

BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI MISSION SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE THIRD P.T.A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (PRIMARY / SECONDARY) HELD ON SATURDAY,

26th NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM FOR THE ACADEMIC
YEAR 2022-2023.

	Members present	Members absent
Management	H.G. Kapila Deva Das	
Chairperson	Mrs Armaity Engineer	
Vice Chairperson	Mrs Shivangi Prabhudesai	
Secretary	Ms Simple Tahilianey	
Joint Secretary (parent)		Mrs Hemlata Mishra
Joint Secretary (teacher)	Ms Sheetal Malhotra	
Std I		Mrs Bhanupriya Pahlajani
Std I	Mrs Prathna Lakhiani	
Std II	Mrs Dhrumee Soni	
Std III	Mr Nehal Shah	
Std IV	Mrs Vaishali Shah	
Std V		Mr Manoj Gupta
Std V	Mrs Anita Shelvarajan	
Std VI		Mrs Rachelle Kumar
Std VII	Mrs Jinal Gada	
Std VIII	Mrs Manisha Sonawane	
Std IX	Mrs Kashish Moolchandani	
Std X		Mr Umang Budhraj
Std X		Dr Babita R. Goel
Facilitator	Mrs Kakoli Bhattacharji	
Facilitator	Mrs Chaitanya Priya Yeshwanth	
Teacher	Mr Sudhir Chettiar	
Special Educator	Mrs Sujatha Rane	
Teacher	Mrs Shalini Chanda	
Teacher	Mrs Shikha Goyal	
Teacher	Mrs Anit Arora	
Teacher	Mrs Suvarna Mohapatra	
Teacher	Mrs Chanda Tiwari	
Teacher	Mrs Tanvi Sodha	

- ❖ The meeting started with a short prayer.
- ❖ Vice Principal / Secretary Ms. Simple Tahilianey Ma'am welcomed all the members.

1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Joint Secretary (Teacher) Sheetal Malhotra read the minutes of the second P.T.A. Executive Committee meeting.

2. BHAGAWAD GITA MARATHON:

H.G.Kapila Prabhuji addressed the parents that the Bhagawad Gita Marathon is a regular routine that is followed by our school. The Founder Acharya of ISKCON Srila Prabhupada started this initiative in the west. Now it is being carried out all over the world. The Bhagawad Gita is available during the month of December at discounted rates to promote its distribution as Lord Krishna has Himself said that he who distributes this knowledge amongst devotees is very dear to Him. Prabhuji requested the parents to participate wholeheartedly for the marathon.

3. RECAP – ACADEMICS, ACTIVITIES:

Simple Ma'am did a quick recap of the academics

August – Terminals

September - October we went a little slow on academics. As we focussed more on the activities.

November- December – we catch up on our academics

She then went on to the activities

August - A lot of activities were organised as we celebrated Sri Krishna Janmashtasmi.

September was the Hindi Diwas celebration. Many hands on activities and elocution competitions were arranged for classes I – IV.

October - We had Grandparent's Day celebration. Videos and photos of the same would be shared soon.

November we celebrated the Children's Day with a Magic show for the Primary section and Pre-Primary students. Secondary students went to the Nehru Science Centre.

Olympiad exams for Maths, GK and Computer were completed. The other exams would be conducted in December.

A video with glimpses of all the above mentioned activities was shown.

4. PRINCIPALS MEET – UPDATE:

Principal Ma'am spoke about the 65th Principals Meeting of CISCE Principals from all over India which was held at Trivandrum from 9th November till 11th November 2022.

The focus this time was on NEP 2020. Since the last two years it was discussed, debated upon and finally some sort of a format is affirmed. It's for everyone's benefit and thus has to be taken in the right spirit.

It is child-centric and aims at transforming the system of school education in the country so as to create holistic well rounded individuals who are equipped with the skills of the 21st Century.

Each child's innate talent will be brought out and worked upon. Focus will be on Vocational Education. CISCE further aims to align its curriculum, examination and assessment with the recommendations of the NEP. The guidelines are provided by PARAKH - Performance Assessment Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic knowledge. On the Job Training and stopping brain drain would be the aim.

