



The Board of Governors of Midleton College

Midleton College, Connolly Street, Midleton, Co Cork

Thursday, 31st July, 2014

Letter from the Chairperson to the Midleton College Family:

I am writing to you as chairperson of the Board of Governors to inform you that it was with immense regret the Board received yesterday evening Mr Simon Thompson's letter of resignation as Principal of Midleton College. At the same time, we congratulate him on his appointment yesterday as Principal of Kilkenny College, one of the largest Protestant boarding schools in the State.

After eleven years of full, energetic and faithful service as our Principal, Mr Thompson will commence in his new post at the start of the coming academic year (25th August next). We are hugely indebted to the Deputy Principal, Mr Bud Morrissey, who has generously and readily agreed to serve as Acting Principal while we recruit a new Principal for Midleton College.

Simon Thompson arrived in Midleton College as Principal at the start of the 2003-2004 academic year. Since then he has served indefatigably and conscientiously. As he departs, we are all conscious, I am sure that, even in the eleven years he has been with us, he leaves his mark positively on the long and noble tradition of our school. He has overseen the growth of the school to the largest pupil and teacher numbers it has ever had in its three centuries in existence. Under his leadership a school development plan was envisioned and finalised. The Colton Building and other developments on our campus were realised. Plans have been laid and fund-raising advanced for the new sports complex. The pre-school *Singing in the Rain* was established. The curriculum was broadened to include additional languages and business subjects, as well as home economics. Hugely significant too has been his work with the Governors in creating new governance structures for the College, including a Board of Management and a Board of Directors.

There will be opportunities in due course formally to say farewell and thank you to Mr Thompson for all of this and more. However at this stage we say how sorry we are to be losing him and we wish him every blessing as he embarks on a new phase in his career in the field of education.

Meanwhile, the Governors have already begun planning the process of recruiting Mr Thompson's successor and I will communicate with you further in due course as this unfolds.

Yours sincerely,

The Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton
Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross
Chairman, Board of Governors