

**ST. FLANNAN'S COLLEGE
BOM SPECIAL MEETING
AGREED REPORT**



<i>Date and Time of Meeting</i>	Thursday July 1st 2021 at 7.00pm
<i>Present</i>	Mr Leonard Cleary (Chairperson), Fr Ignatius McCormack (Secretary), Mr Pat Whymys, , Ms Mary Corbett, Ms Elaine McGrath, Mr Christy O'Connor, Ms Mary Keane, Mr James Delaney
<i>Apologies from</i>	Dr Denise Cox, Tracey O'Donohue (Minutes Secretary)

The meeting opened with a prayer from Fr McCormack.

The Chairman welcomed the Board.

1. Unified Application Process.

The meeting was called to meet with Mr Eamon Stack, whom the Patrons of the four Secondary Schools in Ennis have appointed to facilitate a unified applications process for the admission of students to 1st Year. The BOM had considered section 9 of the report which Mr Stack had prepared for the Patrons.

Fr McCormack outlined that he had sought legal advice through the good auspices of the JMB. The advice informed the Board that it would not be possible to insist that an applicant rank the schools 1-5. To do so would effectively be asking a parent/guardian to apply to a school that they may not want to send their child to. Mr Stack is proposing that, if all choices for schools in Ennis are not filled out, then the form be returned to the applicant. If the applicant still refuses to fill out all the schools in order of preference, then that applicant, according to Mr Stack, should be treated differently. Fr McCormack pointed out that it would not be possible to do so, as that approach would be in breach of our Admissions Policy and the Admissions to Schools Bill 2018

Various BOM members also expressed the view that the proposed Unified Admissions Process did not deal with the bigger issue, which is a lack of capacity in Ennis secondary schools, which will endure for at least the next three years.

This part of the meeting concluded after Mr Stack left with Fr McCormack, agreeing to interact with the Patrons, before the next meeting between the Patrons and Mr Stack, to express the view of the St Flannan's College BOM on this matter.

2. Appeal to the Board regarding a refusal to enrol a student in 2nd Year. (There are currently no places available in 2nd Year).

The Board reviewed the appeal and decided that there were no grounds for appeal.

AOB

None.