All Boards like State Boards, CBSE, CISCE International Boards, IGSE, IB, NIOS will remain unchanged.

Council slides with the summary was displayed by Ma'am and explained in detail.

A few take aways

- 5+3+3+4 structure with Foundational stage (age 3 -8 years), Preparatory stage (8 – 11 years), Middle stage (11 – 14 years) and Secondary stage (14 – 18 years) was elaborated upon.

- Transformation of assessments from Summative to Formative with Self- Appraisal, Peer- Appraisal and Teacher Appraisal
- Check point exams will be conducted by the Council for Std III, V and VIII.
- NEP is likely to be implemented from the next academic year
- School is likely to be extended till grade XII eventually maybe by 2027.
- Strong roots to be laid in Indian culture, tradition, heritage and ethos which has been our practice in our School from the beginning. Health and nutrition, environmental awareness, current affairs, sense of aesthetics, ethical and moral reasoning, citizenship skills as well as gender sensitivity are also to be incorporated. Artificial Intelligence, Organic living, knowledge of Ancient India and her constitution also to be included. Disaster management and awareness programs for drug addiction are in the list too. Multilingualism with mother tongue, English and the regional languages will be there. Artificial Intelligence and Robotics may be compulsory as part of Group 1 subject.
- Each board would be having a separate road map.

STD IX AND X EXAMS:

From 2019 the Council had started setting the question papers for Std IX. But the council has not done so since the covid pandemic. So also this year the final exam papers for Std IX will be set by the school.

It was also clarified that Std IX will have a 50 mark Unit Test from 2nd January 2023 with second term portion only. For the February exams the portion would be second term chapters along with 2/3 chapters from the first term.

Std X board exams will be held as per schedule in the last week of February 2023. Prelim exams will begin from 2nd January 2023, followed by study leave.

A Std X parent asked if there would be an open house after the Pre Prelim exams. Simple Ma'am clarified that the open house would be directly after the Prelim exams in January. Parent also wished to know

if an overnight trip would be organised for Std X. It was decided only a day picnic would be arranged.

5. **APTITUDE TEST (STD VIII)**

Sujatha Ma'am spoke about

- All the in-house activities which the resource team has conducted between August to November.
- The Principals' Conclave that was organised in October under the guidance of Dr. Harish Shetty enlightening the Principals of various education boards.
- Sessions that Samindra Ma'am conducted on "Personal Safety Education" that was conducted on 22nd November with the pupils of Std VI - VIII. She would have another session on 30th November based on Maintaining boundaries, Abuse and POSCO followed by Puberty for Std VI on 2nd December.
- Upcoming Aptitude Testing and Counselling that will be conducted for Std VIII will be supervised by Samindra Ma'am. Individual counselling session along with a parent who will be guided by an external counsellor to give a complete insight into the new courses introduced in the education system.
- Other regular activities like supporting kids with special needs, remedial sessions, group therapy and follow ups would be continued.

Ma'am also added that we are awaiting the 2025 syllabus to have a detailed session on NEP which would be conducted by a special authority. Std VIII pupils will be given time till April to decide their subjects for Std IX. From the next academic year Std IX-X will have 2 subjects in Group 3 unlike the previous years where they had to opt for only one.

6. **ADMISSION, RTE, SIBLINGS:**

Ma'am said that the admissions for the siblings will be starting shortly. As the years pass by the Pre Primary will have only two sections to accommodate Std XI and XII.

A parent questioned if the school can operate in shifts. Prabhuji replied that we would look into it and decide later on.

7. SPORTS DAY:

Sudhir Sir shared the details of the upcoming sports day that will be organised at the P.A.Mhatre ground:

- Pre Primary section- 20th December 2022
- Primary - 21st December 2022
- Secondary section - 22nd December 2022
- Heats on 19th December 2022.

On 16th December Medal ceremony will be held in the school for the Inter house competitions - Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton, Football, Carrom and Cricket.

He also apprised the members of the various other inter school events that the students have been taking part

- CISCE Inter school competitions that were held for Athletics, Chess, Badminton and Carrom.
- Another event for swimming was held at Poisar Gymkhana.
- At MSSA(Mumbai Schools Sports Association)Dakshil Kajrolkar of Std VIII won a bronze medal in an Inter school chess tournament.

