

**Holy Family Community School Parents Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**03.12.20**

**Attendees** Jane Ferrie, Fiona Prendeville, Denise O’Keefe, Colette Goodwin, Sara Arienti, Irina Bereznytska, Josephine Manning, Mary Clarke, (Galaxy A41), Renelle Smout

**Apologies** Deborah Collins, John McGrillen, Eithne Madden, Maria Millington, Marie Smyth, Antoinette O’Reilly, PJ, Thomas Hall

**Agenda-** The agenda for the meeting was adopted (Proposed by Sara Arienti and seconded by Colette Goodwin

**Minutes-** Minutes of the last meeting were agreed, proposed by Irina Bereznytska and seconded by Anna Murphy

**Treasurers Report**

Collette stated that there was €763 in the account. Only change to the account was Bank Fee’s. Elaine emailed for a P&L on the account which Colette sent across.

**Correspondence**

No further correspondence.

**AGM:**

General view that the AGM was very successful with attendance numbers up in the 40.’s. Jane was congratulated on her speech. Speaker was well received and to be recommended for further presentations. Denise spoke about how charismatic in person Michael is and feels that in a face to face talk / meeting it would work equally successful well if not better.

**Fundraising ideas**

- Biggest issue that we are facing now is fundraising. Jane has investigated “Go Fund Me”. There are some schools already using this facility for fundraising. Other schools funding a new canteen, CV-19 assistance etc. No set up fee but charge a 2.9% payment processing fee. When done can just complete bank transfer. It no taxable and there are no deadlines for closing it down. There is also a Team fundraising functionality if required.
- Need to clarify what we want to fundraise for:
  - Denise suggested for IT repairs, some of the white board projectors need replacing / updating, however if necessary, this can be requested through to DOE for support.
  - A more student specific focus would be to fundraise for new additional outdoor benches. With Covid, benches have been placed outside and 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> years have been painting murals on them. Students could do with more for outside and there are locations for where they can be placed. Denise to provide the costs of the benches purchased already & provide picture of some of the benches already painted. Fundraise for benches and paint.
- I donate.ie needs to be investigated again. Jane requested if anyone would like to take charge of this. Sara Arienti put her name forward to research this. Sara also had other ideas with regards to fundraising – Sara to approach Dunnes Stores if we can put the fundraising buckets at the tills and have only one person there to supervise the buckets from a distance. Also, if this is not possible to request for a hamper for raffle, or voucher for school to use.
- Irina suggest revisiting an old project of the Students where they produced artwork and this was sold in the day care centre. Possibility this time to produce some postcard / card with artwork for Easter and they are sold in Day Care Centre. Denise will speak with the school’s Art Teachers and they will get in touch with Irina.

**Social Media / PC Page**

- Mainly Facebook & is Admin by Jane & Josephine.
- Could be utilised much more - Jane asked for everyone’s help to send suggestion, reminders to Jane & Josephine on WhatsApp group if something is on the school website that can be shared on Facebook.
- PC page on school website. Jane to update Denise with the names of PC Officers to be updated on website. Also, to send if any pictures we would like included. E.g. from last year’s bag packing etc.
- Do we continue to put Deputy Principals Reports on PC page up to Nov 2019? Suggested it is probably not necessary for these to go online. Is there a legal requirement for this to go up there? Query with Deborah the access / how these have been uploaded previously,

## Deputy Principal's Report

- Senior cycle evening was held on Tuesday via zoom for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> years. 160 participants. Lots of emails from parents that it was very informative and proficient. Denise suggested that perhaps zoom is the way to go forward for main information evenings etc. and if parents are being invited to school it would be for more uplifting purposes such as a show or exhibition. Students have their application forms for Senior Cycle and deadline is next Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Team of teachers following up with students on exams, subjects, choices etc.
- Math's Teacher - Laura Hogan is captain of Wicklow Ladies Football team who are playing this weekend in All Ireland Final. Small presentation was completed for Laura.
- Two pieces of policy going to the board next Tuesday. 1. Cookies (internet) policy & 2. Distance Learning policy. Denise explained that the Distance Learning policy was with the board last June / July. It was queried by the parents on the board that there was too much responsibility on the parents within the policy. It is to go before the board again next week and once approved Denise will present to us at the next meeting
- School journal – being re-vamped, in consultation with the teachers & students. For incoming students for next year.
  - Over information in it, lack of colour. Cover to be designed by student – done by competition
  - Denise asked if students referred to as journal or Dialann.
  - New version be called just Dialann as should contain more than just a log of homework. To be used to also record CBA's and work done through out the year that goes towards their portfolio.
  - Split to junior cycle & senior cycle so to have different focus's
  - Junior cycle to be A5 but thinner. Senior Cycle A4 hardback & thin.
  - Order needs to be placed by March.
  - With the student council at present and then Denise will share with PC
  - Denise said can leave samples in the box outside reception on a particular day if anyone would like to come and collect to view.
- 1<sup>st</sup> year application closed. Date of acceptance was 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. Offered 182 places for Sept 2021, with waiting list of over 65. Started today offering places to some on waiting list. May have to go to an 8<sup>th</sup> class but would need additional class rooms but this would have to go through full process of planning permission, tenders, etc.
- Students & Covid – all good, Denise commended the children for wearing masks and social distancing. Denise raised the issue with a serious vandalism in the Boys bathroom. Bathroom only locked during class times, but students can access key from Denise during these periods. Will open back normally from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> with strict guidelines.

## AOB

- PTM – Instruction from Union to school was to not hold. Remaining will occur in new year in the form of either a phone or zoom call at a designated time. If PTM date on the calendar has passed then there will not be one this year, this is based on the Union agreements. Denise stressed that parents should log into eportal the behaviour log on portal and any parent can contact school if there is any specific queries or concerns
- 1, 2,3 5 years exams finished tomorrow – deadline for Teachers writing reports 10<sup>th</sup> Dec – parents should have before Christmas on the portal
- Josephine Manning queried if any sports are coming back – DOE still instructing schools not permitted to carry out sports.

**Next meeting - AGM Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7pm**

**Proposed by:-** \_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded by:-** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated** \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Principal's Report:

## **Deputy Principal's Report**

**3-12-2020**

- Information Night re Senior Cycle was held via Zoom on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December for parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> year & TY.
- Application Forms for Senior Cycle were sent to student's email to complete by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.
- Exams for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years will finish Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. Reports will issue on ePortal before Christmas.
- Board meeting next week. Policies will be presented at the meeting and information will follow.
- In the process of revamping the journal. Students, teachers and parent's input needed.
- Incoming First Year places have been offered and accepted. We are currently working through the waiting list.

Denise O'Keeffe