



loetb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Laoise agus Uíbh Fhailí
Laois and Offaly
Education and Training Board

A meeting of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board was held on Monday 23rd January 2017, in the Tullamore Court Hotel.

PRESENT

Ms. Molly Buckley
Cllr. John Carroll
Ms. Mary Cotter Bracken
Cllr Eamon Dooley
Cllr Sinead Dooley
Cllr Caroline Dwane-Stanley
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick

Ms. Vivienne Keenan
Cllr John King
Ms. Vivienne Keenan
Cllr. Jerry Lodge
Cllr. Sean Maher
Cllr. Paschal McEvoy
Cllr. Mary Sweeney
Mr. Joe Thompson

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive
Ms. Marie Bracken, Director of OSD
Mr. Paul Fields, Director of Schools
Ms. Sadie Aherne, Assistant Principal Officer
Ms. Pam Nolan, Assistant Principal Officer
Ms. Jean Keating, Clerical Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Liam Quinn (Chairperson), Ms. Maura Brophy, Mr. William Flanagan, Ms. Anne Starling sent their apologies.

In the absence of the Chairperson Cllr. Liam Quinn, the vice-chairperson Cllr. Eamon Dooley chaired the meeting.

2. VOTE OF SYMPATHY

Vote of Sympathy

A vote of Sympathy was passed to former member of Laois VEC and Laois and Offaly ETB, Kathleen O'Brien, who recently passed away, RIP.

3. WELCOME

The Vice-Chairperson introduced Mr. Paul Fields, Director of Schools, to members and welcomed him to the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS LOETB MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting which took place on 20th December 2016, were circulated to members. Members approved the minutes and the Vice-Chairperson signed them.

Proposed by: Sinead Dooley

Seconded by: Sean Maher

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. CORRESPONDENCE**Male parent representative to the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB**

A copy of the letter sent to the male parent representative to the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB on the 21st December 2016, was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The letter stated;

- Under 36 (3) of the Education and Training Board Act 2013... “a person shall be taken to have resigned as a member of an education and training board where the person is absent from meetings of the board held during any 6 consecutive month period...”
- If the member wishes to continue as a member of the Board, to please provide a reason for non-attendance as per Section 36 (4) by the 6th January 2017 or the Board will take it that he has resigned his position on the Board.

The CE informed members that he did hear back from the member, therefore he is deemed to no longer be a member of the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB. The CE will revert to the National Parents Council and ask for a nomination of a new male parent representative.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Chief Executive updated members on the following items;

Oaklands Community College, Edenderry

Work is underway on providing additional temporary accommodation for Oaklands Community College. There is limited space where it can be put. Given the space constraints on-site, the accommodation will have to be in place before the students return to school after the summer break.

The CE acknowledged the support from Offaly County Council regarding sourcing a site for a new school building for Oaklands Community College. The CE

received word from the Department of Education and Skills that a new offer can be made to the landowners of a site previously looked at by the DES.

The CE will meet the landowners in the next few days. The Parish Priest in Edenderry informed the CE that the parish field adjoining the current school site is no longer available for consideration.

Tullamore College

The CE informed members that a fire inspection in the new school building for Tullamore College had been carried out and passed. The final inspection from the architect is due to be completed in the coming days and it is hoped that by the end of the week Laois and Offaly ETB should have control of the new school building.

New Post Primary School in Portlaoise

The Director of Schools, Paul Fields, informed members that the interviews for the post of Principal for the new post primary school in Portlaoise will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

There is a press release going out today to inform any potential parents that there will be an information evening on Thursday 16th February 2017.

The new name for the school is 'Dunamase College, Coláiste Dhún Másc'.

A member asked the CE to explain how the new school will operate. The CE said that Laois and Offaly ETB is the Patron of the new school and will be responsible for the day to day management of the school. An Foras Pátrúnachta is a Trustee partner and will ensure that the Aonad will be instructed through Irish. In essence it will be an English medium school with an Aonad.

In September two classes will start in the school – one class will have all subjects through English and the other class will have instruction through Irish.

A member asked if the Laois School of Music and Music Generation Programmes will be moved during the refurbishment of the Portlaoise Youth Education Centre, Railway Street, which will be the temporary accommodation for Dunamase College. The CE confirmed that the work that needs to be carried out can be done during the summer period without interference to either Music Programmes.

The Department of Education and Skills is currently looking at sites for a permanent school building for Dunamase College for which it is planned will cater for 1,000 students.

8. POLICIES FOR ADOPTION

LOETB's Policy on Career Break

A member asked for an amendment to be made to the Career Break Policy to include a section stating:

'That notification will be given to staff 3 weeks prior to the closing date'

The members adopted the policy with the inclusion of the amendment.

Proposed by: Vivienne Keenan
Seconded by: Caroline Dwane Stanley

9. DISPOSAL OF PLANT/MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT AT MOUNT LUCAS

The following resolution was adopted by members;

‘The members of the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB agree to request the Minister for Education and Skills to approve the disposal of the old plant/machinery at Mount Lucas Training Centre in accordance with Section 25.2 of the Code of Governance of Laois and Offaly ETB’.

Proposed by: Eddie Fitzpatrick
Seconded by: John Carroll

10. LEASE OF PLANT/MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT AT MOUNT LUCAS

The following resolution was adopted by members;

‘The members of the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB agree to request the Minister for Education and Skills to approve the lease of new plant/machinery at Mount Lucas Training Centre in accordance with Section 25.2 of the Code of Governance of Laois and Offaly ETB’.

Proposed by: Eddie Fitzpatrick
Seconded by: Sean Maher

11. SECTION 29 APPEAL HEARING

The Vice-Chairman informed members that a Section 29 Appeal Hearing took place on *16th January 2017* against the BOM of Oaklands Community College, Edenderry on the grounds of expulsion.

Outcome of Appeal: The Appeal Board upheld the decision of the BOM of Oaklands Community College

Members noted the outcome of the Appeal.

12. AOB (with permission of the Chairperson)

Letter from Liam Quinn

The Vice-Chairman read a letter to members from Liam Quinn, Chairman of the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB, informing members that he will be stepping down

Chairmans
Initials

Kelvin@200-30576-000

as Chairman of Laois and Offaly ETB at the next meeting, having served his year as Chairman.

The CE confirmed that this will be an agenda item for the next meeting of the Board of Laois and Offaly ETB.

Back to the 80s musical in Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac

Mary Cotter-Bracken invited all members to the 'Back to the 80s' musical in Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac, on the 1st and 2nd February 2017.

13. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT LOETB MEETING

The next meeting of Laois and Offaly ETB will take place on Monday 27th February 2017 at 4.00pm in Clonaslee College.

Signed: Caroline Duane Stanley Date: 28/2/17.

Chairperson

Kellimazoo - 32576.000

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