

CARRIGALINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017

Board Composition:

Mr. H. Crowley (Chairperson)
Rev. Fr. P. Fogarty
Mr. C. McCarthy
Mr. P. Mc Kelvey
Ms. C. Murphy
Ms. Ú. O'Donnell
Ms. L. O'Donoghue
Ms. A.M. O'Mahony
Ms. V. O'Mahony
Cllr. M. Shields
Mr. P. Burke (Secretary)

Board of Management meetings for the academic year 2016/2017 were chaired by the Bishop's nominee to the Board, Mr. Hugh Crowley. Board policy is that the position of Chairperson is rotated on an annual basis amongst the nominating bodies.

Impact of Education Cutbacks: *For the seventh year in succession, the Board considered the impact of national cutbacks in education at CCS on numerous occasions. The Board continued to appeal for the lifting of the moratorium on Posts of Responsibility and non-teaching staff, thereby securing the quality of the education provision at the school.*

Despite the cutbacks, the Board was pleased to note that there was no loss in tuition time and that the full comprehensive education programme continued to be offered to all students at Carrigaline Community School; with the full range of option subjects available at all levels. In addition, the Board congratulated and thanked the staff of the school for their continued voluntary commitment to the diverse range of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities available to the student cohort.

Finance: *In line with previous practice, the Board considered all major aspects of school finances at each meeting throughout the year. The Finance sub-committee of the Board, comprising of Mr. H. Crowley, Chairperson; Ms. U. O' Donnell, Cork ETB nominee & Mr. P. Burke, reviewed all school accounts in detail at a Finance sub-committee meeting in springtime. Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Crowley complimented the Principal on his work in maintaining the school accounts.*

School Policies: *The Board continued its previous practice of reviewing school policies on an on-going basis. The CCS **Code of Behaviour** and **AUP** (Acceptable Use Policy in ICT) were reviewed and adopted by the Board of Management. Policies were recently adjusted to address the impact of the world of social media and cyber bullying.*

The Board annually reviews the whole school approach to countering bullying. Key components of the policy involve student and parent seminars on the theme of bullying, an 'anti-bullying awareness week /

Respect for All Week for students and the distribution of information leaflets to all students and parents on the anti-bullying policy at CCS. In addition, information leaflets concerning the **'World of Social Media'** devised by the CCS e-learning committee were circulated to all homes. All students and parents were provided with an opportunity to participate in 'Anti-Bullying' Seminars during 2016/2017. The School Principal updates the Board of Management on issues related to bullying.

Academic Achievement: *The Board congratulated the students and teaching staff on the excellent standard of student academic achievement, culminating in highly successful Leaving Certificate, Leaving Certificate Applied and Junior Certificate examination results.*

The Board was pleased to note that the excellent standards were recognised through University Student Scholarships.

School Inspections @ CCS: *The DoES Inspectorate continued to work in partnership with the school in 2016/2017. CCS participated in a WSE-MLL in April 2017. The Board welcomed the Inspectorates recognition of the high standards of Management, Leadership and Learning across the whole school. The Board welcomed the Inspectorates comments and recommendations and looks forward to improving and developing on the advice given.*

Staff In-Career Development: *The 2016/2017 academic year continued to be dominated by a strong staff focus on **School Self Evaluation and Professional Development**, with a whole staff focus on the themes of **Literacy, Numeracy and TEL (Technology Enhanced Learning)** at the school. Vibrant Literacy, Numeracy and TEL Sub-Committees formed from the teaching staff and co-ordinated by 'link' teachers facilitated this in-career development programme.*

A number of staff members are involved with the Instructional Leadership Programme which aims to continuously improve the standard of teaching and learning across schools in the country. This is part of the school improvement process.

Large numbers of teaching staff continued to participate in national in-service training for the delivery of new curricular material. Staff also participated in the National Induction Programme in Teacher Education. Regular school based in-service continued, focusing on Special Education Needs / Autism and on using ICT in teaching and learning.

Health & Safety: *The Board is keenly aware of its responsibilities under the Health, Safety & Welfare at Work Acts. In addition to a major review of the **CCS Health & Safety Statement & Policy**, an annual 'Hazard Audit' is undertaken by all staff at the commencement of each academic year. A comprehensive 'Fire Evacuation' protocol is in place in CCS, with year group evacuations carried out during induction at the start of each academic year, followed by a full fire evacuation of the school community.*

- **Child Protection:** *The Board renews annually the nominations of the Principal, Mr. Paul Burke as the Designated Liaison Person, and the Deputy Principals, Ms. Sinead Tarrant and Ms. Tracey Kennedy as Deputy Designated Liaison Persons in respect of Child Protection. The Board has an item on 'Child Protection' on the agenda for each meeting in line with best practice as recommended in the 'Child Protection Guidelines'.*

- **HPV & Tdap Vaccinations:** *The Board was pleased to note that the HSE Vaccination programme continued at CCS during 2016/2017. First and Sixth year students participated in the vaccination programme this year.*

Parents' Association: *The Parents' Association continued to play a central role in the life of the school during 2016/2017. The AGM took place in the school in autumn, with Ms. Roisín Mehigan chairing the Association for the academic year. The Association has a web presence on www.carrigcs.ie The Parents' Association worked in partnership with the Board of Management in supporting the induction of new First Year students and in supporting families in need during the return to school process. The challenges posed by social media and cyber bullying were addressed jointly by the Parents' Association and the Board of Management during the year. A seminar on the theme of 'Cyber Bullying' took place in autumn 2016. The very successful seminar was welcomed by parents, with a further seminar planned for early autumn 2017.*

Students' Council: *The Student Council continued to play a vibrant role in the life of the school during the year. President, Ciara Gavin, was elected by the student population in early autumn. The Council was centrally involved in a variety of fund raising activities during the year – including fund-raising for Marymount Hospital and Autism. The Council also played a major role in the induction of incoming First Year students. The post-Leaving Certificate Student Scholarship Scheme inaugurated by the Student Council in 2014/2015, financed from the Council's fund raising initiatives at the school, continued to operate in 2016/2017.*

2016/2017 ~ Another Successful Year

As the academic year concluded, amongst the highlights of the year were:

- *CCS was awarded its first ever Amber Flag for positive mental health promotion.*
- *Another very successful programme of Adult & Continuing Education continued throughout the year.*
- *Highly successful Annual Awards & Principal's Awards Ceremonies.*
- *All Transition Year students participated in another very successful Scifest competition.*
- *Transition Year students also participated in a wonderful TY Ball.*
- *Highly successful Student Exchange programmes with Lycees St. Martin, Rennes & Gymnasium Norf, Germany.*
- *A very successful ski trip during February mid-term break*

- *Charitable fund-raising for the Children’s Ward in CUH. Annual fund-raising in December for St. Vincent De Paul raised almost €7000 which was donated to the Carrigaline and Ballygarvan Chapters for Christmas 2016.*
- *Further enhancement of ICT facilities to assist teaching & learning in the classroom – the Board acknowledges the continued financial support from the DoES for this important section of school life.*
- *Continued success in a diverse range of extra and co-curricular activities – including all major field sports, with victories for the CCS Ladies Gaelic Football Team, Boys’ Senior Soccer Team, Basketball Teams and victories at national and inter-national level in schools athletics for CCS students.*

Signed *Date*
Principal

Signed *Date*
Chairperson