

Kearnan College AGM 2021 – Chairperson Report

- Welcome to our first meeting of 2022 in order to wrap up 2021. Having being Chairperson for nearly two years I find myself to realize as much as I have learnt, this is barely the tip of the iceberg for all that lays before us. There has been considerable change of our role from Board Members to Advisory Council and all that entails. We find ourselves once again in uncharted waters with all that is before us in 2022 with COVID on our doorstep. As for myself most seats of our advisory council are relatively new to our role and what interesting times we have seen. I would like to thank all of you for your amazing contributions during this time. The support our Advisory Council is absolutely amazing.
- At the beginning of 2020 we welcomed Carol in a interim position like a breath of fresh air with new perspective and I think we have certainly benefited from all that Carol has brought to our school, with to many attributes to list. She has turned our school around in the most troublesome times, she really is amazing. Now we enter what could be her last year, how I hope this is not so.
- After a period of transition our school has entered a period stability of which I know we are all grateful for. Without stability one cannot grow and I see us on our current trajectory with growth in our future. This is exactly what we had hoped for and we all know that this was only achieved by the leadership of Carol and the support of the Kearnan College community, the staff, the students and the parents. I have never seen such confidence in our school and it really is heartwarming. What fantastic foundations we have in place to take us forward in to what I now feel is a promising future.
- During this stabilizing period we have held our student numbers well and I feel that we have many thanks owed to Carol on this factor. She works tirelessly on recruiting new students and retaining our existing students. How she finds enough hours in the day I never know. I expect that from our continued stabilizing period that it will be inevitable to see further growth in the future.
- 2021 is the first year I had to really experience Kearnan College in a relatively normal phase and I am so impressed with how our entire staff, students and parents represent Kearnan College. Watching all the children and parents partake in numerous school activities and the community surrounding all, such activity has been wonderful to observe. I hope that we are rescheduling school events in the near future.

- Leman Street development is still very much on our agenda for the future, however many development aspects have taken precedent and with good reason. We have a fantastic development plan in place, but as with all good things they take time. I think the entire community will be greatly impressed on completion of these works. Very exciting times ahead in regards to infrastructure development.
- During these unorthodox times we have seen the new uniform come in to effect this year and I have to say, what a refreshing look. I have heard many great comments in regards to the uniform change, I am not yet sure who was most excited the parents or the students.
- Talking with different students in the lead up to exams for 2021 I was impressed with the quiet confidence held and I deem this as a credit to our educators for preparing them so well. Our senior students have worked their way through uncertain times and it is wonderful to see them all eagerly venture forward into a very bright and promising future. Some wonderful academic and other achievements have been accomplished for 2021 which makes us all so proud.
- At the end of 2022 we said farewell some amazing staff members, some permanently and some just momentarily. This is always a nervous time for all as change does not come naturally, however from my perspective the change has been effortless thanks to the wonderful attributes of those filling the roles. We are very fortunate to continue forward with such amazing staff, who are an absolute credit to the school.
- Our P & F appear to be growing and strengthening every year and it is wonderful to see such a proactive collection of people working together. I hope as they venture forward they can continue to provide the students with additional support to help our students achieve that further level of excellence. They hold an important role to help in areas that would otherwise be held over. I look forward to seeing what they attributes they contribute in the future.
- As I mentioned above we are facing a new era of COVID for our school, however I do feel that our children are in the best possible hands. Kearnan College paved the way through previous COVID times of 2020 and it was refreshing to have a relatively normal 2021. I know we all appreciated our inclusion back in the class rooms, most likely more than ever as it was noticeably a privilege to be on school grounds and attending school events. What a lovely reprieve we did get to experience for 2021. I am grateful for 2021 as I don't foresee 2022 to offer such fruits. I do however hold confidence that we are under the best guidance with Carol and all Kearnan College staff as I feel that we are far ahead in working with COVID when it comes to keeping students safe and the implementation of school drop off and pick up from our cars is a great demonstration of this. Within hours of receiving the notice, protocol was in place

and with in less than 24 hours all in full operation and running very smoothly. I further more have every confidence in our schools leading online education should this result in 2022, as we have seen the fantastic effort and results when previously implemented. We are so fortunate to have such amazing pastoral care which is such a key component that I feel would be missed with many others.

- A special tanks to Fr. Edwin and the Parish, he strong underlying Catholic Ethos is the most amazing foundation for our children and they are better equipped for this ever changing world. In trying times this has bought such comfort to many.
- Further special thanks to Kim Brotherton, working through the ever changing finance and audit requirements, not to mention some tough budgeting – we are all aware of how lucky we are to have such excellent support with all this.
- Finally many thanks to my fellow board members, all the school volunteers, parents, guardians, teachers and other staff members. Our school has such strength in our family like community that pulls together in tough times and always looks out for one another. We all make the school what it is, every little element contributes to the success that we achieve and celebrate. Our school not only succeeds academically but also in so many other fields of sports, art and more. We have the pure delight in seeing our wonderful student excel in life itself as bright, educated, caring beings, qualities that are well noticed by all accounts. Our foundations are strong and you build upon this in such an amazing manner, you should all be very proud of your selves. Carol our leader, who has quite literally lead us through the most uncertain times, we thank you for shining the light so we can follow. Many thanks also to your husband for sharing you so selflessly. We do hope most selflessly to keep you with us for further years, you have achieved so much and we really are so very thankful. You really are an extraordinary lady and we cannot thank you enough.



Signed

Dianna Western

10th of February 2022