

**North Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School Parent Staff
Association Meeting: Minutes
13th May 2019**

In attendance: Natalie Butler. Hellen Dalton; Angela Higgins; Samantha Holman; Ciara O'Mahony; Niall O'Malley; Sam Holman; Karin Janssen, Conn O' Midheach, Seamus Young; Maedhbh Rolff; Catriona Rogan, Niamh Swan.

Student Council Members: Dearbhail O'Mahony and Setanta Ballesty

Apologies: Emer Foley

Welcome and apologies: No apologies

Student Council

Student Council (SC): Climate Strike – leaving school at 12, returning at 4pm. Seeking volunteers. Funding for climate strike bus: **Agreed to support cost of bus up to and including €200.**

Agreed that PSA volunteers would travel to Dublin, and callout to wider volunteer group to be made. PSA to share information about the strike as widely as possible when Student Council flyer is received.

Budget for SC trips and training. Third Years standing down next year. Educate Together providing training for new members and consensus-based decision making. There will also be trips to the Dail so funding is required for transport. SC to provide a financial proposal to PSA.

PE equipment fundraiser – assistance required – PSA agreed to support fundraiser. SC to e-mail PSA with further information.

Quiet space – SC would like a quiet space for people who want to relax at lunchtime, as the hall gets quite noisy – SC to check how much demand there will be for this, and to send details to PSA. Niamh has a quiet reading group on Wednesdays, which is available to all students.

SC to feed back suggestions for events like the cinema night for next year. SC reps to suggest idea of PSA liaison person for communications.

Minutes and matters arising

Minutes approved.

Matters arising.

Ciara circulated link re Senior Cycle Review: Pathways and Flexibility: (https://www.ncca.ie/media/3943/senior_cycle_review-pathways_and_flexibility_en.pdf).

Conn has taken down the old WhatsApp as agreed and replaced with a new one.

CO'M – met with JB and DL:

Accommodation: JB to circulate information re accommodation to whole parent body as soon as it is received from DES.

SSE – Plan to be published to parents very soon through school app.

PSA Support required for drama event.

Correspondence

None

Finance

Gift for John Gibbons approved.

Volunteers

MR to keep seeking commitments from new volunteers, including new parents.

Communication between Board of Management and PSA.

Niamh is preparing and editing a school newsletter. NB to write a contribution about the work of the PSA for submission. Ciara and Seamus to provide information about activities to Natalie for inclusion in the piece. Ciara to write some lines from the Chair.

Visiting speakers

John Gibbons, climate change speaker, confirmed.

Events

Evan to organise sponsorship. Angela, Sam, Yasmin and Niall to help out on the night. Evan to coordinate. Niamh to ask Jonathan to put out a call for raffle prizes and baked goods. Meadhbh to put out a call for volunteers. Show starts 7.00pm. Set up 6.15pm.

New First Year transition afternoon Thursday 23rd May. PSA to be on hand.

Social Media Policy

Action: Circulation of policy postponed to September – more information required.

PSA calendar for September - December term:

- Regular meetings: Mondays: 9th Sept; 7th October; 11th November; 9th December.
- AGM and Parents' Social: 21st October
- Pub Quiz: 21st November. Hellen to seek venue.
- 'Board Game Café'/Film nights - date to be confirmed – dependent on GV volunteers. Planning to get TY students involved in supporting the student events.
- Clothing recycling drive – October: Evan Furlong.

Voluntary contributions to school:

JB interested in finding out how we can increase contributions. In depth discussion conducted. Conn to communicate ideas and comments to Finance Committee.

Memory bank document. Ciara to create google doc and share it with the PSA. Write in details of how to run the café and other activities. Ciara to ask Caitriona to input process for running café and timelines.

Pollinator friendly grounds management proposal – to be discussed with Kate directly.

TY Work Experience Six suggestions came back offering Work Experience. Ciara to provide information to Aisling.

Membership

Caitriona Rogan has stepped down from the PSA. Caitriona's contribution to the PSA is noted, especially to the establishment and organisation of the PSA 'Café' which supports events and social activities and acts as a fundraiser too.