

PODAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL- CHINCHWAD

PARENTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting

Parents Teachers Committee Meeting (PTA)

Meeting Date: 21/12/2024

Venue: II D (Ground Floor)

Time: 03:30 pm

Present Members:

1. Ms. Shehanaz Cottar (Chairman)
2. Ms. Manisha Ghosarwade (Secretary)
3. Ms. Vaishali Ransubhe
4. Mr. Mandar Dalvi (Vice Chairman)
5. Mr. Deepak Ratnaparkhi
6. Mr. Gajendra Bidwai
7. Mr. Pankesh Chaudhari
8. Ms. Manasa Rammohan
9. Ms. Deeplaxmi Parande
10. Ms. Pranali Chaudhary
11. Mr. Rohidas Patil
12. Ms. Farzeen Firoz
13. Ms. Blessia Chakaranarayan
14. Ms. Geet Karamchandani
15. Ms. Shweta Deshmukh
16. Ms. Geetha Vishwanathan
17. Ms. Geeta Bennur
18. Ms. Sachita Nanekar
19. Ms. Dipti Lagad

The EPTA meeting at Podar International School commenced with a warm welcome extended by the Chairman to all attending members. A brief Power Point presentation showcased the school's progressive development over the past 15 years, highlighting its dedication to quality education and growth.

The Chairman provided an overview of the school's current status:

The student count stands at 3,500, of which 2,900 are regular fee-paying students.

620 students are enrolled under the RTE scheme, but government funds are a concern.

There is an outstanding amount of Rs. 54,79,099/- for the academic years 2020-21 to 2024-25. While 50% concessions were offered during COVID-19 to families in need, some dues remain unresolved.

Additionally, a few students from the year 2020-2025 continue their studies without proper fee payments, and 5-6 have left the school without obtaining a Leaving Certificate. Efforts, including Registered AD letters, have been made to address these cases.

The discussion moved to financial updates and planning and the proposed revised fee hike of 12% was introduced for the next two years by the Chairman after discussion with the Management.

Mr. Dalvi said notice with regard to fee hike was expected to be sent and displayed on the website and notice board before approval.

The Chairman clarified that we have mentioned it as 'Proposed Fee Hike' and is for the new admissions starting in October and subject to adjustments for A.Y. 2025- 2026. Payments from existing parents are generally scheduled for March/April.

Mr. Dalvi raised concerns about the lack of transparency in the EPTA selection process, noting that no prior notification or lottery system is in place.

Mr. Bidwai emphasized the need for better communication platforms for EPTA members and requested access to documents, including the school's balance sheet and utilization plans. He also highlighted the issue of late fines, which the Chairman answered it as a necessary deterrent for defaulters.

The fee hike was declared as null and void by the present EPTA Members till further necessary documents are shared by the school.

**The Chairman addressed these concerns, explaining that:
EPTA Committees are formed in April and in June when Grade XI members are selected, and the finalized list is displayed on the school's website.
The timeline for proposed work and updates will be communicated to parents via email.
The fee structure displayed online is uploaded by the Head Office.
The meeting concluded with a mutual agreement to improve communication and transparency between the school administration and EPTA members, ensuring smoother operations and greater trust moving forward and people from management to be present for the further explanation for the next meeting.**

The development points showcased in the PPT against 12⁰% Fee Hike were:

1. CCTV's in all classrooms
2. Washroom Renovation of Ground Floor, 1st and 2nd Floor in phased manner
3. Repairing of Badminton Court
4. Construction of Dome on School Terrace
5. Painting of Basket Ball Court
6. Safety Rope Net in Quadrangle Area
7. Rain Water Harvesting
8. Front Porch Area covering.

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