

**Board of Management Agreed Minutes  
Stratford National School**

Venue	Online via Microsoft Teams		
Date of Meeting	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022		
Minutes taken by	Principal		
Apologies (initials)	YC, AG		
Present (initials)	DM, SC, BB, EW, EN, GO'S		
Time Meeting Opened	7.38pm	Closed	9.10pm

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decisions/Actions</b>	<b>By</b>
Welcome	All welcomed back after summer break.	SC
Minutes	Minutes of June's meeting presented and adopted.	BB SC seconded
Matters arising	No matters arising.	
Principal's Report	Read and discussed. See attached.	SC
Treasurer's Report	Apologies made.	
CPOR	Postponed until in-person	
Review of Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Child Protection</li> <li>- Anti-bullying</li> </ul> The above policies were discussed, ratified, signed by Chairperson	SC  DM
Correspondence	Letters of condolences sent Letters of acknowledgement received Email from SET team requesting membership of ISLA and attendance at conference. Permission and funding for same granted. Message of thanks from BB & GO'B for professional development op. Letter from former Trustees to BOM offering contribution towards education of Jewish students. Gratefully received. Letter from Maccabi offering sports grant. Gratefully received by BOM & Staff.	SC
Date of BOM Training	Week of 7th November 2022 (TBC)	
Date of Next Meeting	Week of 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 (TBC)	

Signed by Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Principal's Report Stratford National School

<b>Date</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
<b>Ethos &amp; Vision</b>	<p><u>DTT</u> New Dublin Talmud Torah committee created on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Congratulations extended to Zohar Hadromi, Sari Hemmendinger, Daniel Miller, Hailey Stein &amp; Helen Wernick on their appointments. New and old members of DTT were invited to school assembly on Friday morning 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept to celebrate Rosh Hashana with students and staff.</p> <p><u>Jewish Studies</u> Nic Aberly of PaJeS will be organising a 'visioning' meeting for Jewish Studies in both the NS &amp; College in November.</p> <p><u>Strategic Plan 2022-2027</u> Strategic Plan forwarded to Patricia Gordon, principal of Stratford College for review. Met with Ms. Gordon &amp; Chairperson of NS BOM to discuss same on 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. Ms. Gordon very happy for the NS to use the prefab owned by DTT on site, but cautioned against extension within the shared green space behind both schools.</p> <p>Principal initiated correspondence with DES to get advice on how to change status of school from 'established' to 'developing school'. Large form to be completed, with associated floor plans and site boundary lines requested. DES very interested in our willingness to open autism classes beginning Sep 2023.</p>
<b>Staff Wellbeing &amp; Voice</b>	<p><u>Meetings</u> All staff – both Jewish Studies and secular teams were welcomed to whole school staff meetings on August 26<sup>th</sup> &amp; September 6<sup>th</sup>. New staff members especially welcomed. Fancy coffees (purchased by principal), pastries, fruit etc (purchased by BOM) for first meeting were appreciated by all. Big life events of staff were noted as part of the agenda at both meetings. Staff social event TBC in October. Staff would like to purchase kosher soup, sambos and treats themselves for next staff meeting in November. Meeting to include behaviour management strategies &amp; discussion of current positive behaviour policy. Wellbeing survey to be sent out to staff in October to inform SSE (School Self-Evaluation). List of staff meeting dates &amp; Croke Park hours/CPD events for 22-23 school year printed and passed to all staff members to support in arranging child-care etc.</p> <p><u>Staffroom</u> Each staff member has their own cubby/space (shelving free on adverts, boxes purchased by BOM) and nice mugs with initials</p>

	<p>(purchased by principal) in staff room. Extra side plates, cutlery, kettle, extension cords with surge protection, smelly candles, chocolate biscuits and teaspoons purchased (by BOM). Extra fridge purchased (through minor works grant) recently. Principal &amp; Chairperson met with architect in school on Sep 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss possibility of extension to staffroom/kitchenette through window. Architect quoted ballpark 100k for extra space including engineering works, fire safety, disability regulations etc. Plan postponed for foreseeable future.</p> <p><u>CPD</u> IT Training for new Promethean boards took place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September after school. Secular &amp; Jewish Studies team members were well-represented in this optional training. More training to follow when all classrooms have new boards. NEPS Psychologist will provide training in strengths-based approaches to working with students in October/November (date TBC).</p>
<p><b>Parents/Caregivers' Wellbeing &amp; Voice</b></p>	<p><u>New Families</u> Conscious that one third of our students are new to the school this year, both Principal &amp; Jewish Studies team made an extra effort to get to know the new families in our community ahead of the start of term. A coffee-morning for all new families was well-attended at school on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August, and a welcoming event for Jewish families on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August in the synagogue was also well-attended. Thanks to Ms Shalev and the Jewish studies team for organising and attending both events. We have had a number of lovely emails from parents thanking us for their welcome to the school community this month.</p> <p><u>PA</u> Parents' Association had their AGM last night, September 28<sup>th</sup> and new committee was set up for the coming year. Ari Dubin is New Chairperson. After-school activities are already lined up for the students to begin soon thanks to all the hard work of parent &amp; DP of Stratford College, Siobhan Reynolds. I have asked PA to consider renaming themselves PCA (Parents &amp; Caregivers Association) to reflect the eagerness of extended family members such as grandparents/step-parents to become involved in the running of the school.</p> <p><u>Uniforms</u> Correspondence from uniform company – request to know if we will be keeping same uniform for next Sept. Query whether one crested item e.g. tracksuit top with crest would be enough with generic uniform pieces available in most stores. It might help with cost of living crisis etc. Have sent query to PA to hear their views on same.</p>

