
MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SECOND MEETING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2022, COMMENCING 1200

PRESENT: Prof M Ó Néill, Committee Chair
Mr P Canavan
Mrs J McKeever
Mr P Thompson
Ms V Toland

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr C O’Mullan, Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards
Mr P McKeown (Interim Principal to 26 September 2022)
Mrs É Doherty, Secretary to the Governing Body

62.1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Committee Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr L Murphy, Principal & CE.

62.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS/DECLARATIONS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no conflict of interest declarations or any declarations of any other business.

62.3 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 JUNE 2022**➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS**

Paper EC 62.3 Draft Education Committee Minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2022

The Draft Minutes were taken as read and agreed were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

PROPOSED, Mr P Canavan

SECONDED, Mrs J McKeever

62.3.1 MATTERS ARISING – 1 June 2022 Committee Meeting

61.50 The Governing Body approved the proposed FE and HE courses to be offered in 2022/23 at their meeting held on 28 June 2022.

61.9 The Governing Body approved that Ms V Toland serve on the Education Committee at their meeting held on 28 June 2022. The Committee Chair welcomed Ms V Toland to her first Committee meeting.

The Committee Chair then invited Dr C O’Mullan, Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards to present the Education Management Report.

62.4 MANAGEMENT REPORT – Dr C O’Mullan, Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards

➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS

PAPER EC 62.4 Management Report

The Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards outlined the rationale for calling the Special Education Committee. It was considered it would be useful to report on the current enrolment position and to close off the reporting of the previous academic year 2021/22 prior to the full Governing Body meeting. The new data system and focus on data management can provide data earlier than in previous years therefore it was timely to meet.

The Management Report (EC 62.4) noted an overview of student activities and achievements for 2021/22. Full-time FE enrolments decreased by 15.7% from 2,146 to 1809. Full time HE (MaSN) enrolments decreased by 17.5% from 514-424. Part-time FE enrolments (exc Essential Skills) increased by 30.7% from 5,638 to 7,367. Part-time HE enrolments achieved 99.4% of target with 674 enrolments against a target of 678.

Enrolments on programmes as College Connect and the Prince’s Trust exceeded their target of 85 enrolments to achieve 95 enrolments. Recruitment in the Apprenticeships (APPNI) for 2021/22 were positive, exceeding targets.

The Draft CDP 2022/23 was presented to the Department (DfE). The final Draft of the CDP and revised planned activity is to be submitted by 28 September 2022. This will progress to the Governing Body for approval.

Whole College KPIs for Retention, Achievement and Success rates have been set for 2022/23 at 90%, 89% and 80% respectively. In September 2022 an e-Individual Learning Plan (e-ILP) was introduced and implemented in all full-time, FE Level 2 and Level 3 courses for improved student support.

In respect to the enrolments for 2022/23, full-time student enrolments in both FE and HE has been challenging across the Sector. Enrolments can be presented as enrolment vs target for the present academic year as well as enrolment vs actual compared to the last academic year; both are of value in reviewing enrolment trends. FE full-time enrolments for Sept 2021 were 1493 against 1448 enrolments for Sept 2022, 97% of last year’s actual. HE full-time enrolments for Sept 2021 was 343 against a target of 483 for 2022/23, 71% on the 2022/23 target. As a result of the lower than expected enrolment numbers a number of HE and FE full time courses have been withdrawn. The students involved were directed to the Careers Academy for advice and information and redirected to other course options.

An update followed on the Traineeship enrolment and progression for 2022/23 together with the ApprenticeshipNI, the College hopes to attain approximately 510 Apprenticeship enrolments, 82% on target.

Following on the Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards reported that a two year Self-Evaluation Report 2020/22 and a two year Quality Improvement Report (QIP) 2022/24 will be submitted to the Department (DfE). An interim Report is due in December 2023. Following an analysis for the present enrolment picture and outcomes for 2021/22 an action plan is currently being drafted. A number of actions including the College focus on maximising part- time enrolments for 2022/23 and reviewing curriculum planning to revise the curriculum portfolio for 2023/24 were noted.

At this juncture members asked questions and sought clarifications on the reported issues.

The Staff Governor, Ms V Toland reported that following the impacts of the COVID pandemic the College Curriculum teams are being responsive in reviewing and planning of future curriculum provision.

In concluding, the Director of Curriculum & Academic Standards provided detail to several sector strategic developments with an invite to Governors to attend the forthcoming conference at ATU on 7 October 2022.

62.5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business to report.

That being the end of business the Committee Chair thanked everyone and the meeting ended at 1300 .

Date of Next Meeting – 18 October 2022

Signed



Prof M Ó Néill, Committee Chair

Date 29 November 2022