

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING

NPSC

NOTICE

The meeting of the members of the General Body of NPSC will be held on Wednesday, 28th September, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Venue : ITL Public School
Sector-9, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

Principal : Ms. Sudha Acharya

Phone : 011- 25071251

e-mail : itlschool@yahoo.co.in

AGENDA:

1. Expert Speak:
Mr. Robert Sun (USA) to conduct a session on **'Transforming Your School Culture to Get Students Energized, Empowered and Excited about Learning'**.
2. Felicitation of the National Awardees and CBSE Awardees.
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting.
4. Action taken on the points arising out of the last meeting.
5. Matters of concern - School Audits, Court Cases, New Education Policy and CBSE's New Initiatives.
6. 44th Annual Conference-Preliminary Discussions.
7. Any Other Point with the Permission of the Chair.

SEEMA JERATH

Joint Secretary
Secretary (Officiating)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, August 24, 2016 AT 1500 HRS AT Lovely Public Sr. Sec. School, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110091

Members Present :

1. Mr. Ashok Pandey, Chairman, Principal, Ahlcon International School, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091
2. Ms. Seema Jerath, Joint Secretary, Secretary (Officiating), Principal, DLF Public School, Sector-II, Rajender Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad 201 005
3. Dr. M Kannan, Treasurer, Principal, Faith Academy Sr. Sec School, John L Dorsey Road, Prasad Nagar, New Delhi-110005
4. Mr. Laksh Vir Sehgal, Member-Executive Council, Principal, Bal Bharti School, Ganga Ram Hospital Marg, New Delhi -110060
5. Ms. Rekha Sharma, Member-Executive Council, Principal, Bal Bharati Public School, Sector-14, Rohini, New Delhi-110085
6. Ms. Dharmandra Goyal, Member-Executive Council, Principal, Delhi Public School, Sector-9, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad-201012
7. Ms. Sudha Acharya, Member-Executive Council, Principal, ITL Public School, Sector-9, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075
8. Ms. Rachna Pant, Member - Executive Council, Principal, Ramjas School, Sector-4, R.K Puram, New Delhi-110022
9. Dr (Ms.) Ruchi Seth, Member - Executive Council, Principal, Lotus Valley International School, Sector-126, Taj Expressway, Noida
10. Ms. Sonia Luthra, ASN. Sr. Secondary School, Mayur Vihar, Ph-1, New Delhi-110091
11. Ms. Sunita Gupta, Air Force Bal Bharati School, Lodi Road , New Delhi -110003
12. Dr. Anju Tandon, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan Mehta Vidyalaya, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-11000
13. Sr. Joviana Fernandes A.C, Carmel Convent School, Malcha Marg, Chanakya puri, New Delhi-110021
14. Ms. Aparna Erry, DAV Public School, Sector-14, Gurgaon-122001
15. Ms. Rashmi Raj Biswal, DAV Public School, Outer Ring Road , Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034
16. Ms. Sunita Nagpal, Delhi Public School, Phase-1 , Sushant Lok, Gurgaon-122002
17. Dr. S.K Sharma, Greenfield Public school, GTB Enclave, Dilshad Garden, New Delhi-110091
18. J.S.Ghuman, Guru Harkrishan Public School Poorvi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057
19. Ms. Reema Punj, Guru Nanak Public School, West Avenue Road, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026
20. Mr. Zubair A. Khan, Humdard Public School, Talimabad, Sangam vihar, New Delhi-110062
21. Mr. George Mathew, Jaspal Kaur Public School, B- Paschimi, Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi-110088
22. Dr. (Ms.) Sangita Bhatia, KIIT World School, Zone H-4, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034

23. Dr.(Ms.) Bhawna Malik, Lovely Public Sr. Secondary School Priyadarshini Vihar, Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi-110088
24. Mr. B C Pandey, Mahavir Senior Model School Sangam Park Extension, Rana Pratap Bagh, GTK Road, Opp Nanak Pao Gurudward, New Delhi-110033
25. Sr. Stella Joseph, Mater Dei School, Tilak Lane, New Delhi-110001
26. Dr. Vijay Datta, Modern Public School, Block BM, Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi-110088
27. Ms. Jyoti Arora, Mount Abu Public School, Sector-5, Rohini, New Delhi-110085
28. Dr D K Pandey, N C Jindal Public School, Road No. 73, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026
29. Ms. Sandhya Awasthi, Salwan Public School, Sector 15-II, Gurgaon-122001
30. Br. E L Miranda, St. Columba's School, Ashok Place, New Delhi-110001
31. Ms. Sanghamitra Ghosh, The Mother's International School, Sri Auribindo Marg, New Delhi-110016

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Sr. Janet, Principal, Convent of Jesus & Mary, Bangla Sahib Lane, New Delhi-110001
2. Mr. A. P. Sharma, Apeejay School, Sheikh Sarai - I, Phase-1, New Delhi-110017
3. Mr. Krishan Bhati, Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Vidhalaya, Sawai Ram Singh Road, Jaipur-302004
4. Ms. Neeta Rastogi, Sadhu Vaswani International School 2nd Street, Shanti Niketan, New Delhi-110021

The meeting commenced with an enthusiastic performance by the students of Lovely Public School portraying the need of humanity and harmony in the world today.

