



A meeting of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board was held on Tuesday 28 November 2023 at 4:30 pm at the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise, Co Laois.

PRESENT

Evelyn Dunne (Chairperson)
Cllr John Carroll
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick
Cllr Willie Aird
Ms Maura Brophy
Mr Dave Cullen
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald
Ms Molly Buckley

Mr Frank Smith
Cllr Caroline Dwane-Stanley
Cllr Pdraig Fleming
Cllr Barry Walsh
Mr Niall Tully
Cllr John King
Cllr Robert Mc Dermott

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive
Ms Marie Bracken, Director of OSD
Mr Rory Connolly, Corporate Services

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Jim Cashen, Mr Shane Flesk, Cllr Neil Feighery.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS LOETB MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, which took place on 26 September 2023 were circulated to members. Members approved the minutes and they were signed by the Chairperson.

Proposed: Eddie Fitzpatrick
Seconded: Dave Cullen

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. GOVERNANCE

Update from Critical Systems Oversight Committee:

Corporate Risk Register:

There was no change to the Risk Register since the last Board meeting.

Declaration of Interest

As per Schedule 3, Paragraph 10, Section 3 of the (ETB) Act 2013 and the Agenda Notice, no conflicts of interest were declared.

Nomination of Signatories with Seal:

The seal of an Education and Training Board shall be authenticated by:

“the signature of the Chief Executive and the signature of a member of staff of the board authorised in writing for that purpose by the board.”

Proposed: John Carroll

Seconded: Eddie Fitzpatrick

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Item No	Correspondence From	Date / Ref No.	Details	Comments
1.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0046.2023	Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries Previously Funded Under Ancillary Grant Funding	Noted by Members
2.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0047.2023	Adoptive Leave Scheme for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
3.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0048.2023	Adoptive Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
4.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0049.2023	Election of new Boards of Management of Primary Schools	Noted by Members
5.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0050.2023	Unpaid Leave for Medical Care Purposes for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
6.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0051.2023	Unpaid Leave for Medical Care Purposes for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
7.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0052.2023	Breastfeeding Breaks for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
8.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0053.2023	Breastfeeding Breaks for Special Needs Assistants employed In Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members
9.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0054.2023	Curriculum and assessment-related developments at Senior Cycle with	Noted by Members

			particular reference to school years 2023/24 and onwards	
10.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0055.2023	Unpaid Leave for Medical Care Purposes for staff other than persons employed as Teachers and Special Needs Assistants employed in Education and Training Boards	Noted by Members
11.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0056.2023	Cost of living measure to support increased school running costs	Noted by Members
12.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0057.2023	Panel access for fixed-term/temporary (this includes substitute) and part-time teachers to the Supplementary Redeployment Panel for the 2024/25 school year	Noted by Members
13.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0058.2023	Force Majeure Leave and Illness in Family Leave for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools	Noted by Members

6. STATEMENT STRATEGY 2023-2027

The Statement of Strategy 2023-2027 has now been published.

7. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

The following minutes of the Committees of the Board were circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members noted same.

- Youth Work Committee 28 June 2023
- Birr OETC 14 September 2023
- Clonaslee College 19 June 2023
- Coláiste Naomh Cormac 25 September 2023
- Oaklands Community College 15 June 2023
- Portlaoise College 14 June 2023
- Portlaoise College 25 September 2023
- Tullamore College 12 October 2023
- Tullamore College 19 October 2023
- Tullamore College Extraordinary Meeting 25 October 2023

8. LEASE/LICENCE AGREEMENTS

Licence Renewal - Kiddiecare Creche, Mountmellick

Additional Accommodation for Clara FET Centre at Clara GAA Club

Proposed: Frank Smith

Seconded: Caroline Dwane Stanley

9. PARENT NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF LOETB

The CE informed the members that the National Parents Council has notified all parents of the vacancy for a parent representative on the Board and a recommendation will be brought forward once a nominee is in place.

