



**MINUTES OF LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD**

**Held in Further Education and Training Centre, Raheen Campus,  
Raheen Business Park, Limerick V94 CV66**

**on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at 4.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chairperson  
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy  
Mr. Michael Cregan  
Cllr. Michael Donegan  
Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald  
Cllr. Liam Galvin  
Ms. Kate Hehir  
Ms. Sheila Hickey  
Cllr. Gabriel Keating  
Cllr. Sarah Kiely  
Cllr. Joe Killeen  
Mr. Sean McMahon  
Cllr. Paul Murphy  
Mr. Mark O'Dea  
Mr. Dónal Ó hAinifein  
Cllr. Elena Secas (Conference Call)  
Cllr. John Sheahan  
Cllr. Brigid Teefy

**In attendance:**

Mr. George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive  
Ms. Shelagh Graham, Director of Organisation Support and Development  
Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh, Director of Schools  
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education & Training  
Ms. Mary Troy, Head of Finance  
Mr. Denis O'Brien, Head of ICT & Corporate Services  
Ms. Aileen O'Sullivan, Recording Secretary, Corporate Services  
Ms. Joanne O'Brien, Recording Secretary, Corporate Services

**Apologies:**

Cllr. Ann Norton  
Ms. Marian Petty  
Mr. Eamon Murphy, Head of Capital and Procurement

## 1. Condolences

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following;

- The Lawlor (Hough) family on the death of Nathan Lawlor (Hough), student at C Trocaire, Rathkeale.
- Ms. Suzanne O'Connor (Thomond Community College) on the death of her father O'Connor.
- Ms. Mary –Teresa Cleary (Shannon Training Centre) on the death of her father, Mr. Tom
- Mr Ronan Lynch (Limerick Training Centre) on the death of his Mother Ms Mary Hanraha
- Ms. Mary Harvey (SNA Ennis CC) on the death of her husband Mr. Kieran Harvey.
- Ms. Caitríona Murphy (Mungret and formerly Castletroy College) on the death of her father Murphy.
- Ms. Teresa Crawford on the Death of her mother in law Brigid McCarthy.

## 2. Declaration of Conflict of Interests

Signed by all Members.

## 3. For Adoption: Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr Keating and seconded by Cllr. Liam Galvin

## 4. Matters arising from Minutes

There were no matters arising

## 5. Correspondence

### Department Correspondence

CL 0053/2019  
28<sup>th</sup> August, 2019

Re: Exemption from the study of Irish – Revising Circular M10/94.

CL 0054/2019  
1<sup>st</sup> September, 2019

Re: leave schemes for registered teachers employed in recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.

CL 0055/2019  
September, 2019

Re: Arrangements for the Implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle with particular reference to school year 2019/20.

CL 0056//2019  
September, 2019

Re: Home Tuition Grant Scheme for children without a school place for reasons other than special educational needs and medical grounds.

CL 0058/2019 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2019	Re: Advice on the use of assessment instruments/tests for Guidance for additional and special educational needs (SEN) in post-primary schools.
CL 0060/2019 18 <sup>th</sup> October, 2019	Re: Sick Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
CL 0061/2019 24 <sup>th</sup> October, 2019	Re: Curriculum-related developments at Senior Cycle with particular reference to school years 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22.
CL 0062/2019 November, 2019	Re: Payment of Tool Allowance to Craft Workers.

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Galvin, seconded by Cllr. John Sheahan, all Circular Letters were adopted.

## **6. Chief Executive's Report**

### **Community National Schools**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board continues to work closely with its reconfigured Community National Schools - Mol an Óige CNS, Ennistymon, and Raheen W Scariff. Both schools are featured on the central portal website for Community National [www.cns.ie](http://www.cns.ie). The Director of Schools will attend the Lifeways annual conference which will take place in Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) on Saturday, 23 November 2019.

### **Post Primary Schools**

#### **Coláiste Iósaef Community College Official Opening**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board marked the official opening of the multi-million euro new school extension at Coláiste Iósaef Community College, Kilmallock on Friday, 8 November. The opening and plaque unveiling was undertaken by Minister of State at the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Patrick O'Donovan TD. The event was attended by the school's students, staff and board of management, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Cllr Michael Sheahan, the Chair of the ETB, Cllr Kieran O'Hanlon, the ETB senior management representatives from the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul community, the project design team, the main contractor, as well as numerous elected representatives and representatives of the wider community.

