

BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI MISSION SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE FIRST P.T.A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (PRIMARY / SECONDARY) HELD ON SATURDAY, 18th JUNE 2022 IN THE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023.

❖ The meeting started with a short prayer.

1. WELCOME:

Vice Principal / Secretary Ms. Simple Tahilianey Ma'am welcomed all the parent and teacher representatives.

2. INTRODUCTION OF THE MEMBERS:

She introduced H.G.Kapila Deva Das and Principal/ Chairperson Mrs. Armaity Engineer Ma'am along with the Primary and Secondary Facilitators Chaitanya Priya Ma'am and Kakoli Ma'am respectively.

The other teacher representatives introduced themselves. Anit Ma'am and Sudhir Sir were not present for the meeting. The present parent representatives also gave their introduction.

3. WELCOME BY RECTOR:

H.G. Kapila Prabhuji appreciated that the parents have taken a lead to represent their classes, assume responsibilities and do good for the school.

4. P.T.A. HISTORY:

Simple Ma'am mentioned that in the past 34 years of the school's operation we have been imparting quality education imbued with values. Our strength is the warm, cordial and successful relationship with our parents and the EC members.

The school strives to maintain a balance with the guidelines of the

Education department,

The ICSE Council rules,

Instructions of the BMC and

The ethos of ISKCON.

For an enriching school experience we all need to work together as a team.

Principal Ma'am then took the members through the nuances of the PTA. In the year 1999 the school for the first and only time chose the PTA members. Since the year 2000 onwards parents started choosing the members. The RTE got amended in the years 2011, 2014, 2016 and as per the 2019 amendment only one representative from each class and not division was to be selected.

The official PTA begins from standard I to XII. For the Pre-Primary section it is called Parent Support Group.

5. RULES:

A PPT was shown and Simple Ma'am read out the Maharashtra Government Rule 7 pertaining to the duties and roles of the PTA EC members.

6. SUBSCRIPTION CHARGES:

Principal Ma'am mentioned that the Subscription charges are rupees 50 since last two years.

Since it was decided by the last Ex- PTA EC members (2021-2022) not to sponsor the trophies for the toppers to be felicitated, the school arranged for the same.

Maam also clarified that all financial decisions will be taken by the EC members. Only after that will a voucher be signed by the Secretary and both the Joint Secretaries.

Maam also mentioned that since 1999 all the minutes of the meetings are maintained and the account statements are audited. The school has an approximate Corpus Fund of Rs 9 lakhs.

A circular dated 7 th June 2022, was sent to all parents to come and collect the excess amount paid towards the PTA fees.

7. RTE:

As we are a non- minority school we started getting RTE students since 2016. We started with 11 students, then in 2017 we got 15 students, in 2018 another 16 students. Later the entry level shifted from Nursery to Standard 1. In 2022 we got 27 RTE students, bringing the total strength of RTE kids to 102 students.

There will be Remedial teaching for RTE and others students, conducted on regular basis.

Inclusive education started in our school since 1999 to include special children in the main stream through buddy system. It was appreciated by the parents.

8. COUNCIL RULES:

The Council exam rules apply to the students from Nursery to Std X. Our school received the Provisional Affiliation from the CISCE in 1998 followed by the Permanent Affiliation in 2000. After shifting to the new premises we were inspected again in 2013.

Speaking about the exam papers, Ma'am mentioned that in the year 2020 only a few papers for Standard X Board exams were

conducted due to the COVID pandemic. In 2021 there were no Board exams. For 2022 the exams got completed on 23rd May. The students have come back on schedule after the lockdown. For standard IX the final exam question papers will be sent by the Council and corrected by the school teachers. Random copies of the answer sheets of students will be sent to the Council as per their instruction.

This year the 25th batch of Class X would be appearing for the Board exams. We would be following the schedule for the Pre-Prelim and the Prelim exams as given in the diary.

Principal Ma'am asked Kakoli Ma'am to share in brief the details of the New Education Policy (NEP) meeting that she and Simple Ma'am attended on 17th June 2022.

Kakoli Ma'am explained how the structure is going to be made with 5-3-3-4 from Pre-Primary to Standard XII. Application based questions and project supported teaching will be focused upon with no rote memorization.

Principal Ma'am further discussed that the Check Point exams that will be conducted for classes III, V and VIII to see the level of the students at various grades. The NEP is directed more towards the rural crowd while the urban crowd would not be much affected.

It was made very clear by Principal Ma'am that since we reside in Maharashtra, Marathi would be compulsory. We were proactive to introduce it in our school when it became a Bye-Law. In the next week's Principals' Meet the level of Marathi would be decided, whether it is as per the Council or at the local level.

9. MEDICAL CAMP:

TATA AIG plan is in place since 2008 onwards, a decision taken by the then PTA.

