

St Mac Dara's Community College Parents Association AGM 12.11.24

Time 19.30

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Parents Association members in attendance

School represented by Principal Ms Gibson

37 people online at the maximum.

Welcome from Chairperson to all who were in attendance

Head Boy and Head Girl were introduced and both spoke to thank the association, highlighting the work in the school, success of the musical, plan for musical involving whole school in 2025.

Update from Chairperson

- Introduction given to all committee members in attendance
- Sarah explained what the association is and welcomes the new members and also the events group which was started in 2023 of parents who support the various events during the year.
- BOM elections mentioned and policy reviews
- VShare app and also the Feb Table quiz and welcome the support of parents with this.
- Clocks for the school and also the changes to the school environment that the parents association are supporting.

Secretary's report

The minutes from the previous AGM in 2023 was sent to all parents in advance of the meeting via email from the school.

Treasurer's Report

The report was shared with parents via email from the school.

Colin went through each of the items and explained the various outgoing for the year with a large part of spending on the 6th year graduation. Highlighted the need to spend money and that the paint, clocks and if anybody has other ideas to also let the association know.

Principal's report

Ms Gibson spoke- wished Derek Ward good wishes in his retirement and all other teachers who retired in May 2024.

5 new teachers, PME teachers, school remains oversubscribed and waiting list in place.

Lots of trips for TY – Carlingford, Paris, Street Art and acknowledged Barry Andrews sponsored trip also.

Prefects and 5th year mentors to support junior students.

1st year challenges with book scheme are being addressed for next year.

Student council working well and supporting the parents' association with ideas.

TY -sustainability wards

Subject inspections- Maths went well.

Autism friendly school flag.

Self evaluation- students journal now has a section for self -reflection and parents are encouraged to review this.

Civic theatre trip for 5th year for study skills.

Questions from the audience

Q- waiting list if you 168 on the list

A: you are 168 on the list

Q2 - Motions received – in relation to the bus shelter and this is outside of the remit of the school but parents themselves can petition Dublin Bus in relation to the requirement for a shelter at stop 4578. –A: action parents can contact local councillor

Parents parking in the bus parking area is also not the responsibility of the school and encourage parents to not park in non-designated car parking areas but cannot manage it outside of the school grounds.

Q3- Vacancies-

A: no vacancies and interview for last remaining post next week. Sometimes the student will have no teacher if the teacher is gone with another year group.

Q4- School Insurance

- A: Need to put up on system and parents will pay in 2025.
- A: Mock exam papers have gone up and the school are trying to space out the payments needed over the year where possible.

Q5- Artificial Intelligence and future jobs?

A: No mention of the potential impact so far on secondary schools and what the implications will be.

Q6- How can students suggest improvements?

A: Email parents association via the school website and also students can link in with the student council representative for their year.

Meeting was then closed and all thanked for their attendance and contribution.