



## THE ICON PUBLIC SCHOOL

### Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Teacher Association Meeting (2021-22)

Date and Time: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 4.00pm

#### Members present:

Sr. No.	NAME	Designation in PTA
1	Col. R. C. Rana	Chairman
2	Mr. Nirmal Mutha	Management Representative
3	Mr. Amit Mutha	Management Representative
4	Mr. Manju Mutha	Management Representative
5	Mrs. Aradhana Rana	Vice Chairman
6	Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla	Secretary
7	Mrs. Neeta Oberoi	Teacher Rep - Primary Section
8	Mrs. Susan Abraham	Teacher Rep – Secondary Section
9	Mr. Kamalkant Jha	Teacher Rep – Sr. Secondary Section
10	Mrs. Supriya Harke	Parent Rep – Class 2
11	Dr. Dipi Agarwal	Parent Rep – Class 3
12	Mrs. Seema Singh	Parent Rep – Class 4
13	Mrs. Carol Furtado	Parent Rep – Class 5
14	Mrs. Sushmita Maheshwari	Parent Rep – Class 6
15	Mr. Sunny Wadhwa	Parent Rep – Class 7
16	Mr. Sagar Patwa	Parent Rep – Class 8
17	Mrs. Juhi Sablok	Parent Rep – Class 9
18	Mr. Jogesh Kumar	Parent Rep – Class 10
19	Mr. Barkatali Shaikh	Parent Rep – Class 11

#### Absent Members:

1. Mrs. Sonal Takale – Parent Representative – Class 12
2. Mrs. Muskaan Sachdev – Parent Representative – Class 1

#### 1. Welcoming members:

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome to all the members of the PTA by the Principal and Secretary of the association, Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla. She informed that the PTA committee was formed according to the CBSE norms.

- As grade 1 & 2 had more volunteers, the parents of the grades voted & elected the representatives.
- All the members were thanked for willingly participating in the forum. Suggestions for the betterment of the classes were welcomed.

The principal noted that the requisite quorum for the meeting was present and called the meeting to order.

#### 2. Reports of the new academic session:

A brief report about the new academic session was given by the Principal.

- a) Online classes began from the month of April, as ICON is well established in this process.
- b) During the vacation different clubs like Art & Craft Club, Music Club, Oratory Club and GK Club conducted activities to engage the students. Gratitude was expressed for the overwhelming support and appreciation of the parents.
- c) Classes for Grade 9 & 10 started from 31<sup>st</sup> May. Grade 5 To 8 from 7<sup>th</sup> June and Grade 1 To 4 from 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021. A very systematic schedule has been prepared for all grades keeping in mind the unpredictability of reopening schools physically.

**3. Admissions:** Due to our success in online classes we have had an overwhelming response for admissions this academic year.

**4. Training for Teachers:** Professional Development of teachers are being conducted continuously since last academic year to make virtual classes effective and engaging.

**5. Introduction of Pre-Primary to main stream:** NEP has changed the old methods and standardized the process. The Director and the Vice Chairman of the PTA, Mrs. Aradhana Rana expounded the process of induction in the following way:

- a. According to NEP, the first 5 years are integrated. Till Grade 2 the curriculum has to be carefully monitored. It has been organized in the same way. The junior students will always be motivated by the seniors.
- b. FPS was in a place of great scenic beauty. As ICON premises has enough space, all efforts are put on to create same atmosphere here.

**6. Fee Policies and its implications:**

- a. The Principal, Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla then took up the next agenda point regarding the academic fee for 2021-22. She informed that being an unaided, private school, fees waivers are not possible.
- b. According to the circulars issued by the State Education Dept, the fee has to be paid.
- c. Parents with genuine financial problems may contact the Principal/Director for Quarterly payments.
- d. Parents should pay the fee without any reminder from the school for the proper running of school.

At this point Parent Representative of Class 4, **Mrs. Seema Singh** raised a query whether the authorities have decided anything about giving more concessions for which the Chairman of the PTA, **Col. Rana** clarified that -

- a) Full payment concession and sibling discounts are offered to parents who pay annually. Sibling discounts are also offered to children who have an elder brother or sister studying in the same school.
- b) Now quarterly and monthly payments are also allowed. Online payments too are allowed.

**7. Other suggestions:**

a. **Dr. Patwa** congratulated Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla. He insisted that physical school should start as students are mentally disturbed sitting at home. Mrs. Aradhanan Rana replied that it is not in the hands of the school authorities. As and when we get the directives from the Govt. authorities the school will reopen physically. **Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla added** that when we re-open, we will have hybrid classes- online and offline.

b. **Mr. Sunny Wadhwa** stated that he is very happy with the online class and suggested that community activities should be added to the curriculum - a specific theme for a month and students must do related activities. **Mrs. Aradhana Rana** supported Mr. Wadhwa's suggestion and assured that the school will undertake such activities once it reopens.

c. **Mr. Sunny Wadhwa** again suggested that students must be encouraged to read by conducting competitions. He asked if Financial Literacy could be imparted to the students. **Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla replied** that during vacations reading projects were given and students had been encouraged by writing book reviews. Parents who are experts in Finance should come forward and take some awareness lessons for them.

d. **Mrs. Juhi Sablok** congratulated Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla and asked on behalf of the parents of grade 9 & 10 if the board exams were going to be eliminated in future. **Mrs. Aradhana Rana replied** that this situation is a great lesson for all. This could have happened any time. Students should take the responsibility of learning.

**Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla added** that a mindset change from parents' side is the need of the hour- a move away from marks. Board is dealing with the change. School has been given the responsibility of giving marks. Performance throughout the year is taken into consideration; not a single, term end exam. It will be a holistic assessment, a move away from rote learning.

**Mrs. Juhi Sablok** again asked what the junior college is offering. For which **Mr. Kamalkant Jha** replied that ICON is offering an integrated course. The students don't have to join extra coaching class. It will benefit them with more self-study hours.

Mrs. Aradhana Rana advised the parents not to take any class lightly. 9 to 12 is all continuous. Watch youtube to see what CBSE Secretary conveys about the future of education.

**Mr. Jogesh Kumar** asked whether screen time can be reduced as students are not getting time to do their work. 2 lectures should be back-to-back so that in between 20 minutes could be saved.

**Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla replied** that it is not possible for students to attend more than 40 minutes at a stretch. They won't be able to concentrate and Dr. (Mrs.) Dipi Agarwal supported saying medically also it is proved that children up to 17 years can't concentrate for more than 40 minutes.

**In conclusion Mrs. Aradhana Rana gave the following suggestion:**

1. PTA members are a bridge between the school authorities and parents. She suggested that parents should have a meeting of their class parents once in 03 months and convey the suggestions to us.
2. Parents were told to accept the online mode of learning and make the most of this given opportunity.

Trustee of the school and the management representative of the PTA, **Mr. Amit Mutha**, assured the parents *“that the academic session has begun well and that all management decisions are student centric”*

#### **8. Vote of Thanks:**

The meeting ended with the Secretary, Mrs. Dipika Nagarwalla thanking the management, staff and the parent members warmly for their participation and presence in the meeting. The principal while thanking the parent partners assured them that they can always write to the school for any concerns/suggestions. She thanked the parent community for their continued trust during these trying times. She ended the meeting by reiterating that the learning journey has not stopped and the bond with the learners continue to grow with renewed enthusiasm each day at Icon.