

## **Newpark Comprehensive School Board of Management Agreed Report for School Community October 2021**

### **Covid-19 response**

The efforts of all stakeholders in the continued safe provision of schooling during the current pandemic is acknowledged. Notifications received by the School in September from the HSE in relation to identified positive cases in the School were forwarded to staff and parents/guardians by the Principal. The School has now received two deliveries of CO<sub>2</sub> monitors from the Department of Education and these monitors are being deployed in classrooms and offices throughout the buildings.

### **Mission statement**

A task group has been formed to collate and summarise feedback from teaching staff in relation to the mission statement review, which was initiated in March 2021. Once a draft mission statement is finalised by the task group, further consultation will take place with students, teachers and parents/guardians.

### **Review of middle leadership and management needs and priorities**

The internal review of the leadership and management needs and priorities to be met by the middle leadership post of responsibility system, as per Circular Letter 0003/2018, is now concluded. The revised list of needs and priorities has been ratified. Competitions for vacant Assistant Principal 1 and Assistant Principal 2 posts of responsibility within the School will now be initiated.

### **Parent/Guardian Teacher meetings**

Parent/Guardian Teacher meetings will proceed during the forthcoming academic year. Until such time as in-person face to face meetings can take place safely and within guidelines, online face to face meetings will take place via Microsoft Teams. The sixth- and third-year Parent Guardian Teacher meetings will be held in November, with other meetings following in December and in the new year, as per the School calendar.

### **School logo**

The revised School logo and crest is to be introduced incrementally over time. The requisite artwork is available to school personnel, as required.

### **French language assistant**

The School is pleased to have been allocated a French language assistant again this year. The collaboration between the Department of Education, Post-Primary Languages Ireland (PPLI) and the School's European Section leading to the success of this scheme is appreciated.

### **The Lunch Box**

'The Lunch Box' service returned on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Numbers of students enrolling for the service have increased each week since then. There are currently 80 students approximately per day signed up to the scheme.

### **Adult Education**

A partial return of adult education either for a shortened term between half term and Christmas or at the start of term two is planned.

### **Extra-Curricular activities**

The incremental and safe return of extra-curricular activities is welcomed. Hockey, rugby and basketball continue apace. Christian Union, LGBTI+, chess club and Green Schools, amongst others, are meeting weekly, either before or during the school day. There is a large group of first year students participating in drama on Fridays after school, under the enthusiastic guidance of fifth year students. Rehearsals for 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' are ongoing, with the location and date(s) for the performance(s) to be decided. Charitable events have included a successful Goal Jersey Day, a Halloween dress up fundraiser for Pieta House (organised by the Cultural Council), a fifth year Lifeskills fundraiser for the Simon Community, and a 'Clothes Swap' for Climate Action Week.

### **Department of Education circular letters noted since the last meeting of the Board:**

CL 47/21 Guidelines for schools on recording and notification of the use of Reduced School days.

[Guidelines for schools on the use of Reduced School days](#)

CL 48/21 Home tuition grant scheme for children without a school place.

[Home tuition grant scheme](#)

CL 49/21 Home tuition grant scheme in respect of maternity related absences.

[Home tuition grant scheme - maternity related absences](#)

CL 53/21 Revision of salaries with effect from 1 October 2021 for clerical officers and caretakers employed in national schools under the 1978/79 scheme and clerical officers employed in post primary schools under the 1978 scheme.

[Revision of salaries for caretakers and clerical officers](#)

CL 54/21 Revision of salaries of school secretaries and school maintenance staff in Community and Comprehensive Schools with effect from 1 October 2021.

[Revision of salaries of school secretaries and maintenance staff cc schools](#)

CL 56/21 Revision of teacher salaries with effect from 1 October 2021.

[Revision of teacher salaries](#)

CL 57/21 Details of the arrangements for accessing the appeal results by both candidates and schools as well as providing important information in relation to the post appeal result services.

[Arrangements for accessing appeal results](#)

**End.**