10. SCHOOL BOM NOMINATIONS

Coláiste Naomh Cormac:

Teacher Representative – Grainne Meagher

Community Representative- Mary Cotter Bracken

Portlaoise College:

Teacher Representative – Patrick Hamm

Proposed: Dave Cullen

Seconded: Padraig Fleming

11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Schools Directorate

LOETB Schools Support: SEN Provision Mapping

Induction Day 2 was held online on 17 October. An LOETB schools Community of Practice followed in the afternoon session focused on setting up the Inclusion Team and planning for implementation of Provision Mapping over the academic year.

Ethos

Identity and Multi-Beliefs and Values (IMBV) Education Online training day took place on 13 November.

Leadership Webinar Series

LOETB/Laois Education Centre Leadership in Practice webinar series for aspiring and current middle leaders held Session 1, *Dealing with Difficult Conversations* facilitated by Harry Freeman on the 3 October. Session 2, *Day to Day Practicalities of the Assistant Principal I and II role*, will take place on 6 December.

SNA Training

LOETB/Laois Education Centre upcoming CPD events for SNA staff will focus on ICT skills. Two sessions are scheduled to take place on 23 November and 30 November with Angela Costello (SETU).

Communities of Practice

Collaborative meetings for teachers are continuing in the following areas: SSE and DEIS Co-ordinators, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators, Special Class Co-ordinators forum, Ethos Professional Learning Network Meetings, and Digital Leaders Forum.

ETB Maths Competition

A collaboration between LOETB, CMETB, and LWETB is underway to organise the first inter-ETB maths competition aimed at Junior Cycle and TY higher-level students. The competition will be team-based and involve problem solving questions based on the Junior Cycle specification. There will be two stages, a local ETB competition followed by an inter-ETB final. Schools have been invited to register teams.

LOETB Schools' STEAM Launch

The STEAM programme launch took place on 16 November. This is a collaborative project with Laois and Offaly County Councils. The programme provides training and equipment for teachers and students across all the LOETB schools to run lunchtime and after-school clubs that help develop skills around STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts and Maths.)

Youth Service

UBU Cycle 2 Applications for Funding were submitted to LOETB by the interested Funded Organisations and reviewed by the LOETB Co-ordination Group. Notice of UBU Cycle 2 Funding Application approval outcomes to be issued by DCEDIY, the week commencing 11 December.

LOETB Youth Work Plan

The plan is currently proceeding through the final design before publication.

Local Creative Youth Partnerships

Two projects are supporting Ukrainian young people at the Offaly Volunteer Centre. Celebrating Science Week (12 –19 November), Midlands Science delivered workshops to the Youthreach programme in Portlaoise, Mountmellick and Edenderry.

Music Generation Laois: Tionól Harp + Pipes 2023

Music Generation Laois' annual Tionól Harp and Pipes took place on 3-5 November in Portlaoise and Stradbally. This year's Tionól included a group of young harp players, 'Claasagh' from The Isle of Man, under the direction of Scottish harper, Rachel Hair. Highlights from the 2023 festival included the world premiere of a new suite of music to celebrate 10 years of Music Generation Laois, 'The Tionól Suite' composed by Ernestine Healy and performed by 185 musicians. Another highlight for Tionól 2023 was the Irish launch of 'The Spirit of Laois Suite' a new album of harp music composed by Michael Rooney, directed by Siobhan Buckley, and performed by Siobhan, Michael and the Music Generation Laois Senior Harp Ensemble. This album was first launched in Japan in August 2023.

'Bicycles, Boomerangs and Blue Macaws'

A new suite of songs written by primary school children in collaboration with composers Sarah Murphy and Lorna McLaughlin, and commissioned by Music Generation Laois, was premiered on 1 of June 2023 in the Malthouse, Stradbally.

Music Generation Laois Trad Orchestra

Members represented Music Generation, as young ambassadors, at two events in Dublin recently. The group performed at a VentureWave Capital Event in The Shelbourne Hotel on 31 September and more recently the group performed on 7 November at The Bank of America Europe Headquarters in Hatch St., Dublin.

Music Generation Offaly

The Piperlink Uilleann pipe programme is now back in person, with lessons taking place in Croghan Community centre and has been expanded to 3 classes per week, with further planning to expand into local primary schools. Hullabaloo Children's Arts Festival took place during the October mid-term break and 2 musician educators delivered 5 music workshops in Birr, Clara and Tullamore.