Ayaksha clinic was set up in 2013. They will be conducting medical camps from 27th June to 30th June 2022. The parents were requested to ensure that the pupils should be present for the same. Help from the PTA members was also requested for the same.

For the COVID Vaccination we got an input from the parents to have it in the school premises. A Google form for consent was sent to the parents to be filled up. We completed the first round of vaccination after the First Term Board exams of Class X were done, followed by the second round in January 2022.

10. RECAP: ACADEMICS AND ACTIVITIES:

Simple Ma'am explained how we follow the detailed prescribed syllabus for all the classes. The portion for classes IX and X has to be completed by December.

The most important aspect of the NEP- Blended learning has been incorporated in our school through several activities in order to develop interest and organizational skills among our students.

- In the month of March we had an amazing ART FEST to enhance students' creativity.

GAUR PURNIMA was celebrated by performing Abhishek of Sri Sri Panchtattva and it was streamed live in the classes.

- April- Virtual tour was organized for adventurous April along hurdle races for our little children.

The teachers enacted the Epic –RAMAYANA on the occasion of Ram Navmi.

The students enjoyed a host of fun games in the Adventure Mela.

- During June environmental awareness was promoted through Eco-healing center explaining about the plants – our natural physicians. Green Hands, another activity for bringing us close to nature was conducted in the school garden.

Jagannath Snana Yatra was celebrated on 14th June 2022 with lot of love and devotion. As we had many outside congregational devotees attending the programme, the students were not allowed.

Environment quiz and Environment Huggers are some other activities lined up for June.

21st June International Yoga Day would also be celebrated.

- On 1st July we would be observing Rath Yatra in our school for classes II – X. Pre- Primary and class I will be celebrating it on 30th June following the COVID guidelines.
- Literary exercises are in the pipeline for July. GURU PURNIMA celebrations will be planned and executed by class X to honour our spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada and show gratitude towards the teachers.
- A glimpse of all the beautiful pictures of our school activities was shown in the PPT and also some of them were displayed outside the auditorium.

- ❖ Sujatha Ma'am, our Special Educator gave details of the counselling sessions conducted by the Resource team for classes VI – X covering topics like Religious Tolerance, Puberty and Sex Education, Handing friendship, Getting to know your profile and Goal setting respectively.

A debriefing session was taken with the RTE parents. Have planned a session with classes VIII – X on creating a blueprint for the future.

We have also planned sessions with Dr Harish Shetty for our students and teachers.

Safe and unsafe touch would be taught to children from Jr. Kg – IV.

11. PERIODIC ASSESSMENT:

We have been following CCE – Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation and conducting timely tests, orals, aural and projects.

It is termed as Formative assessment for Primary classes, Periodic Assessments for classes VI – VIII and Unit Tests for classes IX and X. (one Units in April and the other in June.)

12. TERMINAL EXAMS:

On 1st August the first term will begin. A rough draft of the exam time table was displayed, which was to be approved by the teachers.

Grades are awarded on the report cards till class VIII. Marks are shown to classes IX and X only.

13. COMPETITIVE EXAMS – SOF

Olympiad exams for G.K. Math, Science and English would be conducted in the school.

IMUN – Mock Parliament would be arranged for classes IX and X.

Principal Ma'am stated that the Bus Committee started in 2007- 2008. We would need a parent representative each from Pre-Primary, Primary and the Secondary section to look into this matter.

14. OPEN FORUM:

- ❖ Class IX parent mentioned that the bus app especially for Bus number 12 does not work sometimes. Another concern was that the bags of the students are heavy to which Principal Ma'am replied that the lockers are given to class VIII and class IX will be given out the same soon. The teachers' time tables were also redone accordingly. Sheets instead of notebooks are in use. The students of all classes were allowed to keep their bags in the lift.
- ❖ Some parents wanted clarity on Literature and Language books for English and Hindi have to be brought by the students on which days to be specified in the time table and shared on MICM.
- ❖ The textbooks of the Primary section pupils remain in the school. They are given to the child on Friday and have to be brought back on Monday.
- ❖ Students were also allowed to carry photocopies of a chapter to avoid carrying text books to reduce the weight of the bags.
- ❖ Mobile phones to be brought to school was another proposal put forward by a parent which was refused by Principal Ma'am as students misuse it and there can be chances of theft as well. She did allow them to carry the old models for making calls during emergency.
- ❖ Smart watches to be worn by the pupils was denied as they tend to misuse it in the exams.
- ❖ Parents wanted half days during exams which was not feasible as we need to complete the portion by November end.
- ❖ Request for picnic was agreed upon gradually as the year proceeds, but no overnight trips.

