

## Annual Report on the work of the Board of Management of Ballyfacey N.S. 2019-2020

### **Introduction:**

The current Board of Management of Ballyfacey N.S. was appointed for a four- year term of office in November 2019. The Board manage the school on behalf of the patron and is accountable to him and the Minister for Education. The Board must uphold the ethos of the school. The Principal is responsible for the daily management of the school, including staff management and in turn is accountable to the Board.

The Board has eight members: two members from the patron, two community representatives and two parent nominees. The Principal has a place on the Board along with one teacher nominee.

The Board is responsible for the efficient use of funds, having the building equipped and in good order and repair. It arranges the employment of teaching and ancillary staff. It is involved in and responsible for school planning, delivery of the curriculum, school policies, health and safety issues and child safeguarding.

The Board met on regular occasions during the school year 2019-20. All members made frequent and important contributions which have helped the Board to carry out work smoothly.

A report on how the school is meeting its child safeguarding obligations was made by the Principal at each Board meeting as per Department of Education Guidelines.

A comprehensive Treasurer's report was given at all meetings and great efforts are made to use our financial resources wisely and for the best benefit of the pupils and curriculum delivery.

### **The current members of the Board of Management are:**

**Fr. O' Toole P.P. - Chairperson**  
**Tommie O' Gorman - Principal/ Board Secretary**  
**Noelle Phelan – Teachers' Nominee**  
**Margaret Boyle - Parents' Nominee**  
**Enda Keogh - Parents' Nominee**  
**Geraldine Roche - Patron's Nominee and Treasurer**  
**Frankie Kirwan - Community Nominee**  
**Mary O' Connor - Community Nominee**

### **Issues dealt with:**

1. Smooth transition from outgoing Board to incoming Board in November 2019.
2. Child Safeguarding including Garda Vetting requirements.
3. Enrolment of new pupils.
4. School Security.
5. Health and Safety issues including maintenance and repairs.
6. Revision of curricular plans.
7. Policy creation and review – new Admissions Policy put in place, Anti-bullying, Child safeguarding, assessment and Code of Behaviour policies reviewed.
8. Facilitation of whole-staff Language Curriculum In-service.
9. Literacy and Numeracy development and standardised testing assessment.
10. Staffing arrangements and appointments.
11. School Insurance and 24 hr Pupil Insurance.

12. Attendance.
13. IT Resources and advances.
14. School finances and financial planning including transfer of school accounts to Patron and Financial Support Services Unit of Dept. of Education.
15. School Calendars of events and holidays.
16. Road Safety Authority talks provided to all classes.
17. Sporting arrangements.
18. Life Skills – Swimming lessons.
19. Nore Valley Farm chick hatching experience.
20. Heritage council guest speaker sessions for all classes.
21. Various Excursions including Science week for all classes and attendance at Rose Kennedy Fitzgerald Bridge official opening for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class.
22. School Reports and Parent – teacher meetings.
23. Relevant Contracts Tax and ROS online revenue payments system.
24. Energy Saving measures - SEAI monitoring annual report given.
25. Training of Ancillary staff.
26. Training course for Board Members.
27. October returns to Department of Education for capitation grant purposes.
28. Peace Proms programme.
29. Purchase of furniture and school equipment.
30. Student teaching practice placements and Transition Year work experience placements facilitated.
31. Signage regarding unwelcome visitors to school grounds out of school hours purchased and put up outside school boundary wall.
32. Planning permission, fire certification, reports to Dept., topography and Asbestos surveys all finalised as well as waste management assessment for school extension project.
33. Work carried out in co-operation with other schools in our local area.

The Board put in place a huge number of protocols and procedures prior to the beginning of the new school which included increased cleaning hours and supplies, chlorination of the school water supply and the addition of increased hand washing and sanitising facilities throughout the school.

The school year 2019-20 ended in a very different manner due to Covid-19 and the Board wishes to make a number of acknowledgements in this report.

The pupils are thanked for their learning efforts and their co-operation with fellow pupils and staff alike. The parents are thanked for their continued support of the school and its activities, and the wider community is also very much appreciated for its goodwill towards the school.

The Board also extend their gratitude to the Parents' Association who year-on-year, carry out great work for the benefit of the school.

The Board wishes the pupils who have left for secondary school every blessing for their futures.

Ballyfacey N.S. Board of Management is happy to serve the school and wider community and promises to continue to work hard to meet its obligations and stay always within its remit, supporting the children through offering a safe learning environment and effective staff. The Board welcomes the support it receives from the parent body and hope that this account gives an understanding of the role it has and the amount of work it does.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Dennis J. Jule*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*24/11/20*