

Annual Report on the work of the Board of Management of Ballyfacey N.S. 2022-2023

Introduction:

The Board of Management of Ballyfacey N.S. 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 2022-2023. 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
Ciara Spencer – 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. Participation in successful Whole School Evaluation process with Dept. of Education Inspectorate.
2. Child Safeguarding including Garda Vetting requirements.
3. Enrolment of new pupils.
4. School Security and key holding.
5. School Books Grant scheme co-ordination.
6. Facilitation of Staff familiarisation with new Primary Curriculum Framework.
7. Power washing, external painting, tarmacking and drainage projects all carried out in past year.
8. Purchase of new set of basketball hoops.
9. School Self-evaluation handwriting improvement plan.
10. RSE talk for older pupils.
11. Clothing collection which raised €514.
12. Initiatives carried out in partnership with our proactive Parents' Association

13. Health and Safety issues including maintenance and repairs.
14. Revision of curricular plans.
15. Policy creation and review of Anti-bullying, Child safeguarding, Home/School Communication, Homework, Equality, Substance abuse, Special Educational Needs and RSE policies and well as the curricular statements for Mathematics, Drama and PE.
16. Facilitation of Flu Vaccination programme for families who wished to avail of the service.
17. Facilitation of whole-staff Language Curriculum In-service.
18. Literacy and Numeracy development and standardised testing assessment.
19. Staffing arrangements and appointments.
20. School Insurance and 24 hr Pupil Insurance.
21. Attendance.
22. IT Resources and advances.
23. School finances and financial planning including transfer of school accounts to Patron and Financial Support Services Unit of Dept. of Education.
24. School Calendars of events and holidays.
25. Fire Service safety talks provided to all classes.
26. Sporting arrangements.
27. School excursions.
28. School Reports and Parent – teacher meetings.
29. Relevant Contracts Tax and ROS online revenue payments system.
30. Energy Saving measures - SEAI monitoring annual report given.
31. Training of Ancillary staff.
32. October returns to Department of Education for capitation grant purposes.
33. Purchase of furniture and school equipment.
34. Transition Year work experience placements facilitated.
35. Work carried out in co-operation with other schools in our local area.

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: Tommy O'Garra Date: 23/6/23