Board of Management Meeting: February 28th 2024 Agreed Report

The Board of Management of Scoil Íosagáin met on Wednesday February 28th 2024 at 7.15pm. Below is the agreed report from the meeting:

1. Our building is progressing, albeit slowly. The installation of primary roof beams is currently ongoing. We are hopeful that the adjoining hall area/knock through is on schedule to occur over the Easter holidays. Handover is still on schedule for late August.
2. In relation to the new build, if anyone knows of any company that would be interested in assisting us with covering the cost of our sensory space please let us know. The Department of Education does not providing any funding for the cost of equipping this room with anything-no furniture, lighting, not even blinds. We know from past experience the cost of equipping a much smaller room so any assistance that can be provided would be greatly received. Please email principal@ballybunionprimary.ie if you know anyone that might be able to help.
3. The Board of Management expresses its disappointment in the latest allocation of Special Education Teaching hours. While the school’s allocation remains the same at 105 hours, the Board is disheartened to note that children with complex needs are no longer considered when resources are allocated. The Board feels that this is a backward step for special education provision in our school and that the most vulnerable children will be negatively impacted by this decision. In light of this, the Board, in conjunction with staff, are looking at new assessment modes for all classes from 2025 onwards.
4. If the ‘Say Yes to Languages’ pilot programme runs in 2024/25 the school will apply. If successful we will apply for teaching in the area of sign language.
5. A new AED (defibrillator) was purchased for the school as our previous unit was broken (accidentally, by a community member using it). The new unit will be wired and in place in the coming days. The code will be given to appropriate members of the school community, including Fr Sean.
6. The Board has amended our Code of Behaviour to include the following: ‘the non-consensual sharing of sexting content always warrants a report, regardless of whether the issue is resolved within 20 days and whether the teacher thinks the incident warrants a report. All incidents involving creating, storing or sharing explicit images of children under the age of 17 will be reported to TUSLA and may also be reported to the Gardaí.’ This will require approval from our Patron and once approved the new code will be published on our website [www.ballybunionprimary.ie](http://www.ballybunionprimary.ie)

If any parent is concerned about their child’s online activity please do not hesitate to contact the school for advice.

1. A job sharing application for Mrs Dana Culhane and Ms Audrey Costelloe has been approved for 2024/25. Mrs Culhane and Ms Costelloe will continue to work together in an SET role for the year.
2. The Board is in communication with St Brendan’s Trust about our plans for outdoor works. We are pleased to note that the Patron is happy to consider our plans for the future development of our school.
3. Our school accounts up to August 31st 2023 have been submitted to the FSSU in line with best practice.

The meeting concluded.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 2024.