**AGM OCT 26TH 2011**

ELECTION TO BOG
Prior to the AGM the election of the remaining place for PSA representative/2nd election to the Board of Governors took place. Two applications were received by the Secretary that were correct and in order and the names of the candidates were advised previously by text. The two candidates presented themselves and gave a brief summary of their background and also advised the meeting on what they could offer on the B.O.G. Some questions were asked from the floor. A paper ballot took place on the night and Sharon Fidgeon was deemed elected. Congratulations to Sharon and many thanks to both candidates for coming forward.

Muiris Murphy has been voted by the PSA to the BOG at the Election held in Sept 2011.

**MINUTES**

Executive Officers: Caroline Finan (CF) Chairperson, Deirdre Duane (DD) Vice-Chairperson, Joan Kehoe Clarke (JKC) Treasurer, Secretary Triona Hayes-Finn (THF) Adrienne Brady (AB)

Attendance – refer to register
Matt O’Shea (Principal)
Pat O’Brien (Vice Principal)
Fr Larry (Chaplin – Guest)

MINUTES OF AGM 2010 (available on website)
ACTION POINTS FROM MEETING
Astro Turf Update – MOS
MOS expects that everything will be ready to go re Astro Turf for next summer. Water Table/Planning Permission currently under way. No building will take place during the exams. MOS could not confirm at this stage what type of surface would be on it – but previous concerns were raised about the type of surface that would be suitable for Tennis Championship/League matches. This is to be considered. MOS to revert.
Estimate budget on TY Optional Extras – MOS
Supplied to TY Parents/Guardians
Database of parents of college pupils who are available to offer work experience for students
MOS has details of some parents who are interested in giving some TY work experience to students.
THF made contact via Linked In with some past pupils and 3 places were filled in Microsoft Transition Year Programme
Additional Microwaves and Toasted Sandwich Makers
Supplied by MOS
Contact with Kids Stuff / Richie Whelan re Fleeces – THF
New type of fleece available in Kids Stuff – Richie Whelan advised by THF
WSE
CF & JK met with Dept Ed on WSE as parents reps. No official document has been sent back to the school from D.E.S. The school will have the right to respond to the document before its publication. WSE report to be received responded to and subsequently published – MOS will continue to give feedback on the matter.
Parent Teacher Meetings to include subject with teachers name – MOS
This suggestion was made at the 2010 AGM in order to make the Parent/Teacher meetings somewhat less challenging! This has been completed and works as a great aid.
Top Tips for Parents/Guardians of First Year for Sept 2011-11-07
This was compiled and agreed following a discussion at a recent PSA meeting. These tips were discussed and distributed to the parents/guardians of the First year parents 2011 at a meeting on Oct 6th 2011 and will be uploaded on the NC Website (THF). This meeting was very successful and included a presentation from Transition Year Students on their mini company – Top Ten Tips for First Year Students. PSA also invited Aoife Keane Captain of NC to talk about her school experiences which all enjoyed. Fr Larry also welcomed the parents and encouraged involvement as part of the Newbridge College Family. Sports Representatives also presented on the night and Paddy Berry and Adrienne Brady also presented their positive experiences on the night. At the “cup of tea” afterwards the feedback was very positive.

TREASURERS REPORT
JK presented the Treasurers Report of 2010/2011 and all agreed it was correct and in order.

SUCCESSES OF PSA 2010/2011
Communication – PSA minutes now available on website/ Action points only read out at meetings in order to streamline meeting.
Guest Speaker – John Sharry talk on parenting very successful and well attended
Debs/Graduation – Another successful event this year
Horse Show – support for the day provided through PSA
Mock Interviews – support from PSA – worked well
– Feargal Quinn has agreed to come down to NC in January to talk to TY 5th & 6th Year students
Dail Visit – agreed through PSA for January 17th 2011
First Year Parents Meeting & Top Tips – Sept 2011
Two Elections of PSA to BOG Reps
Meeting on progressing TY ideas with TY Co-Coordinator/Principal and Vice Principal
Cyber Bullying & Internet Safety – Talk agreed for November 22nd 2011 with IT Monkey

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION
The proposed amendment to the PSA was advised by post with the appropriate required notice. The proposed amendment was forwarded by Caroline Finan through letter dated Sept 15th 2011.