Regional Education and Language Team (REALT)

The Stradbally Site has been 'winter-proofed' and can accommodate up to 950 people. The Department of Education (DoE) has advised REALT not to engage regarding sourcing school places for children there as it is expected the longest a family will live there is 3 weeks.

Rathdowney Modular Homes: There has been a delay due to weather, but it is expected that families will arrive in early December.

Tullamore Modular Homes: These homes are almost ready and it is expected families will arrive by end of November.

Banagher: Capacity for 100 people is being provided and some families have arrived already. Edenderry and Clara accommodation centres are being developed and it is envisaged that families will be moved there possibly before Christmas.

FET Directorate

Finances 2024

FET is committed to supporting SOLAS in reducing the backlog (waitlist) of Craft apprentices, with a particular focus on phase two electrical and plumbing.

LOETB will grow apprenticeship significantly in 2024. This includes:

- 180 new electrical apprentices in Kilcruttin, Tullamore
- 100 new electrical apprentices in the ESB Training Facility, Portlaoise
- 84 new electrical apprentices in METC, Mountrath

LOETB will also significantly expand our Construction and Agriculture provision in line with the Climate Action and Housing for All targets, with an additional 1,000 learners in Construction and 700 new learners in Agriculture.

In line with our Strategic Performance agreement, all FET provision is reviewed to ensure it aligns with the priority areas in the Region, and in some cases the National targets. 2024 will see LOETB FET focus on developing learner pathways in:

- Construction, Agriculture, Engineering, Healthcare, Hospitality, Retail (Services), Green Skills (Climate), Bio-Pharma and Medtech.
- Alongside these, we will continue to build our Tertiary options for learners in the STEM subjects.

These additions will bring the FET Budget Bid for 2024 to in excess of €50m, equating to approximately an 18% increase on the 2023 spend.

National Demonstration Park for Modern Methods of Construction

LOETB, on behalf of the Project Management Group (PMG), continues to engage with the four preferred contractors for the Phase One Housing Units. These units consist of:

- Light Gauge Steel Semi-Detached
- Light Gauge Steel/Timber Terraced Units
- Pre-cast Apartment block
- Timber Frame Modular (single & two-storey)
- Timber Frame Semi-Detached (affordable)

The Design Team lodged the planning application with Offaly County Council in October, and presented the Phase One costings to the PMG. Initial costs are estimated at €10m, and this includes access, groundworks, mechanical and electrical and water for the full site. On receipt of approvals from the PMG, LOETB will move to final design and the procurement of a groundworks contractor to commence in Q2 2024.

Provision 2023

2023 has been another extremely successful year for the FET Service. We project over 18,000 beneficiaries for the year equating to a 10% growth on the 2022 figure.

The latest report from SOLAS further outlines the success of the FET Service in 2024 with every target set achieved. This includes:

1. 2,041 unique learners progressing to another FET programme. Current learner progression data shows:

- 46% of learners progressing from Level 3 to 4
- 54% of learners progressing from Level 4 to 5
- 68% of learners progressing from Level 5 to 6

This is evidence of the success of LOETB's strategy to develop pathways for learners.

2. 1,609 learners have accessed NZEB/Retrofit training in the National Construction Training Campus at Mount Lucas. This equates to over 60% of the national figure.

3. 2,868 employed learners have attended programmes under the Skills to Advance initiative. This provides for 20% of the national figure.

TEAGASC Partnership

As part of our Agriculture provision, LOETB and TEAGASC have developed a partnership approach to supporting young farmers and smallholders.

LOETB currently provides three Sustainable Agriculture Traineeships and a Horsemanship Traineeship at two Teagasc Colleges: Gurteen Agricultural College and Mountbellew Agricultural College. These fully funded 12-month programmes, grants young participants trained farmer status, referred to as the "Green Cert."

In addition, in partnership with Teagasc, LOETB offer stackable micro-credentials to both part-time and full-time farmers. The objective is to advocate for educational opportunities for farmers in the region (and nationally), empowering them to maximize productivity on their land while ensuring its sustainability for future generations.

