REPORT AND RECORD OF MEETINGS WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL/DEPUTY PRINCIPAL:

In Attendance: Principal and Deputy Principal

Management Overview:

Change from Voluntary School perspective to ETB.

Change from RC to Christian ethos.

What has Worked Less-Well/Negatives:

Changes in pastoral care needed.

Contrasts between Traditional and Modern School:

For the more Senior Students the experience is different than before - the Sisters knew their families over the generations. However, from a welfare perspective, the approach currently is student-centred and staff are very supportive.

Second Meeting with Principal and Deputy-Principal:

School Mass: Community involved.

Links to Community: Trying to actively engage with community through school mass, choir, carol service. Links to primary schools and inter-generational activities with parents/grand-parents.

Change Management Issues:

Ethos much the same – school quite religious. X2

Relations between teachers and principal

Pastoral care important in the past – less so now. X2. School should build on knowledge of families

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:

In Attendance: 2 Parents Representative, 2 ETB Representative, 1 Trustee Representative;

Met with Board Chair independently as she was not available for Group meeting.

Non – Attendees: One staff member on maternity leave; one staff member elected to avail of individual meetings scheduled for staff.

What has Worked Less-Well/Negatives

Told that 'Christian ethos' would continue but no Mass scheduled for January 6. The school was never open before on this date but there was no communication on the issue.

TRUSTEES:

In Attendance: 2 Sisters and 1 former Acting Principal.

Letter from Sr. Mary Brigid McGuinness thanking ETB for invitation to be involved in Review process and complimenting MSLETB on taking this initiative. She sees herself as too far removed from the everyday running of the school to be in a position to offer an informed opinion on the topics covered by the Review brief. Sr. Mary Brigid wished the Review well and stated she would be very interested in the findings.

The Trustees stated not having day-to-day involvement in the school, their views were based on anecdotal commentary that others had shared with them.

Secretary:

In the past there was an open door policy among the nuns for parents.