckin (Patron Nominee, Chairperson)
Anne Genockey (Patron Nominee)
Mike Byrne (Principal and Secretary to the Board)
Rhona Whelan (Staff Nominee)
Abhishek Saurabh (Parent Nominee)
Mariam Sleyum (Parent Nominee)
Stacey McAuley (Community Nominee)
Alan Murphy (Community Nominee)

<u>Venue:</u> School Library

<u>Date of meeting:</u> 25th January 2024

ITEM	DETAILS
Meeting opening	The new Board was officially confirmed and each member signed a declaration of membership.
Correspondance	No correspondence of community importance. All correspondence to the Board of Management must be addressed to the Chairperson of the Board of Management.
Child protection	The Child Protection Oversight report and anti-bullying oversight reports were presented. The Board was satisfied that the Child Safeguarding procedures and anti-bullying procedures were followed.
Our School Community and Ethos	The focus of School Self Evaluation this year will be School ETB Ethos. Data has been collected and is currently being analysed. A school improvement plan will be written and shared with the school community.
Teaching and Learning	 Some of our staff are trialling a new planning template to ready ourselves for the incoming new primary curriculum in 2025. Orla Doherty has been providing training in Spelling strategies. We currently use Spellings for Me in our school, but we are looking to have a model of spellings that teaches skills and strategies over rote practice. 1st to 6th class are beginning a more strategic approach to number facts (tables). We held our Winter Variety Concerts in December. This year, we held it for our autism classes, 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th classes and the remaining classes will do a variety concert in the Spring time (To coincide with Intercultural week). We are meeting our legal obligations this term in relation to the teaching of the Stay Safe and RSE programmes to all classes. 4th, 5th and 6th will have a

little more support with the contents of the RSE programme at that level. Letters were sent to parents on Monday 15th January informing them. 3rd and 4th class are continuing with Ukulele lesson this term and also swimming lessons in Clondalkin for a period of 5 weeks as part of the PE curriculum. This term, we will begin work on our Biodiversity plan again with the planting of vegetables, study of birds, insects and plants. Some classes will be trialling the Include Programme for Neuro divergent children in the next term. 5th class are planning a trip to Dublinia in February as part of their learning about the Vikings. 3rd – 6th classes will be engaging in foreign language learning in term 2 as part of the Say Yes to Languages Scheme. 3rd class - Portuguese 4th class — Japanese 5th class – Spanish 6th class — German The providers of after school clubs began last week and the teacher led after school clubs began this week. There are a number of clubs such as drama, kick boxing, tennis, cookery, robotics, art, keyboard, science. Music Generation are still using our school for a Community Hub for music lessons. They will also be funding the school to provide music lessons for 3rd and 4th class. We applied to ChangeX to host a 'Pocket forest in the school grounds. This was granted and the school will receive €5,000 to spend on gardening and biodiversity equipment. The soil was prepared in November and the planting of hundreds of native Irish trees and the planting will happen on 22nd February. The school quiz teams were competing in the Credit Union Quiz on Friday 26th January. Our Autism classes completed their horse riding lessons again in term 1 Children engaged in bulb planting around the school iPad Music workshops held for 5th and 6th classes in November A class of children visited TLC to sing for them in December. They also visited Scoil Aoife CNS to sing. The choir will be performing as part of the Peace Proms in February in the We are planning to have the school calendar for the next academic year finalised much earlier this year to allow parents more time to plan trips and holidays during school closures. Policy Development The following policies were reviewed and ratified by the BOM: Attendance Strategy Other notes We had some parent volunteers helping with the preparation of soil for the pocket forest in November. Each month, parent volunteers are coming in to help with organising the books in the library.

- Our community Garda came to the school to deliver safety talks before
 Halloween and came to give a talk to 6th class pupils of the use of social media in
 the coming days.
- The parents organised a very successful Samhain festival in the school. Fun activities were organised for the children.
- The PTA and parents were very active in organising the book fair and in dividing up the books. They have been doing an amazing job in helping out families in the school.
- There was a very successful Winter Market held in the school in December. Children from 5th and 6th class created crafts to be sold.