### **BT Young Scientist 2020**

A total of twelve (12) projects, from Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools, were qualified for the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition at the RDS, Dublin, 8-11 January. A summary of the schools, number of projects and titles of the successful projects are outlined in the table below;

School	Number of Projects	Titles and Teachers of Projects
Castletroy College	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crash Barrier Ambulance</li> <li>2. VAR AI-Efficient Intelligent Decisions</li> <li>3. A Plastic For Our Planet -Toward A Biodegradable</li> <li>4. Bin Buddy - A Smart Sorting Bin</li> </ol>
St. John Bosco Community College	1	Slurry Pit Laser Saves Lives
Desmond College / Gaelcholáiste Uí Chonba	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bernoulli's Principle from "Whooh – Haah"</li> <li>2. iScope - The Design and Development of an Enhanced Digital Stethoscope for Auscultation</li> <li>3. Exercise is the "KEY"</li> </ol>
Mungret Community College	1	To Investigate The Attitudes of Irish Second Level Students Towards Global Catastrophes
Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh	1	Le h-antaibheathach nó gan antaibheathach Cheist
Coláiste Chiaráin	2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comestibles</li> <li>2. App to identify poisonous mushrooms and plants</li> </ol>
Hazelwood College, Dromcollogher	1	<p>Category: Social and Behavioural Sciences.</p> <p>Project Title: Take your tent home - An approach at reducing waste generated by festivals</p>

### Desmond College Past Pupil chosen as Ireland's Youth Ambassador

Jack O'Connor, a past pupil from Desmond College, was selected as one of Ireland's two Youth Ambassadors and addressed the United Nations Assembly in New York on 23 October 2019. He addressed issues on climate change, youth employment and mental health issues.

### Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh features in Twitter Handbook for Education

To mark the beginning of UNESCO's Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2019, Twitter Ireland launched a new handbook for educators, entitled Teaching and Learning with Twitter. Lim Clare Education and Training Board is delighted that the handbook features a Case Study on one of its post-primary schools – Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh.

This easy-to-read, informative and fun handbook aims to help educators equip younger generations with media literacy skills, in turn enabling them to ask the right questions about content they encounter online, and critically analyse news and information they engage with on the service.

The resource is relevant to Irish post-primary schools, particularly those who offer the new course for Junior Cycle – Digital Media Literacy (DML)

communicate with each other and the wider world. Young people actively manipulate digital media to express themselves online.

The resource contains best practice guidelines on media literacy from UNESCO, and also a list curated by UNESCO's programme specialists, which is intended to guide educators and current teaching literature on this topic. It will be initially translated into 9 different languages including English, French, Spanish, German, Portuguese, Arabic, Japanese, Swedish, and future plans to translate it for other countries.

## **Castletroy College win big at Pakman National Awards 2019**

Castletroy College won two categories at the national Pakman Awards held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Dublin on 24 October 2019.

The first award was in the 'Environmental Education and Awareness Initiative' category sponsored by the Department of Communication, Climate Action and the Environment. The other was the 'Battery Champion' award sponsored by the European Recycling Platform in recognition of the work done on an innovative cross-curricular project called 'eMining@school'.

E-Mining@School is a teacher-led initiative that developed high quality educational materials to raise awareness and engage students in the area of sustainability in the use of electronics, specifically the smartphone. This cross-curricular collaborative planning project explored the theme of sustainability in the use of electronics in five Junior Cycle subject specifications.

The cross-curricular unit of work was delivered by a wider team of 24 teachers to a cohort of 100 year 9 students over a four-week period. The lessons were complimented by a series of invited speakers, each an expert in one area of the project. The E-Mining@School project culminated in a WEEE collection event that recovered over 11 tonnes of WEEE that was sent for recycling. This facilitated students to 'take action' and play an active role in this initiative.

Castletroy College collaborated with a team at the University of Limerick (UL) to ensure that cutting-edge expert knowledge in the area of Critical Raw Materials was available to the team. This collaboration was funded by EIT KIC Raw Materials (an EU funded institute); a collaborative 'Learning & Education' project in the area of sustainability. Five European schools competed over a period of 12 months to design an educational initiative to raise awareness and engage students in the subject area.

The Castletroy College eMining@School project was deemed the overall European winner. A team of two teachers and seven students will travel to Brussels later this month to present the project at a Critical Raw Materials conference.

## **Bridge to Employment**

Bridge to Employment (BTE) is a three-year programme sponsored by Johnson & Johnson Limerick that will give 50 students, 25 each from Thomond Community College & Ard Scoil, real-world experiences, allowing them to explore potential careers, prepare for college and discover how learning is relevant to their future. Over the three years of this project students are given the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities including, site visits to J&J Vision Care for students and parents, tailored visits to 3rd level campuses for students, teachers and parents, work experience placements at J&J Vision Care, mentoring sessions from J&J staff, Wellbeing sessions, Junior Achievement 'Career Success' programme, Study skills seminars, team building activities and outings. The 25 TY students from Thomond Community College are delighted to be involved and are looking forward to engaging with the programme.

