

Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 13th May 2021

Accredited Grades

Details on the Accredited Grades Process have been published and staff have been given a presentation on this. They are currently working on the process.

Teaching and Learning

The school is currently looking at the focus for teaching and learning next year. At present the teaching and learning group are planning for this. We are looking at an integrated approach looking at perfecting question answering technique in exams using Assessment for Learning techniques. The following are some of the areas we will be looking at:

- Answer Planning
- Exemplar answers
- Rubric
- WAGOLL WABOLL
- Peer and Self Assessment - RAG
- Walking/Talking Mock
- Success Criteria

Advertisement of Third Deputy Principal

The position of Third Deputy Principal was advertised and the closing date for receipt of applications was the 10th May.

Job Interviews and new staff

Interviews have taken place over the past number of weeks for various positions in the school for next year. New teachers have been appointed in the following areas:

- Computers
- Construction Studies
- Home Economics and Religion
- Irish
- PE

In addition, it is expected that there to be one or two further positions to be advertised.

French Assistant

This year the French Department applied for a French Assistant and were lucky enough to get one. This is a person who is paid for by the DES to support the development of the language in the school.

Transfer Applications

The Board considered a number of applications for transfer into the school.

Health and Safety Statement

A draft Health and Safety Statement was provided for the board for its consideration. This document will be finalised for the next meeting in the new year.

Year Planner

The year planners for the coming year for St. Brogan's College and Kinsale College were approved by the Board.

Focus Groups

St. Brogan's College are currently forming and working with a focus group of students and a focus group of parents to discuss the idea of introducing one to one devices for first years in 2022/23.

Incoming First Years

The board was informed that a further presentation for incoming first years and their parents is planned for Thursday 20th May. A number of really hard working transition years have been working all over lockdown to build a Minecraft version of the school that we can use to help students find their way around.

SBC MUN

Congratulations to our Transition years with the support of their teachers who have run their own MUN with second years.

Meihua Cup

Three students won €750 each to spend at a hotel of their choice in Cork. This was based on their work learning Chinese in TY.

Allocation of Posts of Responsibility

A discussion was held on a new circular letter that has been published revising the allocation of Assistant Principals.

Draft plans

Planning permission is now being sought for Phase 1 of the new build.

Build of Four Classrooms

The building of the classrooms is continuing ahead of schedule.

Report from Kinsale College

Inaugural Statutory Review of Cork ETB by QQI

The final phase of this review will take place in June following the submission of Kinsale College self-evaluation report. We have staff members and current and former students participating in panel discussions in June and we look forward to getting the recommendations in September 2021.

New Early Year Course

Childcare 5 and Childcare 6 course are changing with Childcare 5 changing for the coming year. We are currently liaising with QA to put a timetable in place but currently we are short a childcare teacher to deliver the programme and have not been approved to run it due to timetables issues. Teachers in this area will have to do intensive CPD to upskill to deliver the new course. The college is currently putting a permanent childcare room in place with resources and IT equipment that is mandatory for its delivery.

Irish Education Awards

Kinsale college has been nominated for the best Further Education College and Best Student Experience award for the Irish Education Award. The awards Ceremony is on 20th May.

Entrepreneurial Awards

Kinsale College is the only FE college in CETB who have participated this year in the entrepreneurial awards. Some of the projects are outlined below. Previous award winners have gone on to set up their own business in the Cork area and the college is very proud of their achievement.

CPD

Staff are attending weekly training sessions on Moodle with the TEL officer to facilitate remote external and internal verification as part of the QQI assessment process. Staff members are participating on ASD training and attending the Autism conference this month.

Erasmus

The college has applied in the past week for funding for 30 students to partake in Erasmus with the hope of having different groups travelling to Spain, Poland, and Italy in 2022. Also hoping the college will get an additional allocation of positions of responsibility for this to happen.

Green Week

Green week took place in Mid-April with all CETB staff invited to workshops and huge attendances at all the workshops were recorded. The college is working closely with CETB to drive sustainability

within the organisation with a meeting scheduled again tomorrow 14th May. We are hoping to organise a Green conference to celebrate 20 years of the Permaculture course in November 2021.

Kinsale College

Art students from the college are currently preparing the art exhibition and will be showcasing their work outdoors at Kinsale Arts week.

Online teaching

Teachers and students are only permitted to attend the college for essential practical work.

Teachers and departments are working hard to finish courses and get students to certification. This involved modified work experience, modified assignments briefs and plans.

Enrolment

Currently enrolling for September 2021 and it is going very well.

Online Exams

Exams are now completed, and teachers are marking this week and uploading results to the QBS system. Internal Verification will take place next week and External Authentication from Monday 24th May, this will be done remotely and at the college. RAPS meetings will take place with every department from 1st to 4th June inclusive. RAPS meeting this year will be attended by an external QA officer from CETB which is a positive step to support our work at the college.

Student review of the year

The student review of the year was just circulate. Overwhelming positive which is very affirming for all the staff. Staff are also invited to review the year and to suggest changes for the coming year with the view to enhancing our service.

Croke Park Hours 2021

These are shared on teams and have been circulated to staff.

Calendar for academic year 2021-2022

This has been finalised and circulated to all staff.

Thanks to staff.

Liz Moynihan would like to pay tribute to the amazing staff who have done their utmost to keep a positive connection and learning environment for students this past difficulty year. The college ethos of kindness to staff and learners currently is wonderful to see in action and it is amazing to work with such a positive, hardworking group of people.