

## **RETNS Board of Management Meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 - Report to the School Community**

**School Development:** The RETNS Development Committee held its first meeting in November. The committee will contribute to the school development plan and has already generated multiple ideas for fundraising. The BoM would like to thank all those who are giving up time and offering skills. There is plenty of scope for others to get involved, so please keep an eye out for communications. These are important initiatives for our school.

**School Finances:** RETNS remains short of funds. An expenses review has generated cost savings in relation to cleaning, insurance and IT. Additional income for the school has been secured through the tax rebate on voluntary contributions. The BoM would like to take this opportunity to thank all those families who pay voluntary contributions, which are essential in funding the proper running of our school.

**Educate Together Second-Level Schools:** The BoM has written to the organising groups and the ET national office in relation to admissions policies for the new ET second-level schools due to open in Firhouse and Dublin South City, in 2018. The award of patronage to ET for these schools requires that they give priority to students in the respective catchment areas. On behalf of RETNS parents we have argued that in cases of oversubscription, priority should be given to students who attend ET primary schools.

**Curriculum:** Work is being undertaken to review and update curriculum plans, to be ratified by the BoM in due course.

**School Policies:** The BoM adopted revised policies in the areas of child protection and Garda vetting. These revisions are necessary responses to regulatory requirements and new rules surrounding vetting. Reviews of other school policies, including Data Protection, the Administration of Medicine, Critical Incident, Employment, Sport and Play policies are underway.

**School Boundary:** The BoM has had discussions with the developer in relation to the houses being built adjacent to the school. The current fence is to be replaced with a wall. The present plan is to construct the new boundary during the summer holidays to avoid disruption, especially to yard time.

**Health and Safety:** A new school safety assessment is being undertaken and will be reviewed early in the New Year.

The BoM also considered some routine matters, which for reasons of confidentiality are not included in this report.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

RETNS Board of Management ([bom@retns.ie](mailto:bom@retns.ie)).