Proposed Amendment received:
As Newbridge College is a co-educational school now for the past thirty years, I would suggest that a modification should be made to the constitution to replace the words “two members” with the words “one male and one female (selected from parents/guardians)” as the representatives, on the board of governors.

An additional line should be added to the constitution stating that in order to be eligible for election to the board, prospective candidates must have in excess of 80% attendance at the Parents Association meetings for the previous school year.

A discussion took place around the proposal and the meeting agreed that the above should be considered as 2 amendments (one amendment per paragraph) and voted on accordingly. A good discussion took place on both proposals and a vote was taken by a show of hands. Amendment 1 was passed 22/31. Amendment 2 did not pass 11/31.
It was also agreed that this revised constitution would be uploaded on the website by newly elected committee 2011/2012.

AOB

Fr Larry
Introduced himself at the meeting and spoke about the Pastoral Care team in the college. He welcomed all as part of the Newbridge College Family and encouraged support and participation by all. Fr Larry encouraged any former past pupils to get touch base through the Newbridge College Linked In site. Fr Larry has some initiatives for parent/guardian involvement in the Carol Service and some projects for the TY students in relation to St Vincent De Paul. Fr Larry to contact parents via PSA newly elected committee

Library
The Librarian wrote to the PSA and was keen to receive the annual donation from the PSA for 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 and advised that she was keen to purchase E Readers/DVDs which she has spoken about with MOS. It was agreed that a cheque for euro1500 would be forwarded to the Librarian for both years by JK.

Communication
Kate Cudmore queried the possible use of email as a form of communication by the school rather than post. The parents in attendance were keen not to receive information by post. THF advised that the email addresses given to the school by the parents/guardians were for use by the school and so the PSA could not use them directly. THF told the meeting that the cost of the postage/paper to advise on the 2nd Election was euro400 and advised that the PSA had previously tried to progress the idea of the use of email as a Newbridge College form of communication but had no success. MOS agreed to get advice on the use of email as a form of communications to the parents/guardians of NC.

Learn to speak Chinese
THF advised of details of Chinese classes now available at Newbridge College for TY students. Parents are also welcome – please contact Declan Corbett directly.

Uniform/Behaviour
One parent asked if there were spot checks in place for the wearing of the correct uniform. MOS and POB advised that there was. A general discussion took place and the challenges from a parents perspective of ensuring that the child is wearing the correct uniform as per the code of conduct, when some pupils are very obviously not concurring. MOS and POB also advised that they welcome the parents support on this issue. MOS advised that the Fleece is allowed and Jewellery is not allowed. Every pupil needs to be neat and tidy and follow the code of conduct. Another parent was concerned about Students politeness after a lunch time visit to the school, however it was acknowledged that in the main students manners and politeness have been commended by others.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Caroline Finan, Deirdre Duane and Joan Kehoe are due to retire as their term on the committee expires. Triona Hayes-Finn is retiring due to personal commitments. Adrienne Brady has agreed to stay on the committee.

The following Parents/Guardians are the members of the PSA Committee for 2011/12 and they will agree the positions prior to the next PSA meeting. (Date also to be decided)

Jackie O’Connor Proposed by Mary Byrne/Seconded by Caroline Finan
Paddy Berry Proposed by John Grant/Seconded by Margaret Devlin
Geraldine Caulfield Proposed by Jackie O’Connor/Seconded
by Triona Hayes-Finn
Katie Cudmore Proposed by Tony Cudmore / Seconded by Majella Murphy
Adrienne Brady As advised above

On behalf of all Parents/Guardians, Jackie O’Connor thanked the retiring committee for all their hard work over the past number of years.

ACTION POINTS

IT Monkey - Cyber Bullying & Internet Safety November 22nd 2011 THF/New Secretary

Motivation Talk – Past Pupil Feargal Quinn January 2012 / THF

Top Tips for Parents/Guardians of First Year THF to upload

Revised PSA Constitution uploaded to the website Newly elected committee 2011/2012.

Carol Service involvement Fr Larry to contact parents via PSA newly elected committee

Library Cheque for euro1500 for both years JK

Learn to speak Chinese Any interested
parent/guardian