

BOOSTER MONTHLY MEETING FEBRUARY 2018

ATTENDANCE

Melanie Chadbon, Kristyna Montfort, Tilla Andersson, Fiona Ambery, Takouma Radhouane, Sylvia Dergacheff, Sean Holt.

The meeting started at 9 am in the Bayview lounge of the Corinthia Hotel.

VERDALA PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Melanie reported that she had had a short meeting with the head of school Totty Aris to discuss the future of the Verdala Parents Association. Another longer meeting was planned for 20th of February. Head of School had made some helpful suggestions and had proposed no changes to the main structure of the association based on class parents and school parents. She agreed that the VPA would be independent of the management of the school (head and principals) and independent of the BOD.

However there remained some grey areas. The parents association will normally discuss issues of concern with the school management team. Totty had emphasised that the Board of Directors is concerned mostly with strategic issues and she anticipated that the parents association will usually concern themselves with more day-to-day matters. However any major issues of concern can still be taken to the BoD as they have overall responsibility for the running of the school.

Sylvia emphasised her belief that there was a need for more and better communication throughout the school community. The recent survey run by the BoD has been very useful in collecting opinions about the school from the parents. However problems of communication still remain with many parents not really understanding how the school management and governance works.

This meeting agreed that after the meeting with the Head of School planned for 20 February the parents association steering committee would meet with the current Booster executive committee to discuss the way forward.

BOOSTER SHOPPING LIST FOR 2018

At the last Booster meeting volunteers had agreed to seek the opinion of the student councils and school department heads as to how the Booster money should be spent in 2018.

Takoua had spoken to the **Elementary school** Head and to their student council to get ideas from them as to how Boosters could assist.

The ideas raised were:

A new gaga ball frame.

New benches (similar to those already in the ES playground)

Mats for the floors in the drama and music rooms.

A water cooler near the sports pitch.

Replacement of the nets on the football goal posts.

More shading in the bus queue waiting area.

((**AFTERNOTE**

additional requests received on 26 February from Head ES:

Johnna - A basic electric oven in ES Staff Room for ASA

Orla - carpeting/seating/beanbags for G4 corridor

Anna - More benches in the playground

Fran - Car track painted in ECC playground

Galya - Field Shade

Suzy - PK-1 playground (turf)

Nancy - light display boards))

Sean added that a Class Parent had asked for playing material to be provided to the pre-kindergarten classes. One way to solve this problem would be to call for parents with older children to donate toys and play materials that their children have grown out of to the youngsters in the ECC building. Before Boosters spend any money on this sort of purchase we should get a list from the teachers of toys and materials they would like to have in their classes. We should also seek confirmation that this list could not be provided by the school management out of their normal classroom equipment budget. Only in this event should Booster of money be used for this purpose.

Sean reported that due to problems with the stonework of Middle School it would probably preferable not provide shade and thus encourage students to wait in the area close to the Middle School wall where the bus children normally wait. We might look at ideas on where else we might provide shade in the elementary school play area.

Sylvia reported that **Middle School** student council have the following ideas

A climbing wall

A giant chess table painted on the playground surface

An additional table tennis table

Table football equipment

A tent to be used for shade in the middle school playground.

Melanie reported that the **High School** student council had not really yet provided a definitive list but one request that they have to is for more benches and seating for high

school students to use during their breaks. The meeting agreed that Sean would arranged to purchase extra tables and chairs of a similar style to those already provided by the Boosters in the shaded area outside the library for a total cost is not to exceed €5000.

((AFTERNOTE

Sean has now ordered 9 tables and 36 chairs with a planed delivery date of end March))

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DO THE PURCHASING

Sean suggested that all of these proposals would be possible bearing in mind the amount of money Boosters have available to spend this year. However he asked that individuals volunteer to co ordinate and arrange for the purchase of these items: The executive committee cannot really be expected to take on the task of purchasing everything.

Melanie said that the VPA would ask for volunteers to assist in making these purchases at their next meeting.

Fiona suggested that Sean should be responsible for purchasing the seating throughout the school as he has past experience in this matter. Agreed.

THE SPRING FUN DAY

Sean announced that the date of the Spring Fun Day had been changed to 23 March between 1430 and 1600. This would be the same day that that pre-K classes plan to have their own sports day. The timings for the Pre K event will be 1230 to 1400. Sean undertook to coordinate with the Pre K teachers to make sure that the two events do not clash. It was thought that many Pre K students would join the main event anyway.

AFTERNOTE

((Sean has spoken to Mel Butcher and confirmed that the two events can be run on the same day without conflict.))

We agreed that Boosters would ask the Head of high school for volunteers from that community to assist with the running of the spring fun day. Sean would coordinate with Nicky Schembri to make sure that the Fun Day activities do not clash with the normal Friday after-school activities.

The activities for the Easter fun day would be similar to those last year. There will be a bar, tea and coffee, a bring and buy sale for cakes, and hot dogs for the kids.

As far as the games are concerned we suggested.

Egg and spoon obstacle race,

Hungry hippo game

Splat the chicken,

Bunny skittles

Micro Scooter racing,

Shooting basketball hoops,

Easter egg decoration

Tombola (presuming you can find somebody who is prepared to run this.)

Sale of Booster merchandise.

We will ensure that the rules for each game would be prepared in advance so that the volunteers will have no doubts about how each game was to be run.

We agreed that each child over the age of four would be charged €10 and for that money they would receive a hot dog, a bottle of water and free use of all the games during the afternoon. Payment for Tombola tickets and items from the bar, tea and coffee stall, and the cake bring and buy sale would be additional.

All of these arrangements can be confirmed on the next monthly Booster meeting scheduled for 12 March.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR THE BOOSTER SHOP

Tanja had asked for a volunteer to assist her with running the Booster shop between 8-20 and 8-40 on Wednesday morning.

PIZZA LUNCH

Sean announced that the team of pizza ladies had very kindly agreed to provide a pizza lunch for Elementary school children on 2 March.