

Agreed Report
Ballydesmond N.S.
Board of Management Meeting
1st December 2023



1. Role of the BOM, Meeting procedures

- A huge thank you to everyone for agreeing to be on our BOM.
- Our school could not function without you and without you agreeing to give up your valuable time to advance our school into the future
- A school is the heartbeat of a community and that is especially true here.
- We are following in a long line of people who have worked to make our school better and now this responsibility is in our hands

Ballydesmond NS Board of Management 2023 - 2027	
Patron Nominee	Paddy Fleming (Chairperson)
Patron Nominee	Fr. Joseph Tarrant
Secretary	Anthony O'Donoghue (Principal)
Teacher Nominee	Ella O'Sullivan (Deputy Principal)
Parent Nominee	Bernie O'Rourke (Mother)
Parent Nominee	Tim Howard (Father)
Community Nominee	Maeve Collins
Community Nominee	Paul Kerins

- The BOM's role is to manage the school on behalf of our patron The Bishop of Kerry
- We ratify school policies, we are an employer and we strive to improve our school.
- Confidentiality is incredibly important. Names, ideas, disagreements should never be discussed outside of our meetings. A BOM report is shared on our website to keep up to date on our meetings
- Furthermore, everyone here is a nominee not a representative. You offer a mother's, father's, community, teachers or patron's perspective on issues that we will discuss. There is no campaigning or surveying of opinions.
- Our meetings generally follow the same procedure as you can see from the Agenda
- Further Board of Management training and a manual will be provided at some stage in the future by the Department/patron
- Training attended by Mr. Anthony O'Donoghue by Saint Senan's on 29th November
- Once again thank you. I think we have an excellent BOM and I hugely look forward to working with you

2. Summary of our school

- We currently have 104 pupils in our school, 10 staff made up of 6 teachers, 3 SNA's (Two full time, one infant hours) and a secretary. We also have a cleaner who comes in 2 hours each day.

3. Christmas play

- 6th of December
- Raffle is the 13th of December
- JI-2nd class performing this year. 3rd-6th next year
- Allows more curriculum time as schools have been inundated in recent years

4. Toy Show Quiz

- Organised by Ms. Sinead Walshe on Friday was very enjoyable and the children loved it.

5. Nutty Scientists

- This went very well.
- They visited 2 days 2 weeks ago for science week
- Thank you to the Parents Council for part funding this
- We will look into possibly getting them next year if they can provide something different

6. Confirmation Enrolment

- This was the 12th of November
- Thank you to Ms. Cronin for her work and to Fr. Tarrant who is always so giving of his time

7. School Self Evaluation

- It has been agreed that ICT will be our focus for SSE
- Questionnaires will shortly be sent to parents regarding ICT to hear a parental perspective and to nail down a specific goal
- We have invested in 10 new tablets - thanks to money we have received from the family of a former student
- We have started computer classes and teachers are integrating ICT more into our teaching and learning

8. Parent Council AGM

- 3rd of October
- Election for Committee was as follows

Chairperson - Áine Rohan

Secretary - Grainne Fleming

Treasurer - Jackie Kelly

Vice Treasurer - Úna Howard

Vice Chairperson - Roseanne Ward

- A huge thank you for all those who volunteer for the council
- They do amazing work for our school
- Many fundraising ideas
- Halloween costume shop, halloween disco (this went very well again this year), Christmas shoebox appeal, Christmas cards, Ladies Night, centre parc voucher competition, cyber talk (link with SSE), Table Quiz, Bingo Night, Non uniform days

9. Primary Maths Curriculum

- This is currently coming on stream in schools
- Curriculum Leaders -Anthony O'Donoghue and Christine Sheehan attended a training day on the 9th of October in Tralee Ed Centre
- Whole school training day occurred on 20th of November in Cork Ed centre
- We will begin to engage with the new curriculum - online materials, stocktake, learning outcomes etc.

10. Wellbeing Seminar

- Curriculum Leaders - Ella O'Sullivan and Michelle Curtin
- Discussed at our recent Croke Park meeting
- Importance of wellbeing, questionnaires completed for pupils last year and this may be done again to monitor wellbeing in school
- Wellbeing wall - Gratitude day
- Mental Health Talk for 5th and 6th on 24th of October
- Other wellbeing initiatives are also to be planned
- Wellbeing is integrated into everything we do in Ballydesmond NS

11. National Attendance Campaign

- Attendance is quite good here in Ballydesmond NS and I will speak more about this in the financial report
- However, punctuality will have to be looked at as this can be disruptive to class

12. IPPN

- Irish Primary Principals Networks
- Attended by Anthony O'Donoghue on 17th November

13. INTO

- Attended by Christine Sheehan on 17th November - Thank you Ms. Sheehan

14. Boys and Girls Grading Competition

- On both days behaviour was excellent the boys and girls hugely enjoyed themselves
- Thank you to Ms. Cronin, John and Noreen for taking the children and giving up their time for training

15. Congratulations

- Huge congratulations to John and Joanne on the birth of their babies Halle and Pádraic Óg