

Annual Review

CETSS Parents Council

Constitution

- First meeting in November 2016
- Elections
- Constitution Working Group created the PC constitution
- Ratified January 2017
- Review October 2018

STEAM Group

- Science Technology Engineering Arts & Maths
- Academic interest group allowing parents to work collaborate with the school
- Coordinating with Jerrienne (Science)

Activities:

- Promoted events in Cork for **National Science Week** (November 13th – 20th 2016) and of events taking place at UCC

STEAM Group – activities continued

- Supported Science teacher in organising a trip for all pupils to the **BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition** (January 11th – 14th 2017) in Dublin
- Worked with school to organise and go on a trip to **The Gearagh** (a submerged glacial woodland) near Macroom, West Cork
- One parent used their own expertise to support a project entered into SCI FEST at CIT

STEAM Group – activities continued

- **Engineers Week** (March 4th – 10th 2017). Three parents came to school to present their own experiences working in engineering
- Students visited to Blackrock Observatory for an event for **Space Week** in October 2016 (and 2017!)
- End of year showcase with projects displayed at Black Rock Castle Observaatory and eco-feast. (June 2017)

Policy Review group

Developed a methodology to review and provide feedback on school draft policies, including:

Behaviour policy
Data protection
Critical Incident
Anti-bullying

Child Protection
Health and Safety
School trips
More for 17-18

Social events – to consolidate the parent community

- The parent community was born last summer through a series of picnics in Fitzgerald park
- Informal Coffee Mornings
- Pub Social Evening
- New parents picnics summer 2017
- More in 17/18 and suggestions welcome

School Issues

- The PC created a forum to hear different views on homework and create a greater understanding on such a key topic
- Jerrienne presented to the Parents Council a model for school democracy
- David presented a Schoology tutorial to parents (and again in September 2017)

Book Trolley

- Book trolley The parents suggested and collaborated with the school to donate reading resources for students
- Age appropriate Book donations are still welcome

Outstanding

- Review of constitution (temporary working group)
- Parents are welcome to join the Policy Review Group
- The STEAM group is open to new parents and all you need is an email address to get into the loop
- Other academic interests welcome, e.g. social sciences, humanities.



Constitution of the Parents Council

What? When? Who?

- It is a main policy document defining the purpose, the scope, the structure etc. of the CETSS Parents' Council
- Developed between October 2016 – January 2017
- A Working Group of parents developed the text
- A quorum group of parents present at one of the PC meetings voted to ratify it
- PC Constitution is to be revised this year (October 2017)

Main Points

- Founding of the CETSS PC reflects our **rights** and **responsibilities** as parents to **actively engage** in the education and development of our children and the school
- CETSS PC provides a structure for parents to **collaborate** with the CETSS Students Council, the Staff Council, the Board of Management, and the principal
- Goal: to **collectively** create a safe, positive, and caring environment that promotes learning and nurtures the ethical, moral, personal, social, cultural, intellectual, and physical development of the child

Scope

- PC represents all current parents/guardians
- PC is one of the CETSS 'decision-making bodies' within the school's democratic structure
- PC cannot deal with individual complaints (in this case, please refer to standard procedures set up by the school)
- PC revises, may develop or challenge policies of the school
- PC organises activities and events but may be also involved in supporting the BOM, the Principal, Student/Staff Council in their own activities.

Operational Committee

- The fixed posts for the Operational Committee are:
 - i. Facilitator and Co- Facilitator
 - ii. Secretary and Co-Secretary
 - iii. Treasurer and Co-Treasurer