Parents inquired if all the pupils of the Primary section would be participating in the Sports Day. Simple Ma'am answered that each and every child will be taking part on the sports day. There are Fancy and Track races planned for the Primary section pupils but the elimination round will take place. The participants will be eliminated and shortlisted.

Another parent asked if anything else was also planned for the Sports Day. Simple Ma'am spoke about the Drills, Gymnastics, Yoga and March Past. Details were shared of the primary and secondary sports days.

8. PICNICS/TRIPS:

Simple Ma'am stated the Secondary pupils to Nehru Science centre on Children's Day
Picnics

- Secondary - Imagica on 23rd November 2022.
- Primary students would be going to Kidszania on 5th January 2023
- Pre Primary would be taken to Bachha Party on 6th January 2023.

9. OPEN FORUM:

- Two parent members suggested to have an additional coach along with Daryl Sir for training the football children.
- A parent raised doubt concerning the check point exam for Std V. Ma'am explained that there was no need to worry as we would be going slowly for the same. The NEP module was started at the Principal's level. This will be followed by a teacher's manual and a separate one for pupils later on. We are awaiting for the instructions from the R & D department of the Council.
- Std VIII member requested to have another session conducted by Samindra Ma'am on safety for the football players who missed it due to the match. Parent also mentioned about a subject notes which were uncorrected.
- Std VII member requested to have the portion to be included in Unit Test time table in the same tabular format.
- Another member raised concern about involving all the students and not only a few selected ones for various activities of school. It was clarified that each and every child is forced to take part. An elimination round is first conducted in class followed by the competition in the auditorium. But the member clarified that it happens for other activities where only a select few are given a chance.
- Query was raised about the date of the next PTA EC meeting. Ma'am mentioned that it would be held in the last week of January 2023 which would be the last one.
- A parent was interested to know when would Principal Ma'am have a session with the parents related to the NEP. Ma'am said that she would call the parents group wise and share the details.
- Query was raised regarding the faculty who would be conducting the subject selection procedure for Std VIII. Ma'am stated that

we will be having a professional from DISHA counselling centre for the same.

- Sudhir Sir requested the parents not to leave the ground on the Sports Day after the events of their wards are finished as it is a school event. Sudhir Sir also insisted that the parents should avoid sending tiffin boxes in the bus.
- One parent member mentioned that the random checking of bags done in class VII was a good idea and should be continued on a regular basis.
- Another member suggested to have garden cleaning activity with tools to be incorporated.
- Question was asked by another parent if the textbooks will be changing due to NEP. Simple Ma'am said that the books would remain the same as we are following it already. A change in the English textbook was suggested by Std V representative. Gaurpriya Ma'am clarified that we would be going back to Oxford Publication for English and also a change in the Mathematic book.
- One parent also put forward the idea to organise parent-child tree plantation or cleanliness drives for implementing NEP.
- Along with Alumni even the parents could be invited to talk about career guidance to our pupils was another suggestion.
- A member enquired the last date for the payment of fees for the new academic year. Ma'am responded that a circular will be given on the open house giving all the details. She also went on to mention that till date about 80 parents have not yet paid their first term fees. Members asked if some action could be taken against the defaulters. Ma'am apprised the members about the letter received from BMC Education Dept, Currey Road in regards with a complaint filed by an ex-parent. The same ex-parent has filed complaints at multiple forums claiming the School is harassing and targeting the parents. Ma'am asked the PTA EC members if any of our School parents approached them with any such complaints. The PTA EC members present unanimously declined and gave a written letter stating that they have not received any such complaints from any parent on

disruption or harassment from the School. Instead they were very happy with the accommodating attitude of the School.

- Parents highly appreciated that there are no complaints about the washroom hygiene levels as they have been addressed promptly. Simple Ma'am thanked Shalini Ma'am who regularly does random checks and reports the same. The matter thus stands closed.
- Issues regarding prasadam menu have also reduced.

Ma'am thanked all the PTA EC members and concluded the meeting.