To further support learners, LOETB will provide a Learner Support Worker across Teagasc Agricultural Colleges. This role will oversee learner admissions and assessments, identify necessary supports, establish a consistent approach, and cultivate a culture of inclusivity among learners across all colleges.

Partnering Local Authorities in the exploration of Just Transition Options

LOETB is partnering Laois and Offaly County Councils in a number of new initiatives that aim to provide a more sustainable future for both counties and their communities.

Laois County Council has submitted a Concept Paper for the European Just Transition Fund that focusses on meeting the skills needs of electrical-related businesses based in the county.

LOETB has provided the evidence-base for the Concept Paper and contributed to the consultation process. LOETB is also participating in a Housing Colloquium with Laois County Council that is exploring the potential contribution of Modern Methods of Construction to the Local Authority's proposed solutions to housing supply in County Laois.

Offaly County Council is the lead partner in a Just Transition Partnership with TUS, OLDC and LOETB to facilitate and support the creation of sustainable rural communities in the county most impacted by Just Transition. Skills development is core to the attainment of this goal and the partnership aims to deliver targeted programmes such as:

- Rural Resilience, Sustainable Tourism and Agriculture, Circular Economy and Bio-economy, Polymer and Composites, History and Heritage, Entrepreneurship and Smart Resources.

OSD Directorate

Human Resources

Recruitment

The following posts have been filled since the last ETB meeting

- 1 Enterprise Support Officer
- 1 Programme Coordinator Portlaoise College
- 1 Acting API Tullamore College
- 1 Programme Coordinator Oaklands Community College
- 1 Acting APII Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara
- 1 PWT & 1 X Acting API Coláiste Naomh Cormac
- 1 PWT API St Fergal's College
- 11 teaching posts
- Sub-teacher panel
- FET tutor panel
- NZEB construction instruction cover panel
- 2 Grade III
- 4 Electrical Instructors
- SNA panel
- 1 Attendant Dunamase College
- 1 PWT AEO

Advertised posts:

- Sub-teacher panel
- Caretaker panel
- 1 PWT & 1 Acting Grade VII
- 1 Acting APII Dunamase College
- 3 AP1 Portlaoise College
- 3 API posts Portlaoise College

Pensions

Report since 1 January 2023:

Pension Description	No.
Members Retired/Pensions issued	9
Widow/Widower Pensions issued	3
Members/ Widows to return pension forms	0
Total Pensions issued to date	12

In 2023, we have requested service to be transferred to LOETB for 26 members, 17 of which are complete. In 2023, we received 41 requests to transfer out service, 27 of which are complete.

NSSO has applied pension increases for 1 October 2023 to LOETB pensioners. There are 13 outstanding queries which have been resolved and the increases for these pensioners will be applied on 9 November 2023.

LOETB has been working on a pension liability project since March 2023. All pension data for year ending 2022 was submitted to Actuary on 8 June 2023. Actuarial Valuation Report Pension Scheme Disclosures for year ending 31 December 2022 issued to LOETB on 14 July 2023.

LOETB commenced initial engagement with ESBS on SPS Remediation Project on 10 July 2023. It is a statutory requirement that LOETB gives each member an annual Pension Benefit Statement. To facilitate this, an examination of all data on 1,009 members of the SPS Pension Scheme has now commenced. Once complete, Benefit Statements for 2013-2022 can be issued in full. LOETB will then be able to submit data files to DPER for SPS Databank.

It is anticipated that LOETB will sign off on data supplied by ESBS by the end November 2023. LOETB will then be in a position to issue SPS Benefit Statements for all members of the SPS Scheme.

Service Project - updating service on Core system (non SPS schemes):

Year Started with LOETB	Number of Employees	Number Service Updated on Core
2022	1	1
2021	21	21
2020	8	8
2019	15	15
2018	16	16
2017	6	5
2016	11	11
2015	6	6
2014	5	5
2013	6	6
2012	14	13
2011	14	10
2010	24	16
2009	16	8
2008	23	2
2007	38	5
2006	27	0
2005	15	3
2003 – 1990		5

To date, we have completed service for 156 members on Core System. LOETB now has an Agreement in place with ESBS to progress this Project. The first Progress Meeting is to be held in early December and LOETB plans to complete this Project by the end of 3rd Quarter 2024.