Microsoft Ireland in association with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board organised a two-day event for its students and teachers to experience the Microsoft DreamSpace roads and 23 October in ActionPoint Academy located in the National Technology Park in Limerick

DreamSpace is an immersive, STEAM education hub that is located in Microsoft's HQ. DreamSpace has welcomed 17,500 students since April 2018 and it supports student immersive teaching and learning experiences, inspiring students and teachers to see how technology can enhance education in exciting new ways, helping them to realise the full potential of what they can achieve.

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and Microsoft facilitated an evening seminar on Tuesday, 22 October specifically for teachers to receive training on STEAM, computation and coding and its ever increasing importance in education.

### **Training and Supports for post-primary schools**

Support seminars and training have been provided to post-primary personnel in the following

- YearHead training
- Digital Clusters training and community of best-practice Day 1
- Student Support Team Coordinators Cluster Day 2 meeting
- Meeting of Digital Learning Working Group
- Allocations Seminar for school principals
- Section 29 Appeals meeting for school principals
- Leading Inclusive Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LILTA) Cluster Day 1

### **Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP)**

Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP) is a pilot initiative under the Creative Ireland Project. The Creative Youth Plan to expand cultural and creative creativity at a regional level, with €300,000 divided equally between the three ETBs of Limerick and Clare, Kerry and Laois/Offaly.

A meeting of the members of the original steering group, the coordinator, Ms. Monica Speer, Director of Schools took place on 22 October 2019. Limerick and Clare Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP) Steering Group reports to Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and the Department of Education and Skills and Creative Ireland in the design and delivery of a Creative Youth programme for the region.

The LCYP programme is funded by Creative Ireland and is drawn down by LCETB through the Department of Education and Skills.

### **Section 29 Appeal**

A Section 29 Appeal regarding a permanent exclusion of a student was received. This permanent exclusion was upheld by a Section 29 Appeals Committee.

## **FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD**

### ***FULL-TIME PROVISION - VTOS***

FET Centre, Kilmallock Road Campus

- Active Inclusion Support Worker appointed to liaise with local communities and employers.
- New courses added e.g. Contact Centre Operations, Maintenance Skills and Engineering Skills

- Graduation, attended by Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. Michael Sheahan, was held on October 24
- The ERASMUS+ RISE project welcomed partners from six different countries (Greece, Germany, Romania, Belgium, and Austria).

### **FET Centre, Kilmallock Town Campus**

- Graduation was held on October 9<sup>th</sup>

### **FET Centre, Scariff Campus**

- Former VTOS learners who are now studying at Limerick School of Art and Design facilitate their facilities with VTOS learners.

### **FET Centre, Shanagolden Campus**

- Graduation held on Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Full-Time Provision - Youthreach***

#### **FET Centre, Kilmallock Road Campus**

- 7 Learners who completed LCA have either progressed to further education or employment.
- A pilot Well-Being Programme has commenced .

#### **FET Centre, Clonroad Campus**

- Successful amalgamation of 'Ennis Youthreach' and 'South Clare Youthreach' as 'Youthreach Provision'.
- Significant expansion to facilities including a science laboratory, training kitchen, training Beauty salon, technology room and new computer rooms.

#### **FET Centre, Hospital Campus**

- A new QQI Level 3 Employability Skills programme has been approved.
- On September 13<sup>th</sup>, the Hospital Arts Festival hosted a reception for the Mayor and Town Council of Hospital de Orbigo, Leon, Spain. It is hoped that a delegation from Hospital will visit Hc Orbigo with a view to twinning in the future.

#### **FET Centre, Kilrush Campus**

- Youthreach Co-ordinator has been invited onto the Kilrush Project Committee.

#### **FET Centre, O'Connell Avenue Campus**

- Last year's LCA2 and 6<sup>th</sup> years have either progressed to further education, employment or apprenticeships.

#### **FET Centre, Shanagolden Campus**

- QQI Level 3 Employability Skills programme has been developed and submitted for QA validation
- Newcastlewest Credit Union representatives came to Shanagolden Youthreach and outline how learners can apply for loans to support their progression onto further education.

- Facilities have been upgraded to facilitate the delivery of the QQI accredited Level 4 Major Creative Media Technology.

### ***PART-TIME PROVISION - CORE SKILLS***

#### **FET Centre, Clonroad Campus**

- Core Skills Clare, Skills to Advance and Skills for Work are working with EI and MNC companies, encouraging staff to reskill and upskill.
- An event for parents 'Settling into Second Level' was hosted in Ennis Community College.
- Kilrush Maritime programme course developer and learners presented a currach built as programme to Kilrush Currach Club.

