

ST. FLANNAN'S COLLEGE
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING
AGREED REPORT



	Thursday 14 th February 2019, 7.00pm – 8.30pm
Present	Mr Leonard Cleary (Chairperson), Fr Ignatius McCormack (Secretary), Ms Mary Corbett, Ms Teresa Considine, Mr Pat Whyms. Mr Michael Horgan Mr Joe Russell, Dr Denise Cox, Ms Sadie Moloney. Ms Tracey O'Donohue (Minutes Secretary)
Apologies from	

The meeting opened with a prayer from Fr McCormack.

The Chairman welcomed the Board and thanked them for their attendance.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of 16th October were adopted.

3. Disciplinary Hearing Outcome. The Principal left the meeting while the Board finalised the decision with regard to the disciplinary hearing of January 14th 2019. After some discussion it was unanimously decided to confirm the exclusion on the basis of information from the previous meeting.

5. Finance. The Finance Committee met briefly to review the accounts and are happy for them to be adopted by the Board. The accounts were adopted on the proposal of Joe Russell, seconded by Michael Horgan.

6. Correspondence and Principal's Report.

a. Intake 2019/2020. The student intake for 2019/2020 is 216 in line with the School's admissions policy.

b. Child Protection Seminar. The Principal attended a child protection seminar in Athlone on Friday February 8th which launched new child protection inspections. These inspections, as well as looking at child protection reports are also de facto SPHE and RSE subject inspections.

The seminar was also very informative with regard to the reporting structures within the school. Our current system of having more than one Deputy Liaison Person was viewed as inappropriate and to this end it is proposed that one of the Deputy Principals will be assigned the duty of DLP in rotation on a yearly basis. This is in line with advice received at the seminar. The DLP for the rest of the current school year will be Michael McNerney.

c. Instagram. An Instagram account was set up by a student showing doctored images of staff members. Some staff members were very upset by the images. The Principal addressed all of the student body and was very clear on his disdain for the students who took photographs of staff and passed them on to be posted online or who "liked" the images. Staff requested an "emergency" staff meeting which was held. Six students were suspended for one week which is the extent of what can be done without reference to the Board.

d. Outside Speakers. A number of written requests have been received from staff members to sanction speakers on subjects from study skills to sports to SPHE workshops. Necessity for Board approval comes from guidelines from the JMB which state that schools need to be extremely careful of who we let speak to our students as some

schools have had very bad experiences with outside speakers, and that no one has a right to have access to our students apart from school personal. Some of these speakers come with a fee, such as Study Skill for LC and JC which costs around €6000.

- e. Oral Exams.** There are a large number of teachers going out to take Oral language exams. It is very difficult to get substitutes to cover these times. The Policy Committee will be asked to take a look at this with a view to drawing up a policy.
 - f. New Canteen Arrangements.** There has been a change to the canteen providers, the new company promotes healthy eating.
 - g. Pedestrian Entrance.** The process has begun to apply to put a pedestrian entrance at the original location of the school gates.
- 5. Child Safeguarding.** There has been one referral to the HSE since the last meeting.
- 6. AOB.**
- a.** Traffic on the school grounds is increasing again. Another text will be sent to parents.
 - b.** Students are sharing cars to go out at lunch time. This will be addressed at an assembly.

The next meeting will take place on Monday April 8th at 7pm in the Boarding School.