

Minutes of Maynooth BNS PTA Meeting 13th April 2010

No.	Item	Action
	<p>Previous Minutes The minutes of the previous meeting on 2nd March 2010 were proposed by and seconded.</p>	
1.0	Matters Arising	
1.1	It was suggested that the PTA may hold off on fundraising unless finance for something specific was required. Support may be needed for the new classrooms and their equipment. If money is required then a sponsored walk was suggested – possible dates 7 th or 12 th June.	
1.2	The land issues with the Parish are still under question now. A survey of the area is to be undertaken in the near future so the discussion can be deferred until Sept. It is believed that the Parish hall is to be pulled down over the Summer. It was agreed that the Millenium Gardens could be refigured once the extension is completed.	
1.3	Still no word from Declan Kehoe, the Road Safety Officer from the council. No response was received to the letter sent to Declan Kehoe. It was agreed to send a copy of the letter again. Declan Kehoe had been to the school for the 'Safe Cycling' scheme and promised to return.	
1.4	The PTA newsletter to be written and circulated next week. Will be posted on the internet site	
1.5	A letter was written to the parents of 3 rd class boys requesting help for the Communion (29 th May). Responses are required by the 15 th May. A roster will be drawn up. It was noted that 'new people had a positive experience' when they helped at the confirmation teas so they may come back to help. Another person familiar with the process would be required on the day.	
1.6	<p>The 6th Class Community Day has been set for the 21st June. A volunteer from the committee is being sought to join the organising team so that we can spread the knowledge of the very important activity. It was suggested parents in 4th & 5th Class be asked so they could participate for 2 years without being involved the year that their own son is there. The format is set and all schools are involved in this project. It was highlighted that it is critical to match volunteers with the tasks they are assigned to – based on their skills. It was asked if we should be targeting specific people and this would be useful. Do all volunteers need to be vetted, thus potentially slowing the process? This would not be necessary as it was a school day and the teachers would be responsible for all the children in their classes. Volunteers would just be assisting the teachers.</p> <p>Last year there were approx 30 helpers. It was agreed that the meeting between all the schools would take place then volunteers would be sought. A meeting would then be held 1 week prior to the Community Day.</p>	
1.7	The PTA agreed that funding is available to pay for/subsidise activities such as swimming lessons and recorder lessons. The school acknowledged this.	

2.0 Treasurer's Report

2.1 The present balance is €10,704.00 with €6,121.00 of this already committed. Total cheques still to be cashed were €476.00.

2.2 Requests:
No requests were made.

3.0 Public Relations Officer Report

Many events had been published in the last few months, including Seachtain na Gaeilge, Quiz, Confirmation and Joe McBride's retirement party. The PRO was happy as it appears that people are advertising the events but said it would have been useful if all correspondence was sent to the PRO so that it could have circulated to other publications.

It was also mentioned that the absence of the BNS in the Maynooth St Patricks Day Parade was conspicuous. It had been discussed at a staff meeting but did not have time to organise. It was decided to discuss this in November 2010 so that the school can participate next year. PTA agreed to help with the event if necessary.

Any such items were requested so they could be uploaded on the school website.

4.0 AOB

4.1 It was asked if there was any feedback from the increased publicity. This school admitted it was difficult to gauge at this stage but said the website was key for enrolments. Queries had been received from Spain via the website.

4.2 Is there a Junior Infants enrolment day planned? No date set but probably will be held on the 2nd week in June.

4.3 It was confirmed that Girls school could use the hall for their Communion Day.

4.4 Parents Support Nights are running the following in NUIM:
Wed 21st April – Internet Safety/Exam Stress
Wed 28th April – Bullying & Substance Abuse

This will be put in the newsletter and on the PTA Blog

4.5 Information was received on a seminar on the transition from primary to secondary school. It costs €550/day.
Information was also received from Glanmore Foods regarding healthy lunches.

4.6 Again K-Sport sent information on school uniform provision. Although it may be slightly cheaper it is not available all year around etc.

4.7 It was asked how does someone raise the question with the school about wearing uniform/non-uniform on the Communion day. The person is advised to write to the Board of Management c/o the school. 2 years ago the Board of Management consulted the parents and decided to leave it 'non-uniform'. It was suggested to have an on-line poll to gauge the

opinions of parents.

Next Meeting -Tuesday 11th May 2010