Principal, Dr. Bhawana, Lovely Public Sr. Sec. School addressed the gathering and extended a warm welcome to all members present.

Chairman, NPSC, Mr. Ashok Pandey took the proceedings further by welcoming all members while complimenting everyone for their commitment towards NPSC.

Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th July 2016:

- Mr. Ashok Pandey informed the house that the minutes of the last General Body Meeting of NPSC were sent to all members by e-mail and also updated on the NPSC website. No observations were received. The members confirmed the minutes.

- He proposed to take up Agenda No.3 prior to discussing the NPSC Academic Programs conducted in the month of August-September, as he invited Ms. Bhanu Gehlot and Ms. Mingma Lhamu for a presentation on India Remembers Project.

Agenda Item No. 3: Presentation by Ms. Bhanu Gahlot on India Remembers Project

- Ms. Bhanu Gehlot and Ms. Mingma Lhamu from United Service Institution of India – Center For Armed Forces Historical Research (USI-CAFHR) introduced the recently launched project '**India Remembers**' to focus on the process of assigning a designated day to commemorate the services of army men who lose their lives in the battle field.
- United Service Institution of India is a unique institution with expertise in field of national security and matters pertaining to the defense services. Highlights of the project presentation were:
 - Ms. Gehlot focused on the fact that while many countries of the world have designated special days and symbols to honour the valour and sacrifice of their service personnel, we lack the tradition of remembrance here in India.
Therefore, the project emphasizes on the strong need for India to dedicate a specific day of remembrance which must also have a unique Indian symbol that can allow citizens as well as the international diaspora to acknowledge the valour and sacrifice of the Indian Armed Forces in the service of the nation.
 - To institutionalise a national culture of remembrance, the CAFHR in partnership with the War Graves Commission has launched the 'India Remembers' project on 14th July, a day that also marks the centenary of the first major event cavalry charge on the western front. The project proposes that the Marigold flower join the Poppy as an Indian symbol of Remembrance; and a **Day of Remembrance** or **Sainik Smriti Divas**, coinciding with the Armed Forces Flag Day, to be held annually on 7 December.
 - Ms. Gehlot invited schools to generate awareness of the sacrifice of the personnel of the Indian Armed Forces while engaging with the diverse community groups across India to remember the honoured service men and women through commemorative activities.

- She introduced a concerted action programme through the medium of an education module in the form of a resource pack. It has been developed for use in schools, universities, and other community groups throughout civil society. This resource pack is the basis of the Community Engagement Programme.

Ms. Bhanu Gehlot ended her presentation with a poignant quote, *'Our endeavors throughout have been not to glorify war, but to emphasize the need for peace by recalling the horrors inflicted upon nations by conflict. Remembrance, therefore, is not a call to jingoistic fervor, but a time for silence and reflection.'*

- The presentation was continued by Ms. Mingma Lhamu who briefed the gathering on the list of commemorative activities that schools can take up to initiate a culture of remembrance amongst students. The activities will be divided in two categories: Intra-school and Inter-school.
 - Both intra and inter school activities are centered on the themes being advocated around the project i.e. remembrance and commemoration.
 - Intra-school activities were proposed with examples such as: house board decoration, competitions, heritage walks, performing arts, special visits and talks. A theme can be announced and houses of the school can decorate the boards accordingly. The result and the decorated house boards can then be exhibited and shared with the entire school. Competitions can be based on drawing, painting, poster writing etc. Suggested themes are War Memorial dedicated to Service Men in India as well as abroad. Schools can organize Heritage Walks to the local War Memorials, cemeteries and conduct on-the-spot activities.
For performing arts and theatre it was recommended that schools can encourage their drama club to prepare a presentation, play or song on remembrance and perform during the school's events. Schools may also invite war veterans or their descendants and make them share their experiences from wars with the students.
 - A few Inter-school activities were proposed such as Debate Competition, Quiz Competitions or Elocution Competition where a school may deliberate on the necessity of the remembrance. The

themes listed for references could be - I as an Indian Soldier, Significance of Remembering the Fallen Indian Service Men and Women and Significance of the War Memorials. Other themes can be chosen depending on the school and the participating students.

- Schools participating in these projects will need to fulfill some of the prerequisites, which are:
 - Each community group involved with the project is required to sign an informal checklist.
 - The core team within the community group i.e., principal, teachers to participate in a baseline survey. This survey will help evaluate the progress of the project in the end.
 - India Remembers team to provide the schools with copies of the resource pack.
 - India Remembers team to assist schools in conducting any of the activities, deciding specific themes, signing an important checklist or participate in a survey. The project team will provide schools with copies of list of the plan.
- Schools may contact the team on indiaremembers@usiofindia.org or contact@indiaremembers.in or are free to meet and discuss at their office.

Mr. Ashok Pandey thanked Ms. Bhanu Gehlot and Ms. Mingma Lhamu for their comprehensive presentation and urged all schools to participate in this project.

