



Greystones Educate Together Parents Committee meeting, Jan. 17th 2011

Attended by: Pat Cusack, Barbara Campbell, Lynnea Connolly, Dave Malone, Garrett Phelan & Evan Furlong

Apologies: Sara Fontannaz, Vladimira Strnadova and Niamh Collins

Chaired by: Pat Cusack

Minutes: E Furlong

Agenda:

- (a) Presentation on whole food product ref. Healthy Eating Week.
- (b) Greystones ET – participation in St. Patrick's Day parade, Greystones (logistics, requirements, planning).
- (c) Fund raising events.
- (d) Internet Safety Week (February).
- (e) School IT infrastructure – update on this area plus discussion around funding requirements.
- (f) New PA members and Secretary position.
- (g) Educate Together Greystones website – can we assist the school in keeping it current?
Last post in News section was Sept 2010.
- (h) Extra curricular activity – after school
- (i) AOB

Extracurricular afterschool activity Pat

Last Friday Pat discussed what is expected of the PA to facilitate extra curricular activities with Principal Catherine. Feedback regarding activities, courses, duration of it and etc. will be given in due course. PA has discussed this topic and are suggesting: Soccer, GAA, Irish Dancing, Drama, Golf, Arts, Music and Spanish as 8 weeks courses of one hour duration per class starting in May. The PA is planning a fundraiser to subsidise the courses and propose that allocation be on a lottery basis. Further investigation and BOM approval will be required.

Fundraising Barbara / Garret

Barbara has suggested doing a racing night fundraiser that could raise money towards the extra curricular activities and transport e.g: buses for the swimming lessons. The proposed

timing for the event is Feb. 17th/18th (mid –term break) this is subject to BOM approval and the availability of teacher whom we hope will be available for participation.

A fund raising idea for next Christmas has been proposed; cards designed by the children that are produced and then sold at the school – Barbara to provide more details at the next meeting.

St. Patrick's day parade

The PA proposes continuing the participating in the Greystones' St. Patrick's Day parade which they feel raises the school's profile. Pat will look into signing up entry. PA members will be seeking input and ideas from teachers regarding the theme for 2011 and report on Monday by email. Hopefully we will get all the teachers, parents and children involved in making costumes in addition to participating in the parade on that day. Evan is to talk to Geraldine and Emmet. Barbara is to talk to Naomi and Edel, Garret is to talk to Conor, Susan and Suzanne. Pat is to talk to Catherine. Lynnea is to talk to Aoife and Angellina.

Internet Safety Pat

Following last year's internet safety evening for parents, Pat is now trained to delivering an internet safety week workshop to older classes in Feb. Pat will make presentation available to Catherine for approval and to discuss when. Date TBC.

IT subgroup Pat

The IT subgroup is seeking for the opportunity to join the next Teacher's meeting as well as seeking a teacher representative to get on board to move the project forward. Meeting Friday 21 January to discuss next steps.

Educate Together Greystones website

It is felt that the school's website needs to be maintained on a more regular basis. The PA would like to find out if we can assist in ensuring this happens.

School closures due to snow Dave

The PA and BOM have discussed the matter and agreed that we will get snow spreader and salt to help with prevention of school closure during snow days in the future.

AOB

The position of a female parent representative on the BOM remains vacant (since September 2010). The PA has asked for clarification on when the mechanism for the filling of this role will be put in place.

PA would like to propose team building afternoon for BOM, teachers and PA members. It would be envisaged that this would be event could be sourced at no charge to the school of PA.

PA has discussed and agreed the funding for a fridge – this will ensure that medicine for pupils can be sourced in a separate fridge away from food stuffs. And dish washer for the school.

PA is donating €120 to UNICEF from the sponsored walk that was held in 2010.

It has been agreed that the PA newsletter will be issued three times per year; one a term. Lynnea is planning to have the 2nd issue draft ready by 28th Jan.

The PA welcomes a new PA member - Niamh Collins, her details will be available on the PA website. The PA would like to encourage a parent from each class to be part of the PA and hope to recruit a PA representative from both Emmet and Aoife's classes.

Next meeting

Monday, February 7th @ 19.45 - Subject to change – please refer to website for any updates.