

**Knocknacarra Educate Together NS**  
**Board of Management Meeting**  
**12<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 19.00**

**Present:** Paul Adams (chairperson), Jennifer Noonan, Emily King, Ali Donald, Catherine Emerson, Sarah Gundy, Ciara Jordan and Matt Wallen (secretary)

**Apolosies:**

Paul chaired the meeting.

**March Minutes**

The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

**Principal's Report**

**Enrolment**

- There are currently 205 pupils enrolled in eight classes, with no changes since last month.
- Offers for the autism classes are out.
- Our total enrolment will likely be around 210 next year.

**Attendance**

- The attendance percentage year-to-date is 92.4%. Attendance has been particularly good these past couple of weeks.

**Staffing**

- Adriana Murillo Barriga started as an ISA two weeks ago. She is also doing the Breakfast Club in the mornings.
- The process of class allocation has begun, with teachers being asked to submit a preference form.

**Curriculum Development**

- The Working Groups will make recommendations related to English and STEM at tomorrow's staff meeting.
- We anticipate having a revised SESE (Geography/History/Science) Plan as well as a revised English Plan ready to present to the Board soon.

**Policies**

- The staff completed a half-day seminar related to the Bí Cineálta (Anti-bullying) Guidelines. Now that consultation has taken place with the staff, we will be consulting parents and children. A draft policy will be presented to the Board for ratification at the next meeting.
- The Equality of Access and Student Teaching and Work Placement Policies are ready for review by the Board with minimal changes recommended.

**Building**

- The project management company has said that 70% of the modular pieces are now completed. The final design is nearly complete, with some adjustments related to emergency doors as well as the potential of a slope rather than a retaining wall. Once the design is ready, the project manager will send it to the Department for approval. The on-site work will follow, taking approximately 6 weeks to complete followed by a 2-week period for certification.
- Today work began on the replacement of the prefab roof. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by Thursday. We will submit a letter for drawing down the emergency works grant as soon as possible.
- We hope to submit a summer works grant for the comprehensive repair of the roof of the main building.

**Misc. Events/Information**

- Thank you to Claire who represented the school at the Educate Together AGM.
- Congratulations to the quiz team who represented the school at the National competition. Other children recently participated in an online quiz as well.
- We recently participated in three GAA Cumann na mBunscol blitzes, girls' Gaelic football, boys' Gaelic football and camogie. A blitz for hurling takes place later this month.
- The athletics team has been busy training for the City Sports competition that will take place soon.
- We look forward to hosting a group of children from Nimes, France who have been penpals with our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class. Tomorrow the classes are going to meet these children in Cong. On Wednesday, they will visit our school for the day.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Class have been working with Dee Deegan, an artist in residence. They shared all their amazing creations with the school in a museum set up in the halla.

- Congratulations to Sarah, Nora and the Green School Committee and all the school community on achieving our third green flag. Three children represented the school at a ceremony last week.
- All the school have been participating in a skipping challenge for the past few weeks that has been organised by the Active School Committee.
- We will have bilingual (English-Irish) yoga lessons for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class on four Wednesdays. This is partly funded by a grant we received from Gaelbhreach. We have also been sent our Gaelbhreach for 2025.
- All classes have scheduled school tours to take place over the next few weeks.
- The school choir will end the year by going to the city centre to sing on shop street to raise money for a charity on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> May.
- Children will bring home their portfolios to share with parents in mid-June.
- The Spring Fair takes place on Saturday from 12.00-16.00. All are welcome! Many thanks to all the parents and the Parent-Teacher Association Committee for planning and organising the event.

### **Financial Report**

Generally, the budget targets are being met. We will have a considerable amount of spending ahead related to the new autism classes.

### **AGM Report**

Matt reported on the motions that were voted on at the AGM.

### **Policies Review**

Two policies were reviewed with minimal changes: Exceptional Closures and the Attendance Policy.