Payroll

Pay Date	Totals	Staff Paid
15/09/2023	€1,220,678.55	917
29/09/2023	€1,318,538.07	974
13/10/2023	€1,420,056.32	1042
27/10/2023	€1,404,144.17	1052
10/11/2023	€1,417,274.68	1073

Finance

Budgets

School and centre budgets continue to be monitored on a monthly basis.

Finances

Draft summary of finances to end of October 2023.

Summary of Workings to End September 2023									
ITEM	Opening Grant Cash Balance	Adjustment to Opening Balance	Receipts	Credits Transfer	Receipt Targets	Payments	Closing Grant Cash Balance	% of Overall Total	
Main Scheme Grant	985,570	0	29,488,969	0	0	(31,368,152)	(893,613)	-5.08%	
Associated Main Scheme Grants	1,494,267	0	1,123,806	0	0	(1,149,296)	1,468,777	9.38%	
Capital Schedule	12,992,898	0	5,484,491	0	0	(8,303,645)	10,173,743	75.88%	
Further Education & Training	677,443	0	35,955,038	0	0	(36,328,886)	303,595	16.39%	
Youth Affairs	60,670	0	660,440	0	0	(644,249)	76,861	-0.78%	
Agency	802,119	0	2,411,539	0	0	(3,025,653)	188,005	4.13%	
Self Financing	52,327	0	578,154	0	0	(499,680)	130,800	0.09%	
Third Party Funds	0	0	21,561	0	0	(21,561)	0	0.00%	
Totals	17,065,293	0	75,723,998	0	0	(81,341,122)	11,448,169		

NTMA

On Investment		€9,872,694
Interest Earned to end of June		€86,109
Interest Rate		1%
Investment Term	7 day	€9,872,694
	30 day	0

Creditor Payments

3,163 invoices, amounting to €8,761,907.78 were paid in the third quarter of 2023. Of these, 53% were paid within 15 days of receipt of invoices, and a further 42% were paid within 30 days. 52 purchase orders for €20,000 or above, totalling €4,481,670.87 inclusive of VAT, were paid in the third quarter of 2023.

Corporate Services

Capital Projects and Buildings Works

Clonaslee College

- Additional SEN Accommodation 2022 & 2023 – Handover meeting held 3 November 2023 – a few snags remain to be addressed.

St Fergal's College

- Summer Works Scheme Roof Works 2022 approval received from DoE – Works completed October 2023.
- All Weather Pitch – Tender Report received – meeting to be arranged with Consultant, Principal and LOETB.
- Meeting held 9 November 2023 with DoE, LOETB, and Consultants – final costs to be agreed and approval to be given by DoE. Currently working with Consultants and DoE regarding options & space.
- Additional Equipment List for approval sent to DoE on 9 November 2023.

Portlaoise College

- Additional Accommodation – Stage 1 meeting held on 25 October 2023 with all stakeholders.

- All Weather Pitch – Tender Report received and approval given to proceed – Consultant to contact Contractor.
- Application sent to DoE for Additional Accommodation.
- Engineering Equipment approval from DoE.

Dunamase College

- Tower Hill – Modular Accommodation – 6 classroom Modular Accommodation Ground works started 28 June 2023 – currently nearing completion.
- New Site – Stage 2a Report sent to DoE on 10 November 2023.

Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac

- Additional Accommodation – ASA Unit 1002m Approved – ASD Unit installed and completed October 2023.

Gaelscoil NS Birr

LOETB to assist with payments – Ground Works to entrance have commenced.

Abbeyleix FET Centre/Mountmellick FET Centre

Refurbishment of Toilets complete – snagging to be undertaken by Architect.

Mountmellick FET Centre

Proposed Car Park – Tender Report received and currently being evaluated by Consultant.

National Construction Training Centre, Mount Lucas

Design Team appointed and planning application submitted to Offaly County Council.

Kilcruttin Electrical Apprenticeship

Consultant appointed – Works/Handover due middle of November 2023.