### ***Part-Time Provision – Prison Education***

- Increased provision for those on "protection wings" and greater access for the female inmate main school.
- An Art Exhibition featuring work from prison art room is currently open in the Hunt Museum.
- 2 Ceramics Projects currently underway for Irish Heart Foundation.
- A number of "Buddy Benches" have been completed in the Woodwork shop and donated to schools and charities.
- Learners donated hand crafted/knitted blankets to the Neo-natal Unit, Limerick, and others within the region, including the Hospice.
- Limerick Prison will celebrate a major award this month when it becomes the first prison in the country to receive TUSLA's Award of "Investing in Children".
- The Education Unit is part of a multi-disciplinary team in the prison charged with piloting a programme entitled "Through the eyes of a child", which will be a follow up to the TUSLA Award.
- Attended Irish Prison Service Briefing in Midlands Prison Education Unit on November 8th. Irish Prison Service/ETBI – Prison Education strategy was launched at the event.

### ***Support Services – Active Inclusion***

- Active Inclusion Support Service was successful in obtaining a grant of €251,750.00 from the Department of Justice and Equality EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. The service is designed to support migrant's participation in their local communities and local economic life through the acquisition of language skills and educational guidance.

### ***Support Services – Enterprise Engagement***

- Apprenticeship Showcase held in the South Court Hotel on October 16<sup>th</sup> with 2500 in attendance.
- Attended official briefing on the closure of Molex and presentation given to Molex management by LCETB FEY opportunities for upskilling and reskilling.
- Skills to Advance - a number of initiatives are taking place across industries, including efforts from Dell, Shaws, EI Electronics, Zest, Microchip Technology, Ennis, Bodyshop, Blue Bird, Bright, Childcare Crèches.
- Hosted Oslo City Council (Adult Education and Labour Welfare Offices) on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The event involved a sharing of information between the Norwegian agencies and Irish agencies on enterprise and labour market innovations.
- A construction briefing will be made to Limerick County Council on November 18<sup>th</sup> regarding infrastructure projects in 2020.
- Continued involvement in Limerick4Engineering (Showcase is scheduled for March 2020 in the Airport), Limerick for Film, and Limerick for IT.
- LCETB chairs the Limerick Learning City UNECSO - The Deputy Lord Mayor of Limerick attended the "Inclusion – A principle for lifelong learning and sustainable cities" conference.



Entrepreneurship Cluster.

## **7. For Appointment – Nominees Boards of Management**

Following discussion the following nominees were unanimously adopted for appointment to various Boards of Management (see attached report)

## **8. Finance Report**

The Head of Finance presented the Financial Report and on the proposal of Cllr. John Keating, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating, the Financial Report was adopted.

The Finance Officer advised the Board that training on the Travel and Subsistence available to all members.

## **9. For adoption, Board of Management Minutes**

- i. St. John Bosco Community College, Kildysart
- ii. Mungret Community College
- iii. Ennistymon Vocational School
- iv. St. Anne's Community College, Killaloe
- v. Colaiste Iosaef, Kilmallock
- vi. Colaiste Chiarain, Croom
- vii. Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh
- viii. St. Joseph's Community College, Kilkee
- ix. Castletroy College
- x. Colaiste na Trocaire, Rathkeale

On the proposal of Cllr. John Sheahan, seconded by Mr. Dónal Ó hAinifein the Board of Management Minutes were adopted.

## **10. For Approval: Lease – Newcastlewest**

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Galvin, seconded by Cllr. John Sheahan, the lease for Newcastlewest was approved.

## **11. AOB with the permission of the Chairperson**

Cllr. Liam Galvin expressed concern about the lack of communication between TUSLA and the Board of Management of Schools regarding cases. He asked that a letter be sent to TUSLA regarding the Board's concerns.

Cllr. Michael Donegan thanked ETB staff, the Principal and students on the successful opening of Kilmallock school extension.

Cllr. Bridget Teefy also expressed her thanks.

The Director of OSD informed the Board that Interview Board Training will take place, ideal for Christmas. Board members were asked to express their interest in undertaking this training.

Cllr. Elena Secas congratulated Desmond College on their achievements.

works.

The Board were informed that Yvonne Collins, a student at St. Michael's Community College, received an award from the Association of Home Economics Teachers for achieving first in Ireland in Leaving Certificate Home Economics. She is the fourth student to achieve this at the school. The Board congratulated Ms. Kate Hehir, Teacher and Board Member, for her achievement.

## 12. Confirm date of next meeting

Next meeting was confirmed for 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 in Further Education and Training Centre, Raheen Campus, Raheen Business Park, Limerick V94 CV66.

**George O'Callaghan**  
Chief Executive.

Signed By Chairperson:   
Kieran O'Hanlon 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019