

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARENTS/TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (PTA) OF THE CHILDVILLE SCHOOL, OGUDU G.R.A LAGOS HELD AT 10:00AM, ON THE 2ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013 AT THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

ATTENDANCE: (See the attached Attendance Sheet)

APOLOGIES: Dr Mike Adebamowo (Chairman), Mrs Ronke Ogunbiyi, (Secretary) (Also see attached list of apologies from Teachers)

1. OPENING

The meeting was chaired by Mrs Angela Okodogbe. She gave a welcome address and thereafter requested parents who were attending the meeting for the first time to introduce themselves.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2012, having been previously circulated; were read by Mrs Ifeoma Okoya-Thomas.

The Chairman called for comments and or observations on the minutes and the following were noted:

- a) The name "Aliu Gafar" should be corrected to read 'Aliyu Gafaar'.

In the absence of any other observations, the minutes were adopted on a motion moved by Mrs Ogbo and seconded by Mrs Ozonma.

3. HEAD OF SCHOOLS' (HOS) REPORT

1. **School Lunch:** The Parents had made recommendations on the timing of the school lunch. However, the School observed that the energy level of the younger children usually begins to wane at about 10am to 10:30am; this has therefore influenced the decision to serve lunch around this time.
2. **Phonetics:** The School had incorporated the teaching of Phonetics into the English Language curricular. The School is also considering the employment of a Linguistics teacher who will instruct the pupils on proper pronunciations and related matters. It is expected that this will help in improving spoken English generally amongst the pupils.
3. **My School 360:** Both the HOS, Mr Townsend and the School Administrator, Mrs Alokolaro gave an update on "MySchool360" Portal. They both assured Parents that the School was working hard to ensure that all stakeholders are able to maximize the potentials of the Platform. They also emphasized the various benefits that the Platform has to offer and encouraged Parents who might be experiencing some challenges with the system to always contact the School for prompt assistance. The following functions were being planned for incorporation into My School 360:
 - a) Reports on the progress of a young child's motor skills
 - b) Reports on Levels of intelligence
 - c) Timeline achievements
 - d) Minutes of Meetings
 - e) A Social Network (Chatroom) that will be intranet based and open to teachers and pupils

4. IMPROVEMENTS & PLANS:

- 1) All toilets have been tiled to further improve hygiene and also enhance their aesthetics.
- 2) A new Biology teacher and a new ICT teacher recently joined the team.

- 3) The School hall is being expanded to increase sitting capacity.
- 4) A portable cabin will be installed at the current location of the basket ball court. It will serve as additional staffroom, accommodate some extra classrooms and also serve as additional storage facility. The Basket Ball court will be relocated for this purpose.
- 5) A swimming pool is to be constructed within the premises.
- 6) Exam preparation periods will now be included in the time-table of pupils in year 4-6
- 7) The Nursery section will be getting a dedicated key board for use in music classes
- 8) After School care: Parents are implored to pick up their wards within the stipulated pick-up period. After the grace period, all pupils will be referred to after-school care for proper monitoring.
- 9) There is immediate plan to sponsor the external training of 3 primary school teachers. The training facilitators are expected from overseas and they will be training in conjunction with seasoned Nigerian professionals.
- 10) Core Values: The School has embarked on a project which is targeted at projecting the School's core values. This will also guide the formulation of the School's Mission and Vision Statements. The project is being managed by Mrs Alokolaro
- 11) Library Day: Mr Townsend gave an account of the recently held Library Day. As a result of the success of the event and positive feedback received from Parents and guardians alike; the School plans to make it a yearly event.
- 12) Cultural Day: The Cultural Day event will be taking place on the 25th of February, 2013. The Theme of the day will be "Countries of the FarEast". As usual, it will be a wholesome experiment geared towards exposing the pupils to other cultures of the world.

- 13) School Production: There are going to be changes to the venue and timing of this year's drama production. The event will be held before the 3rd term examinations. Also the School has secured another venue which is the Main Auditorium of the University of Lagos. The UNILAG venue is preferred for the following reasons: it provides larger sitting capacity; it has a revolving stage which is more spacious and more functional (twice the size of what is available at the MUSON); and finally, it comes at a lower cost.

