NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE PSA MEETING

13th February 2014

**Attendees:**

**Geraldine Caulfield, Jackie O'Connor, Aine Hanlon Lynch, Orla Traynor, Kathleen Ryan, Pat O'Brien, Matt O'Shea, refer to register for list of parents.**

**Apologies: Paula Hart**

**Pending Items:**

**Dressing Rooms/pending**

Hopefully will be ready mid-May but certainly for the Summer Camp.  MOS will keep the PSA updated.

**Horse show/pending**

It is hoped that a member of the Horse Show committee will talk to the PSA either at the March or April meeting. It was agreed that the bake sale was a success last year and should be run again as a fundraiser by the TY students. Kate Cudmore agreed to liaise with TY students and Mr Corbett. It was proposed that the TY students could have a stall at the show selling their products. GC will enquire about the feasibility of this with the Horse Show committee.

**previous agreed actions**

**Refectory Update**

JOC and GC met with Kathleen Fitzpatrick to get an understanding of the running of the ref. The meeting was very positive and Kathleen came back with feedback from the meeting and the recently conducted student survey. An email will be sent to parents regarding the meeting and a brief summary of the variety of food on offer in the refectory at the various meal times. It was suggested that maybe a sample menu or monthly planner could be available to parents.

**Student Council PSA meeting**

GC and KR meet with the Student Council on Feb 5th. It was a very positive meeting and allowed the PSA and the Student’s Council to get acquainted. The students were asked if there were any areas they thought the PSA might be able to assist. 3 main issues were raised

Table tennis table – one table currently broken. The school are currently monitoring the usage of the table to evaluate the need for a second table.

Picnic benches – the Council put forward a suggestion of picnic benches in the courtyard area. It was agreed that the PSA would look into the cost and suitability of such benches bearing in mind the issues of maintenance and cleaning and litter. Should the school agree to the installation of benches the PSA could consider providing funding.

Water cooler – the Council raised the issue of a single water cooler that is not available before school or between classes. The water fountains are perceived as unhygienic and not suitable for filling bottles. There may be an opportunity for more coolers or some way of adapting the fountains to a more tap like structure – the school will evaluate this during the summer.

It was clarified by Mr O Shea that the water cooler is only open during break times and this provides ample opportunity for students to fill bottles and avoids students missing class time.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

AHL has reviewed the monies and normal expenditure and has money available for various projects. It was agreed that the decorations for the church would be bought in November (and again in the sales in early January).

There is a request from Ms Lonergan, the librarian, for funding for a licence to purchase e-books for the library. The system would operate similar to a hard back system where the books would be downloaded and then expire after 3 weeks but can be renewed. Ms Lonergan believes it would greatly enhance the system and promote reading. A number of concerns were raised parents and it was agreed that the PSA would meet with Ms Lonergan and a rep from the company supplying the e-books before the next meeting of the PSA.

AHL also asked for suggestions from the school for projects to fund.

**MANAGEMENT & PLANNING**

**Sports Development Fund/ongoing**

Neil Morris had an email sent to parents outlining the projects approved and updating on the progress of those projects. It was agreed that the email was very informative and it was proposed that a similar email should be sent out at the end of the year.

There are 2 projects completed with a third currently being set-up

**CURRICULUM**

**Maths Presentation/pending.**

It was agreed that the talk would take place after a next PSA meeting in March.

**LEARNING AND TEACHING SUPPORT**

**Speakers/ongoing**

Catherine O'Connor, Cracking the Code, 3rd level has been rearranged for May 15th

**AOB**

**Book and Uniform Sale**

It was agreed to continue this successful fundraiser at the end of the academic year.

**Uniforms**

GC raised the issue of school uniforms – the school uniform suppliers wanted to ensure that the PSA were happy with current uniform. There was a discussion regarding the jacket as to whether it should be replaced/redesigned or removed from the uniform list. It was agreed that some information regarding the options would be sought for the next meeting.

**Debs Ball**

Caroline Finan updated the PSA on the arrangements for the Debs Ball. This year’s Debs takes place on Friday September 28th. The Keaden Hotel and the band are booked and the rings for the girls are ordered.

**Mock Interviews**

The Mock Interviews will be conducted on the evening of May 6th. It was agreed that an email would be sent in March to all parents asking for volunteers.

**SCT and JCT**

Mr O Shea informed the PSA that Seniors had beaten St Marys in the Quarter Final 17-10 and the draw for the semi-final will take place on February 14th. The Juniors are in the Quarter Final against Terenure on February 25th in Donybrook.

**Agreed Actions**

Contact Horse Show Committee re Bake Sale                                GC

Contact Declan Corbett and TY students re TY Stand KC

Meet Librarian re e-books AHL/OT

Quarterly Communications from Refectory                                           GC/KR

Maths Presentation                                                                         MOS

Confirm March PSA date GC

Communicate back to Student Council GC

Research outdoor furniture                   JOC

Research alternative jackets KR

Put table tennis table and water fountains on pending items KR

**THE NEXT PSA MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 18th March 2014**