<p><b>Student Wellbeing &amp; Student Voice</b></p>	<p><u>School Guinea Pigs</u> The new school pets have been a great hit with the students, and as emotional support animals have helped to create a calm, quiet and caring school environment. We've had several comments from staff that the school seems much calmer this term. 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Class continue to take turns as playground helpers to the Junior &amp; Senior Infants.</p> <p><u>Student Council &amp; Green Team</u> Students who were interested in becoming members of Student Council or Green Team were asked to present their case to their classmates. Children in each class voted last week. Winning candidates were announced at assembly on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept and first meetings of both committees have been held. Many thanks to Orla Byrne for running Student Council &amp; Gemma O'Byrne for running Green Team as part of their Posts of Responsibility. Thanks to Niall Kelly &amp; Lucy Mitchell for volunteering to help both teachers with these student committees. Goals sought for yard using Student Council funds raised last year.</p> <p><u>After-School Activities</u> Term 1 offerings include Irish Dancing, Basketball, Junior Lego, Junior Art, Senior Lego, Senior Art &amp; Chess. All instructors are garda-vetted and will have an extra garda vetted voluntary parent on stand-by in case of an emergency.</p>
<p><b>Health &amp; Safety</b></p>	<p><u>Security</u> Grant came through for new security doors, alarms and intercom for NS. Work will begin shortly, so some disruptions likely especially as front door will be replaced.</p>
<p><b>Enrolment 22/23</b></p>	<p>Junior Infants: 14 Senior Infants: 11 <u>Class Total: 25</u></p> <p>First Class: 13 Second Class: 13 <u>Class Total: 26</u></p> <p>Third Class: 13 Fourth Class: 14 <u>Class Total: 27</u></p> <p>Fifth Class: 9 Sixth Class: 14 <u>Class Total: 23</u></p> <p>Fifth Class waiting list is empty. All waiting lists J1-6<sup>th</sup> will cease to exist after 30<sup>th</sup> September ahead of next year's</p>

	Enrolment/Admissions Policy. Next year's enrolment window opens soon.
<b>School Self Evaluation</b>	<p>Incidental Inspection</p> <p>Peadar O'Muire arrived on morning of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September with his lunch in a shopping bag, for a surprise inspection. He was lovely with the children and put us all at ease. He visited 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Class, special education provision in our support room and 5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Class. He gave individual feedback on learning strategies, management and paperwork to individual teachers.</p> <p><b>He said the day as a whole was a very positive experience for him, and he observed very good teaching in all settings.</b> In his feedback session with the Leadership team at the end of the day he was satisfied with our approach to Wellbeing in our School Improvement Plan for 2020-2023 with the addition of the Student Council, Green Team and staff-wellbeing at the fore. He is happy with our compliance with Child Protection &amp; Anti-bullying legislation.</p> <p>His visit was very supportive and helpful, and we will be seeking his guidance in an advisory capacity later this term for a half-day visit to help our leadership team in creating a focus for our next round of School Improvement Plan 2023-2026.</p>
<b>Child Protection</b>	CPOR – Report completed and will be signed at next in-person meeting.
<b>Anti-Bullying</b>	Anti-bullying Policy up for review. Playground buddies going well so far this term, supporting the Junior classes especially in adjusting to school yard.
<b>Covid-19</b>	No new guidelines. Covid-19 grant came through recently so guidance may change soon.
<b>Energy-Efficiency</b>	<p><u>SEAI Grant Funding</u></p> <p>Email from Patricia Gordon suggesting we jointly apply for SEAI grant for solar panels later this year, which we're very agreeable to.</p> <p><u>Energy Price Hike</u></p> <p>As energy prices rise in a worrying fashion, we are doing everything possible in the school to reduce costs while still maintaining adequate ventilation in classrooms. Janice O'Byrne, our bursar, has informed us that we are locked into a fixed rate of billing with Electric Ireland until 30/4/2024 - welcome news!</p>
<b>Circulars</b>	All circulars from the department are available on <a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a>