5. RESPONSE TO HOS REPORT:

- (1) My School 360: Mrs Folorunsho observed that there is no clear indication of the performance trends on MySchool360. As an example, it is not easy to track when a pupil's grades drop or improve neither are there any explanation or reasons for such changes. Another parent, Mr Abiodun Akanni commented that there are other challenges regarding the implementation of the Platform. Also, Dr Ayo Teriba was of the opinion that the amount of N5,000 being charged per child is high; particularly for parents or guardians with more than one child at the School.
- (2) The HOS thanked the parents for their feedback. He acknowledged that My School 360, being a new tool, naturally has plenty of room for improvements and further adjustments in order to bring it in line with the demands of its users. He also reminded the Parents that the actual cost My School 360 per pupil is N10,000. The School had been able to secure a huge discount, by virtue of the HOS being a nominated Spokesperson for the company that markets the Platform. The HOS however believes that the cost may go down over time.

6. SECURITY WITHIN SCHOOL PREMISES:

Mrs Ogunboye shared the story of a recent kidnapping that took place at a school in Magodo, Lagos. According to reports, a driver who had been working with a family for about 6 months had kidnapped their children. The said driver had claimed he was innocent and insisted that he dropped off the children at School. Fortunately, the School had CCTV around its premises, so when the tapes were played, it was discovered that the children never made it to school that morning. Mrs Ogunboye concluded by making a recommendation that the School installs similar devices to further enhance security around the school premises. Mrs Okodogbe also referred to the planned construction of swimming pool on site and advised that the pool comes with a fence to ensure adequate safety. Another parent Mr Albarka Byoma also suggested that the CCTV should cover the swimming pool area.

7. MERGING OF CLASSROOMS:

Mrs Adeyemi expressed concerns that the recent merging of classrooms in the primary section may have adverse effects on the pupils. She was also of the opinion that the 6 Pillars of Character projects were becoming a routine and that the school should consider a fresh avenue for teaching social ethics and morals. Mrs Adeyemi further observed that considering the amount of work put in by some students in the monthly exercise, some rewards should be given to the pupils with the best projects.

8. SOCIAL ETTIQUETTE SKILLS:

Mrs Fola Fadeyi advised the School to consider the inclusion of social etiquette skills into the curricular, as she believes this will help in preparing the young ones for the demands of the larger society.

9. PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT:

There was an extensive debate on the subject of pupils' performance assessment. While some parents were of the view that each pupil's position should be indicated in their respective examination report, others believed such style of reporting could be counter-productive as it might demoralize pupils who have not done so well in the examination. The general consensus that emerged was that the School continues with the present style and should show the pupil's average, in addition to class average. This gives a general view of each pupil's performance in relation to the average performance class-wide.

Some Parents also requested that Report Sheets be sent by email, irrespective of what is obtainable through MySchool360.

10. VALENTINES FUN WALK:

The Social Secretary to the PTA, Mrs Ifeoma Okoya-Thomas gave an overview of the activities planned for the forthcoming Valentine Fun Walk and Fun Day. She encouraged Parents to show their support by purchasing the branded t-shirts that were being produced for the event. Stalls will also be available to Parents who might wish to display their wares, the stalls would be rented for a token fee of N5,000.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

A parent, Mrs Odusanya recommended that the School set up a charity club and/or organize charity days. According to her, this will help in sensitizing the children to be compassionate towards the less privileged. Mr Townsend informed the PTA that Childville already has a tradition of supporting and making donations to Homes for the less privileged. He however agrees that there is room to extend the work being done in this regard.

At this juncture, Mr Townsend complimented the teachers for their hard work and also expressed his appreciation to the PTA EXCO for their support and selfless contributions towards the progress of the School.

Finally, the Chairman thanked all parents and teachers for taking the time to attend the meeting and for their invaluable contributions. She encouraged the parents to embrace My School 360 portal and explore all the potentials it has got to offer; whilst requesting that the School's Management look into all the issues highlighted by the parents and find desirable solutions.

12. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING

In the absence of any other business, the motion for adjournment was moved by Mr Friday Essienekah and seconded by Mrs Abimbola. The closing prayer was led by Mrs Odusanya.

By Order of the PTA EXCO

Aderonke Ogunbiyi
Secretary