

Summary Note

AAESS Parents - School Discussions

Improve Awareness of PC within Parents, Teachers, and Students”

Tuesday 24 April 2018 (10:00-11:00 am) At Upstairs Meeting Room AAESS Admin Office

1.0 Attendance

Steve Giles - Deputy Principal/Head of Secondary
Ahmed Al-Mukhaini - Parent Committee - Chairperson.
John Jennette - Parent Committee - Member.

2.0 The Discussion;

2.1 Parent Committee and Teachers & Students

- How can the Parent Committee help Teachers and Students to improve education?
Mr. Steve Giles agreed to ask the Teachers and “Head Students” and return with their feedback to the Parent Committee.

2.2 Parent Evenings

- The Parents Committee (PC) should be invited to Parents Evenings in order to reach maximum number of parents and collect feedback. Majority of Parents Evenings are currently completed as they are normally scheduled at the beginning of the academic year.
- The School will provide the calendar of next year with dates of Parents Evenings and give to PC after Ramadan.
- Post-Meeting Comment: Admin of Primary and Secondary School to include Parent’s email address (parents@aaess.sch.ae) in the invitation lists for Parent Evenings.

2.3 Parents Activity Days

- John Jennette suggested organising a Parent Day in the form of Family Activity Day, like the Al-Ain Zoo Activity Day in November, where parents participate in sport and educational activities along with their family and wear T-shirts with labels of the School and Parent Committee.
- The School is already organising several activity days like the Flag Day, National Day, Sport Day, “Talent Shows” for Secondary/Primary, and occasionally Music Production.
- Parents need to be more encouraged to attend and support the children in these activities

2.4 Parents Support for Special Educational Projects:

- The School is expanding and there are plans to increase classes and other facilities. The PC suggested that future plans of the school include also playgrounds and Special Educational Projects like;
 - HydroPonic farming in Science labs.
 - Pets Nests/Habitat in class rooms or science labs.
 - Special Telescope to see the Stars and watch the moon, etc.
- It is suggested that the School study different ideas and identify its preferred education projects and explore options where the PC could help in its development if possible.
- The School highlighted that UAE laws and ADEK regulations strictly prohibit raising or collecting funds from the public. Violation of these regulations will lead to serious legal action and severe consequences. However, the School is allowed to accept gifts and official sponsorship of special events from formal entities or companies.

2.5 Publication through School Web Site and Social Media

- The PC needs to develop and improve the Parents Web Page. Support Sessions can be arranged with the School IT team and the focal point for the School Web Site.
- There is a need to agree on the guidelines or terms that control the PC publications on the School web site and social media accounts.
- Public posts have direct impact on the image and reputation of the School. As Web Site messages are accessed by the public, it is essential that the messages be correct, clear, and represent the overall opinions of parents. Messages concerning minor issues or personal judgments should be avoided.
- To avoid any misunderstanding, it is agreed that the publication should be sent to the Principal's office through PC Clerk (Mrs. Caroline Reader) for Pre-Reading prior to Publication.
- The School requested the PC to write a paragraph about its activities this year to include in the Schools report as sign of appreciation for the valued efforts of the Parent Committee.