



## **Spiritan Education Trust**

### **Executive Report**

**April 16th, 2018**

#### **Teachers' working group on Ethos/ Other areas of learning.**

The next meeting of the Teachers Ethos group is at the end of April and the Junior Cycle 'other areas of learning' will be on the agenda for discussion.

#### **Development Education**

Our Showcase event is on April 20<sup>th</sup> and will take place in St. Michael's college. All committee members are welcome to attend. The theme of our day is the integrity of creation as we collaborate with Duquesne University. We have our final planning on April 11<sup>th</sup>. This year will see 140 students participate in the day. Grainne O Neill will facilitate the day.

#### **SET/Spiritan Parish of Bawnogue**

The relationship continues to develop in Bawnogue. Representatives of the Faith Friends programme were present at the confirmation. We will develop a further programme with Talbot Senior National school and St Agnes Junior Primary school.

We have received an expression of interest support from St. Mary's Senior School on this initiative which we will explore over the next while.

#### **SET/Chaplaincy**

We have received written confirmation of two written appointments from the Spiritan province to SET for School Chaplaincy services. Over the next number of months, this office will work towards engaging these appointments and our schools in seeking the best way forward for our schools.

### **ST MICHAEL'S SENIOR 13 03 2018.**

The executive officer attended the BoM meeting of St Michael's. Concerns expressed about SIMS/GDPR were addressed.

The new board, under the chairmanship of a very experienced individual is adhering strictly to best practice in relation to its' role as the management authority of the school.

A response to the recommendations of RBK is overdue but its immediate delivery has been noted in the BoM meeting of February.

### **SET/Chaplaincy reflection day**

We have a reflection day for all involved in chaplaincy on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The input for this day will be given by Mr Sean Goan from the Spiritan Mission Animation Office.

### **1st year retreat day.**

After many cancellations and date changes we have the 1<sup>st</sup> year retreat day for Rockwell students on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Rockwell College.

### **SET Bursaries Programme**

In the forthcoming weeks we will be advertising the SET Bursaries programme for 2018-2019 academic programme. Last year we supported 9 teachers in further education.

### **BLACKROCK COLLEGE 14 03 2018**

The Chairperson and Executive Officer met with the Chairperson, Principal and Financial manager of Blackrock College at their invitation to discuss the

implementation of SIMS. The same concerns as articulated by St Michael's re GDPR were expressed and assurances were given regarding compliance. SET undertook to provide this assurance in writing. Feedback through the Blackrock Chair and Principal after the meeting was very positive.

### **Middle Leaders. 14 03 2018**

The final session was held and there was general satisfaction that all the participants benefited from their increased awareness around the issues of Ethos, Educational Management and Organisational Change.

### **HFCS, Rathcoole**

Several meetings have taken place with the HFCS leadership. The three areas being addressed are

- 1 Appointment of the new BoM
- 2 Appointment of the new Deputy Principal
- 3 New building.

### **Newsletter**

The Easter newsletter was published, distributed and uploaded to our website. It was positively received by all. (on website)

### **Paris Pilgrimage; *in the footsteps of the founders***

In the coming weeks we will be proposing dates for this trip. Our intention is to have another 20 pilgrims from Teachers, Board of Management, Senior Management teams etc... involved.

### **Visitors**

We were very happy to be visited by the Generalate Leadership Team who showed great interest in the work of SET and support for the road we are travelling. This visit is organised from Rome and occurs once every six years.

### **Boards of Management**

Efforts are ongoing to recruit quality people to sit on our school boards. It would be helpful if you know of anyone who may be available that you would bring their names to the attention of the Executive.

### **Finance**

The SET audit for 2017 has been completed and draft financial statements are awaiting approval from the board.

2. RBK have completed the internal audit in Rockwell College. A draft report has been issued and will be considered by the Finance Committee, prior to engaging with Rockwell College Board of Management.

3. All Spiritan schools have been instructed to register with the Charity Regulatory Authority (CRA), Rockwell, Blackrock Campus, St. Michaels Campus have registered, St. Marys Campus is in the process and are awaiting a logon from the CRA. Templeogue College has a new bursar appointed and the registration remains outstanding but is in process.

4. A new Bursar has been appointed to Templeogue College and there is a serious back log in the finance function. The Chair and Executive Officer have engaged with the school Principal in relation to this matter. The 2017 audit file has been passed to the auditors and the financial statements for 2017 are expected.

5. The Congregation has made an interim payment of €80,000; the balance will be paid when St. Marys College bring their licence fee account up to date.

6. PWC have issued their accounting advice on whether group financial statements are appropriate. RBK have been given sight of the advice and are considering the matter.

7. The legal opinion given by Mason Hayes and Curren MHC previously referred to at the March Board meeting needs to be responded to.

8. The Clonkeen College case is presently in the High Court and as it could have wide implications for all school trusts going forward, its outcome is keenly anticipated.

9. All schools have been requested to provide the yearly financial review information in a timely fashion so that the Executive Office and the Secretary can be prepared prior to the meetings with the schools before the May 2018 board meeting.

10. GDPR has raised a number of issues around SIMS. The JMB has advised St. Michaels that a school Board of Management is a data controller. This advice and view may be incompatible with the role of a school Trust and its relationship with school boards of management.

11. PKF have been requested to issue engagement letters for the 2018 audit.

### **Posts of Responsibility Review**

The executive officer conducted a review of the Posts of Responsibility in De la Salle Churchtown as a favour to the Principal. It was well received, and gratitude was expressed to SET for facilitating this exercise.