



St Mac Dara's Community College Parents Association AGM Minutes

Date: 03.11.2025

Time: 19.30 – 20.30

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Invited		In attendance	
Invite sent to whole school body		- Sarah Hughes (SH) - Chair - Colin Cummins (CC) - Treasurer - Elaine Kennedy (EK) - Secretary - Bláithin Keegan (BK) - PA - Grace Quigley (GQ) - PA - Mary Nixon (MN) - PA - Fiona (F) - PA - Naomi (N) - PA - Marie King (MK) - PA - Frances Gibbons (FG) - Principal - Sharon Kiely (SK) – Deputy Principal 23 in total logged in on Teams	
		Apologies Head boy and girl	
No	Agenda Item	Issues/ Discussion/ Actions required	Speaker
1	Welcome and Apologies	Apologies noted	SH
2	Previous AGM Minutes	Signed off	SH
3	Chair Introductions	Introductions and function of PA given to meeting. - Facilitate Board of Management election, - Fund raisers - used uniform sale, quiz Previous secretary Caitriona thanked for her service and time to PA. New secretary introduced and welcomed.	SH
4	Bí Cinéalta	SK introduced the new national anti-bullying policy Bí Cinéalta (Be Kind). Full policy is available on line. A student friendly version is being developed with the student counsel.	SK
5	Secretary reports	Emailed prior to meeting	EK
6	Treasurer Reports	Balance in account €1500.51 €375.00 made from uniform sale, Quiz very disappointing return, will look at possibility of date and venue change for this year. Clocks purchased for school and have been very successful. Doors in commons room painted.	CC

		Student awards financed	
7	Principle reports	• FG thanked the PA for painting of the doors and new clocks – very important to the school. • She thanked retired PA secretary Caitriona for all her contributions to the PA. • 10 new teachers have started in the school this academic year. • Storage spaces x 2 are being converted into Learning support rooms. • The school had wonderful leaving cert results in Aug, well done to all students. • Book scheme has expanded to include the senior cycle and over 7000 books plus supplies have been delivered throughout the school. It was a massive learning curve for the school and a lot has been learned for going forward. • St Max Dara's has a very active students council, they are currently reviewing 2 new policies and their voice is very important. • New school app formally starts on 14th Nov. all school notifications and student absence management will be done via the new app and not VS Ware. It will be a single reliable communication between school and home – a one stop school with real life updates.	FG
8	Questions from audience	1. Q – STEM is a hot topic and good career – is school focused on this area and are girls being promoted STEM as an option? A – Yes MacDaras is engaging with STEM and the choices are there for all students that which to engage with them. 2. Q - Is there a way parents can find out more about extracurricular particularly in sport? A – Teachers 'advertise' / promote in the school. List of extracurricular classes is up on the school web page. Students can speak with their Tutor to get more information as well. 3. Q – University open Days – do schools also go? A – School has its own careers day. Guidance team prompt students on upcoming open days and provide information to them 4. Q – Any plans for extracurricular chess after school? A – No plan at present, clubs are dependent on teacher volunteers to run them. 5. Q - Do 3rd years get all past exams as part of book scheme? A – Yes but not all ordered yet though. Parents and students can look up SEC Home – State Exam Commission to view past papers.	

		6. Q – Do 3 rd years have Christmas tests as well as mocks? A – Yes, all students have Nov tests and exam years have Mocks in new year. It is good practice and experience for students, it allowed students to get used to exam experience and layout. 7. Q – Does anywhere take old school books? A – No, no one aware of anywhere. 8. Q – Does the school take back books from the 6 th years and pass on to the next year? A - Yes that is the plan	
4	Next meeting:	TBC 2026	

Secretary Signature: *Ellen Kennedy*

Date: 21.11.2025

DRAFT