St. Michael’s House Special School Foxfield

AGREED REPORT ON THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING HELD ON THE 25th January 2024

* This was the first full meeting of the new Board of Management. All members were thanked for their willingness to serve on our Board.
* We are delighted to welcome our new Secretary in Swords and our new caretaker in Kilbarrack.
* The School Plan, Critical Incident Plan and Digital Strategy were identified requiring update.
* The Anti-Bullying Policy and Internet Acceptable Use Policy were ratified by the Board.
* School Self-Evaluation will focus on Academic Development due to various curricular updates. The ASDAN Programme has been approved as our Senior Cycle Curriculum, the New Primary Maths Curriculum will be rolled out in the coming year and Foxfield will be implementing the Education in Human Values programme (EHV).
* The NCSE has been offering a series of 6 training sessions online to staff of all SMH Schools including Foxfield. Kari met with two NCSE Behaviour Practitioners, Nichola Greer and Laura Duffy to give feedback on the sessions. Nichola will visit both Swords and Kilbarrack.
* Recent fundraising events raised €3000 for Foxfield School
* Stacey Stack, a teacher in Swords, is working on updating our website, Foxfieldsmh.ie. Katie O’Byrne, an SNA in Kilbarrack, has started a school Instagram page and there are plans to start a Facebook page. You can find us on Instagram at foxfieldsmh.
* Room 5 in Kilbarrack are planning to start a series of podcasts interviewing staff and others associated with the Foxfield Community.

**Kilbarrack Specific:**

* Kari met with members of the Kilbarrack CDNT on 18 January. There was a productive discussion around how the team can support the Kilbarrack campus given their limited resources and staffing. This may involve clinic type meetings with school staff around particular areas of need such as communication devices, OT equipment, etc.

**Swords Specific:**

* Swords is involved in a Towards Inclusion project with Malahide-Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School (MPETSS). Staff from the two schools have met and a project to integrate students from both schools will be planned. This is a great opportunity for the two schools to work together and share expertise.
* Shane will be doing some training with MPETSS SNAs on 8 February. One of the MPETSS teachers is going to do some training with Foxfield teacher in the L1LP Programme.

**New Building update:**

We are now at design stage. We are waiting on DES approval of the most recently submitted plans.