- ❖ Due to paucity of time one Unit test paper in a day was not possible as suggested by a parent.
- ❖ In case of student absenteeism and non – cooperation from the parents to share the day’s work the parents were asked to approach the subject teachers.
- ❖ In order to know all the names of different subject teachers, the parents can ask the class teacher.
- ❖ The parents requested that the teachers should accompany the students or give them clear instructions about the classes conducted outside the classroom so that the child can be at the right place at the right time.
- ❖ They suggested for a shade from the Gate 2 till Nandanvana.

- ❖ Principal Ma’am specified that the students who need second/ third serving during lunch are never refused. The quantity and quality of the items served would be looked into if it is insufficient.
- ❖ The parents were explained not to send snacks with the bus students as others get tempted.

- ❖ It was clarified that the seating arrangement was not fixed but is on rotational basis in the class as inquired by a parent.
- ❖ Regarding the toilet hygiene Principal Ma’am and Simple Ma’am mentioned that there is a check list of duties for the House- keeping staff to ensure cleanliness all the time. New flooring of the toilets has been done and air purifiers have been kept along with hand wash.

- ❖ Black floaters will be allowed during rainy season.
- ❖ Suggestion to share the menu of snack and lunch was not agreed upon as more than the nutritional value the parents object on several other aspects.

- ❖ Class X is supposed to return the old locker keys in place of which they will be given new ones.
- ❖ Request came up from a parent to allow the child to use the washroom or the elevator in case of illness or emergency.
- ❖ The teachers were asked to share test details and project submission dates in advance to ensure sufficient time for the child to complete the same.
- ❖ Upon being requested to arrange for the school uniform and books vendors in the school premises, Principal ma'am stated that the parents need to choose the vendors as per their convenience. It would not be made available in the school.
- ❖ More time would be given to the students to arrange for materials required during various activities.

- ❖ The Sports practices for Football have begun and will commence gradually for other games too. We would not have Annual Day or Exhibition this year.
- ❖ It was explained to the parents that after a lot of adjustments in the time table, only a few classes had Games and Dance period after lunch.

- ❖ Principal Ma'am clearly told that there would be no Online or Hybrid teaching as we need to abide by the regulations of the Association of ICSE schools across India. In case a child is unwell, he/she should not be sent to school.
- ❖ The walking parents requested if they could enter the school gate at 2:15pm due to lack of space. Also if the office timings could be changed for them so as to finish the formalities timely.

- ❖ A few parents said that security guards do not check the entry passes of the parents. However Principal Ma'am did mention

about the physical assault that the guards had to experience when they asked a parent to produce the same.

- ❖ Parents wanted their wards to be given permission to drink water during the class too, but was clarified by some teachers that it leads to a lot of distraction.
 - ❖ Van drivers come up to the classes to collect the pupils after the bus leaves so that they do not step out.
 - ❖ Sujatha Ma'am was asked to look into the matter of children belonging to class V bullying one another in the corridors.
 - ❖ Parents suggested to bring back the system of white and pink cards as the pupils eagerly wait for appreciation.
 - ❖ Concern was raised about MICM app data not being secured, to which Jonita Ma'am replied that its encrypted and not shared with anyone except the Aadhar Card information handed over to the government.
 - ❖ Another point raised was to ensure that competitions have equal participation of all students and not the selected ones.
 - ❖ A parent also wished to donate books to the library. They could be deposited at the reception.
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- ❖ Query came up for +2 after class X, to which Kapila Prabhuji wanted to wait and see how the NEP will unfold itself.
 - ❖ Sex education session to be conducted for class VIII was suggested by a parent. Principal Ma'am stated that Mother-Daughter and Father-Son seminars would be conducted soon.
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- ❖ Class I parent wanted to know whether grills were placed in the Gym room for the safety of the kids. They also wished to know the number of students in each division.
 - ❖ Musical instruments to be included for practice was another suggestion. Hindi and Marathi teachers were requested to go a bit slow.

- ❖ Shlokas taught in class to be shared with the parents for their reference.
- ❖ Parents wanted to know about Olympiad payment acknowledgement to be received and books to be made available. The teachers were reminded to sign in the diary for any payments received.
- ❖ The notebooks and text books should be sent home before exams for preparation.
- ❖ The interschool competition 'Vision for Mumbai – 2050' in the month of May conducted by the Mumbai Police was won by our school, for which only two day's prior notice was given. Hence parents could not be informed.
- ❖ AISM debate and elocution along with other inter-school competitions are lined up for the classes VIII – X.
- ❖ A parent requested to avoid using acrylic colours for Art/Craft as it spoils the uniform.
- ❖ Since many parents did not show much interest for Coding training, it could not be materialized.
- ❖ It was reported by a few parents that the E-Campus tab on MICM app lags and takes some time to show the circulars.

ARMAITY ENGINEER
PRINCIPAL