Following the presentation, a brief update on the action taken on NPSC Academic Programme was discussed by Mr. Pandey. It was indeed a very active month, since many schools indulged in numerous activities successfully:

Agenda Item No. 2: Action taken on NPSC Academic Programme

- Science workshop by the Australian Science teacher Dr. Silburn was held at Ahlcon International on August 6, 2016 and 100 teachers from 50 schools took part in it. It was an intriguing program as every teacher appreciated the learning and experience gained at this workshop.
- August 9, 2016 - the SLAM poetry event was conducted at Springdales School and 162 students from all schools took part in it and it was a great success.

- On August 19, 2016, Ideas to Innovation and Entrepreneurship was held in DLF Public School and 45 teachers participated in it. During this no paper- no pen workshop, all the participants were encouraged to indulge in out-of-the-box ideation and brainstorming. It was an enlightening experience for the participants.
- On August 20, 2016, The Workshop on Pedagogy was held in Ramjas School. The subscription went to 100 teachers although a confirmation was received only for 18. Mr. Pandey applauded the commitment of NPSC schools towards learning as well as the attractiveness of the program.
- August 23, 2016, Workshop of Art Education was held in Springdales School. 7 of NPSC schools took part in it.
- The Sports Tournament would be conducted between September 6 – September 9, 2016 at Bal Bharati School.
- Mr. Ashok Pandey expressed his delight that 52 schools have sent their consent for participation in the Science for STG Competition in collaboration with UNIC. Further details about the competition will be shared shortly with everyone.
- He insisted that all member Principals share their expertise and best practices of their schools in the form of an article for the special issue of the 'Teacher' magazine. For their January 2017 issue, the publication has invited articles exclusively from the NPSC principals. The proposal and the memorandum of understanding have been received. Being an international publication there is conditionality on the quality of articles. Mr. Pandey has written to all schools who are interested. The deadline to submit the same is September 26, 2016.

With this point Mr. Pandey thanked all present members while stating that *our mandate is to focus on the professional development of the teachers and principals, and also to provide opportunities for the students to learn.*

He added that the presentation of the students of Lovely Public School in the beginning of the meeting was in sync with the very same thought.

Agenda Item No. 3: Any Other Point with the Permission of the Chair

- Participation of NPSC in National Conference of CBSE - Dr. Usha Ram informed the house that NPSC is representing as a body in the National Conference of CBSE, regarding the inclusion and reforms that will be taking place for children

with special needs. 3 Principals are representing NPSC at the conference. It was requested that a brief about the conference will be shared with all members.

- Residential Program ‘The Blueprint for the Next Generation Schools’ for Principals - Ms. Lata Vaidyanathan is planning a 1-2 days retreat for the Principals at the exotic TERI Retreat. The discussion will be around ‘Future of Schools and Schools of the Future’. Recommendations and policy decisions will largely revolve around the kind of schools we require, the designs needed, the technology platform required and so forth. The tentative dates for the program are 1-2 December, 2016. It was suggested to all members to block their calendar for these dates and the details will be floated to everyone at the earliest.
- Action to be Taken during School Audits – Members shared that most of the NPSC schools across different cities are going through audits. The audit is made mandatory by the Ministry of Education and is varying from 4 days – 30 days. It was advised to be courteous to the auditors and present the documents that they require. In case there are any reserves, one may politely refuse. Based on the audit they are going to prepare a report that will ultimately come back to the school and may be discussed later. The mandate states that the audit needs to be a microscopic process and so it was advised to cooperate with the auditors.
- School Fee Issue – Mr. Pandey informed the house that the fee issue is yet to be resolved. The court has to be approached to seek clarification because no order of the DDA can overrule the parliamentary sanction as per the Delhi Education Rules and Acts. All were advised to wait for a decision. Once the audits are over and the report is shared, the Directorate of Education informs schools if they may or may not increase the fee. As per Mr. L.V. Sehgal only 17% of the schools are asking for the fee raise i.e. approximately only 100 schools have submitted their papers for an increase in fee. Also, it was mentioned that audit can happen in schools who have not asked for an approval as well.

It was reiterated that as per the condition of the DDA Allotment Land, one must seek the approval of the DOE for the raise of fee. This is applicable only to the DDA land schools. If the school is not on DDA land or any of the allotting authorities have not put in this clause, then as per Delhi Education Act one does not need an approval.

- Farewell of Ms. Rekha Sharma - Mr. Pandey informed the house that Ms. Rekha Sharma will be taking over a new position at Bal Baharati Public School and a new Principal will be joining NPSC. Mr. Ashok Pandey expressed a heartfelt gratitude for a long association and her outstanding contribution in various capacities over the years.

Dr. D.K. Pandey extended the vote of thanks while showering a generous appreciation for the performing students of Lovely Public Sr. Sec. School. He insisted on the message of the necessity of each one of us to 'be human' which was conveyed through their performance.

The meeting culminated as Dr. D. K. Pandey, Principal, N C Jindal Public School thanked the life member, other members and particularly the host school and its Principal, Dr. (Ms.) Bhawana Malik.

SEEMA JERATH

Joint Secretary
Secretary (Officiating)