

**North Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School**  
**Parent Staff Association Meeting**  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

In attendance: Natalie Butler; Hellen Dalton; Emer Foley; Evan Furlong; Angela Higgins; Karin Janssen; Ciara O'Mahony; Niall O' Malley; Caitriona Rogan; Maebhdh Rolff; Seamus Young.

Apologies: Yasmin Fortune; Samantha Holman; Conn O'Midheach; Ramona Parkes.

**Matters Arising**

The Transition Year (TY) presentation has been updated, and this will be presented at the TY meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. JB will then circulate the revised presentation to parents

TY group has done the bulk of its work as required – school will move on with plans. Angela Higgins to send details for Munster Blades TY to Emer Foley.

Cinema night: - date agreed: March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Plant pots in yard – these have been replanted thanks to parent volunteers who did this on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Student Council – Sarah Kernaghan has taken the questions from the PSA to the Student Council and is to feed answers back.

Padraig is to set up the alias for the PSA in Office 365 - Ciara to send list of names to Padraig.

Ciara sent the volunteer list to Maebhdh Rolff.

**Correspondence** - None

**School Self-evaluation**

Members of the PSA attended the Board Meeting this evening to hear a very interesting presentation from Mick Heffernan about the current status of the School Self-Evaluation process.

Summary of Looking at our School – Angela Higgins presented a short summary of the [Looking at Our School 2016](#) Quality Framework for Post Primary Schools.

There was brief discussion about the benefits of membership of the National Parents' Council (Post Primary) (NPCpp).

**Action:**

- Natalie Butler to seek information about NPCpp for the PSA.

**Transition Year**

**Actions:**

- Angela Higgins to send details for Munster Blades TY to Emer Foley.
- Ciara O'Mahony to draft an invitation to parents to support TY Work Experience for publication through the NWETSS App.

**Event Planning**

**New Parent Induction Meeting**

This was deferred to Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of February.

**Actions:**

- Evan Furlong and Maebhdh Rolff to attend to promote PSA membership.
- Maebhdh Rolff to bring along a PSA sign-sheet for new members.

**Film night on March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

It was agreed to proceed with the plan for a film night on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The required number for the event to run is 15.

**Actions:**

- Members to post ideas for films on WhatsApp
- Emer Foley to set up a Mentimeter for voting on the film choice.
- Emer Foley is to help with in-school promotion by organising Clan announcements and taking names of those who have paid.
- Tickets will be €2.00 to cover popcorn and drink.

- Ciara O'Mahony will coordinate the event to ensure all is ready on the evening
- Ciara to confirm film evening going ahead and to approach JB re staff member for night.
- Karin Janssen to attend on the night

PSA Café and volunteering at Parent teacher meetings on March 5<sup>th</sup>

The third year parent teacher meetings and TY information meeting will take place in the school on March 5<sup>th</sup>: Café needed between 6 and 7

**Actions:**

- Seamus Young, Caitriona Rogan and Hellen Dalton; to run café.
- Caitriona to e-mail Sabina for Burco and to put out call for baked goods.
- All to provide cakes if possible
- Meabhdbh to bring along a PSA sign-sheet for new members.

Writers' Week/Arts Week

PSA role to be confirmed at next meeting

**Communications**

Report re Social Media Policy and newsletter publication

Natalie is investigating Social Media policies and is in the process of amalgamating several sample policies. Ciara fed back comments and views of PSA about Twitter, Facebook and the website to Jonathan Browner.

**Actions:**

- App – Emer Foley is to find out whether it is possible to log in to the NWETSS App from a computer
- Natalie is to research whether using the Canva App to create a pdf will be suitable for uploading the newsletter to the NWETSS App.

Parent communications – There are now Whats App groups for the three years. These are unofficial Whats App groups. Individuals are asked if they want to join. These groups are not representative of the PSA, but are informal mechanisms for communication between year group parents.

**Key dates for annual planning**

Deferred to next meeting.

Jonathan Browner keen on idea of PSA calendar dates set for rest of the year if possible to merge these with the general school calendar.

**Volunteering**

**Action:**

- Ciara to check with Conn whether he created a new version of the volunteer sign up sheet

Date and time of next meeting

Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

**AoB**

Caitriona: Clodagh Finn (History) presented yesterday and it was brilliant.

**Action:**

PSA to cover costs of flowers for the speaker (Seamus).

There was a request for feedback from the school on the Pieta House course.