

Portmarnock Community School

Parents' Association Meeting

5th NOVEMBER 2024 / 7:30pm

Attendees

Helen Tobin, Clare Nolan, Bryan Flanagan, Eric Dumas, Ken Millar, Claire Rooney, Naomi Donaldson, Aisling O'Donoghue

Apologies

Louise Maguire, Stacey Bellew, Ruth Grant, Nuala Murray, Thomas Johnson

Agenda

- 1. Recap of call regarding Careers and College Expo**
- 2. Report from Board of Management**
- 3. Report from Principal and Teachers**
- 4. Report from Administration**
- 5. AOB**

Clare informed the committee of her discussions with Brona Coggins regarding the Careers and College Expo scheduled for 28th November, and outlined the assistance required from the Parents' Association. This includes managing crowds, managing teas and coffees, supply of refreshments to guests and speakers.

5th year Directing Ambassadors will be present to help on the night.

Eric suggested that students might prepare posters to ensure attendees at the Fair are aware of talks taking place and of where they are on.

A separate time slot for TY students was also proposed, possibly 7 to 8pm.

BOM Report

Bryan notified the committee that the process for the new school building is still at Department of Education internal planning stage.

He advised that the review of the Admissions process is ongoing at board level.

Helen added that Fingal are keen to double the provision of bike shelters. The Department is seeking six SEN classrooms in the new building, up from the four in the current plans.

Concern was expressed about the impact this might have on the building plans, and on the availability of school places.

Principal's Report

Helen gave a headline runthrough of activities taking place within the school since the last committee meeting.

She informed us that she will forward on a pdf listing these events and activities.

She gave an overview of the exam schedule for November assessments.

A Leaving Cert Class of '24 annual awards ceremony is due to be held shortly and the committee offered to support this if required.

Helen and the committee discussed the Principal's report incorporating any information the teachers wished to be passed on to the PA and all present agreed to this going forward.

A.O.B

Clare and Helen are working on compiling a list of prospective charges occurring throughout the school year to help parents plan and budget. Once completed this list may be uploaded to the tyro app and also as a pdf on the PA page of the school website for reference.

Louise has reported that she is following up on issues with the Sum Up facility. There is currently €2,762 in the PA bank account, and €73 in cash. Some money is owed to Ms.Maguire for the Study Skills workshop.

Following the student council elections, some student representatives would like to come to a PA meeting, possibly to propose ideas.

It was suggested that the PA report and Principal's report could be included in the Newsletter currently being produced monthly by the TY journalism students.

Clare notified the committee that the PA constitution has not been updated or reviewed since 2009. It was agreed by all that this needs to be done.

The Tusla questionnaire is also to be completed by all committee members.

Clare raised the matter of whether a Principal's talk could take place at the annual Open Evening for prospective students. The size of the crowds was an issue but the possibility of a short address was discussed.

Helen informed the committee that she has reinforced the message that classwork set by absent teachers is to be subject based following concerns raised at the last meeting. Vice Principals and Year Heads are also checking in on classes.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday 4th December