Tullamore FET Centre

Upgrade of classroom to Science room – works completed with a few snags to be addressed.

Procurement

Procurement Section are currently working on the following projects for Tendering:

- Supply of Learner Books/School Books and Exam Papers for the Schools/FET Centres extended to 30 October 2024 for one more year.
- Light Catering Equipment – OGP Framework extended to 26 November 2024.
Multi-Purpose Office Paper for Printing and Photocopying – OGP framework extended to 7 April 2024 for 6 months.
- Supply and Delivery of DIY Artificial Insemination (AI) and/or Applied Practical Animal Ultrasound Scanning training courses to LOETB – contract awarded to 30 October 2024.
- Provision of Training Services in Professional Hoof Trimming to LOETB – contract awarded to 30 October 2024.
- Print & Design – Tender Competition evaluated, waiting on review from OGP.
- Website Tender – Tender Awarded and completed, works commenced.
- Procurement working on Bus and Coach Hire Services and Contract Cleaning.
- Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) – Consultant appointed to engage in Surveys for 12 schools in Laois and Offaly

ICT

- Student account creations and deletions ongoing as per start of new academic year.
- Proof of concept for email scanning solution for schools and centres currently running.

- Ongoing work with Internal Audit Unit and KOSI regarding ICT Audit and baseline standards
- Fit-out of Clonaslee College new rooms has commenced.
- Fit-out of Dunamase College new rooms will commence shortly.
- In final stages of acquiring a cloud-based asset management solution.
- Finalising orders for Reach fund 2023.
- Fit out of additional rooms for Clara FET Centre almost complete.
- Fit out of new electrical apprentice site in Kilcruttin to commence in next 2 weeks.
- Regular maintenance, prevention, and replacement requests on an ongoing basis across schools, centres, and offices.

General

- Reviewing Information Security Management with IAU.
- Working with IPB on sample school Health & Safety review.
- Assisting HR with digitisation project.
- Provision of lean training for middle/senior management.
- Dealing with routine FOI/GDPR requests internally and with schools/centres.
- Compliance review of critical incident procedures in schools/centres.
- Review and preparation of Statements of Internal Control for schools/centres

Joe Cunningham

28 November 2023

Board members requested an update on the progress of Dunamase College and the CE advised that a meeting on the Stage 2A report is due to be held on 30 November 2023.

A board member also sought an update on the progress of Oaklands Community College and CE advised that planning permission was being lodged this week.

12. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The Board extended its sympathy to the following staff on their recent family bereavements:

- Deirdre Larkin – LOETB Birr
- Claire Young – Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara
- Aoife Tierney – Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara
- Nicky Walsh – Portlaoise College
- Victoria Guinan – Coláiste Naomh Cormac
- Breed Hassett – Banagher College
- Gareth Jenkins – Abbeyleix FET Centre
- Maiija Loughran – Admin Offices
- Aisling McAuley – Dunamase College
- Geraldine Dunne - QA Support Services
- Caroline Spollen – Training Services
- Amy Mullally – Portlaoise College
- Helen Kavanagh – Abbeyleix FET Centre
- Jackie Carter - Abbeyleix FET Centre

13. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Board Member Neil Feighery and his wife Áine on the birth of their son Louis.
- Portlaoise College Leaving cert student Zayed Abdelrazak on receiving the Naughton Scholarship award.
- Ballyroan GAA on winning 3-in-a-row Under 20 'A' Football Championships.

14. BOARD EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION

A copy of the effectiveness evaluation questionnaire was circulated to members. Feedback on the outcome of the self-assessment forms will be presented at the January Board Meeting.

15. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2024

A copy of the Schedule of Meetings for 2024 was circulated to members.

16. AOB

The Chairperson attended the ETBI AGM where it was agreed that ETBI will move from being an unincorporated organisation to a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Members thanked the Chairperson, the CE, and all the staff for all their work throughout the year.

17. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Tuesday 23 January at 4.30pm in Banagher College, Banagher, Co Offaly.

Signed: *Evelyn Dunne*
Evelyn Dunne (Jan 25, 2024 23:43 GMT)

Date: 23rd Jan 2024

Chairperson