

St Louis Community School Parents Association Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday May 3rd 2017 at 7:30pm

Members Present:

Ms Finola Lyons (Vice Principal), Mr Cahil Doherty (Principal), Liz Devaney, Margaret Flynn-Griffin, John Mc Donagh

Apologies:

Benoit Lusson, Lorna Elms, Annemarie Farnhill, Gayle Commons. Tracey Byrne, Noreen Henry

Previous Committee Meeting Minutes from 9th February 2017:

Copies of the minutes from previous committee meeting were available to all members, who read and agreed that these minutes were a true reflection of the contents, from that meeting. Clarification was made to reflect that Mr Doherty had not attended the meeting on 17/1/17.

Principal's Report:

The Development Program is underway and a full hairdressing salon for the PLC section is nearly completed. Access to be sorted in Application for Planning Permission and queries raised - was due April 19th, now delayed. There is very Positive work on-going under direction of Ms Suzi Ottewell who is the link with the Contractors.

There are to be curriculum changes in accordance with the Department of Education direction. These will commence in September 2017. The Department recommends that no class should be less than forty minutes.

The School has opted for a sixty minute class time. There will be three –two hour slots. It will mean fewer books to carry for the students and less disruption in corridors during a school day. The overall feedback has been very positive from schools who have implemented this around the country.

School will start at 9am (as present) and finish at 4pm Monday to Thursday. On Friday School will close at 1.20 pm. The School buses will accommodate this change and continue to transport students to/from School. There will be implications for the canteen. But it is hoped this will be a success and will allow more time for Active Teaching Methods.

The School is continuing to try to get Wi-Fi, attempts being made for many years. If possible fundraising to commence before end May. Tickets for lines /raffle suggested. Each child to try to get ten euro. There is a camera as a prize. Sean Julian (Canteen) suggested a free lunch each day between September and Christmas as a prize.

Matters Arising: Fundraising

The Principal suggested if the fundraising initiative come from the PA.

After discussion, it was decided that it would be better coming direct from the School as the School would have “more clout” than the PA. Suggestions as to printers of the cards were made: Mary Mc Nicholas and Berry’s Westport. Mr Doherty will get the School to look into this.

Noreen Henry was not present to report on the Fundraising committee.

The TY Show

The matter of the TY show was raised. There is no venue and no teacher for the show so it will not be offered to students TY 2017.

Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurers Report is not available per John McDonagh. He stated that the Bank Account names have been changed. There is E249.00 (two hundred and forty-nine euros) in the Bank Account.

All Other Business

The minutes of the talk given by Patricia Reilly of NACPP are on the School website, together with all current Parents Association items.

John McDonagh suggested that the minutes of the meetings, once agreed, be glued into a folder/book. Liz agreed going forward this is what would happen.

It was agreed that any new Committee sub-groups would not be necessary, especially at this time.

It was noted that an Affiliation fee of E520 (five hundred and twenty euros) for Membership to NPCpp was paid by the school. This cost couldn’t be borne by the PA and the Chair thanked the School for paying it.

There was a mass for Catholic School Week (1 February 2017) in Ballaghaderreen which Liz Devaney attended on behalf of the PA.

Unfortunately there was nobody available to represent the School at the PACCS Conference (1 April 2017).

It was noted and witnessed that E21.50 (twenty-one euros and fifty cent) was handed to the Vice-Treasurer from the Chair – being funds received from donations from refreshments provided by PA at P&T Open evenings during the year. The Chair explained the School paid for the New Entrants Open night refreshments while she donated to the other P&T evenings due the unavailability to funds being available from the PA funds.

Date of next meeting to be decided – once School re-opens in September 2017.

Meeting Concluded.