



Middleton College

May 2013

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Board of Management Update

The Board of Management has met in February, March and April of 2013 during what is a continually busy period in national education and, more locally, within the College.

Retirements of 3 senior staff members

The Board has received confirmation from 3 senior members of the teaching staff, Ms. Mary Power, Mrs. June Johnston and Ms. Lucy O'Regan of their decisions to retire at the end of the current school year. The Board recorded its immense gratitude to each of the retiring members for their significant contribution to the life and success of Middleton College during their service. Formal opportunity to express gratitude to each of these staff members will occur at the final Assembly of the school year and at the ceremony at the end of Sports Day on the 31st May.

Enrolments 2013: Waiting Lists for entry

The Principal notified the Board that enrolment for September 2013 is currently projected at 378, a rise in line with the College development plan. 1st Form 2013 is full at 69 students. A Waiting List is in operation.

Fee-Charging Schools: the need to lobby T.D.'s

In relation to the ongoing challenges faced by Fee-Charging schools the Board decided to lobby Fine Gael Ministers before the end of June in advance of Budget 2014 in October in relation to further changes to Pupil Teacher Ratio which is being reduced to 23:1. The Board agreed to arrange meetings with relevant Fine Gael and Labour TDs to discuss. The Board noted the letter circulated to parents/guardians by the PTA Committee and expressed thanks to all those who had taken the time to forward these letters to T.D.'s and those who have engaged their T.D.'s or local political representatives on the matter.

Inspection of teaching of Irish

A regular Inspection of the teaching of Irish took place on the 23rd April. The final Report will be received by the Board in September.

The Student Council

Due to the work of the Student Council, a bicycle shelter has been installed and new seating ordered for The Colton Building for students to relax on in the social areas. The Board stated its appreciation of the work the Student Council members undertake on behalf of all in the College.

The new Administration Block

The move to the new Administration Block is almost concluded which, in turn, now allows for expansion of the Staff Room into the former Office area. Both of these necessary upgrades reflect both the expansion of the College and the need to ensure effective provision of administrative functions for parents, students and staff.

New Policy Developments

The Board also received confirmation of the creation of 3 staff sub-committees with responsibility to draft and provide Policy guidance to the Board regarding:

The implementation of Junior Cycle Reform
Literacy and Numeracy Policy implementation
School Self-Evaluation Policy implementation

The staff sub-committees will continue to liaise with the PTA and the Student Council in the implementation of these policy initiatives.

The Board affirmed the policy that, in relation to Junior Cycle Reform, Middleton College will continue to offer the highest feasible number of academic subjects for students to study as the best preparation for moving onto an academic Leaving Certificate in Senior Cycle.

School Activities

The Board expressed its appreciation for the wide range of extended educational experiences and Extra-Curricular Activities students have engaged in thanks to the organisation and commitment of members of staff and the support of parents and guardians.