

S.C.G Minutes 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010

**1. Minutes of previous meeting (May)**

- Renu – website report back balance between marketing and information more up to date/easier to navigate. Much improved.

**2. Head Teacher's Report**

Rayyan

- 5 out of the 7 permissions for building have been granted. However of the two remaining, one is solvable, but 1 has not been approved and no reason has been given as to why not.
- Once Madinat Khalifa started – everything at Rayyan was put on hold.
- Still looking at developing Rayyan and moving forward.
- There is plenty of scope at MK for expansion The current capacity is 400 and when a proposed new block is built this will increase to 600
- Admission numbers continue to rise. As a result we are opening a new Year 1 class at MK and have appointed a class teacher and learning assistant. They will start on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and the class will open on the 10<sup>th</sup> October
- Years 5/6/7 are also getting close to being full
- Jeannette requested information regarding Rayyan and future plans to be given out to parents as early as possible
- Jill agreed stating it is detrimental to the school's reputation to not appear to be changing at the last minute.
- John - hopefully a decision can be made around January or February time if possible
- Dion stated that there is some disappointment amongst parents who were closer to the Rayyan location. John apologized for this.

School communication

- Internet not reliable etc. So other means of communication in use as always.
- Jill /Renu impressed with welcome meetings and the level of communication so far in Primary
- Secondary: Jeannette felt that information about the welcome meeting was not as clear: where it was being held, when it was, there was no invite given to the parents
- Donna / John agreed we could do better and will look at this
- A possible solution is to have a presentation about what happens in secondary
- Renu – suggested that in the newsletters there could be a feature on specialist lessons and teachers as well as on new teachers. This suggestion was warmly received by all

### 3. Elections

- Jan Leeman has been on the SCG for two years and is happy to step aside and let someone else have a turn. If no one did step forward she would be happy to be considered for re-election.
- The election of a new teacher representative will be conducted in school by the leadership.
- A discussion followed over the need for a teacher from each campus or from primary/secondary
- After much discussion it was agreed that the group would be more effective by keeping the group to 8 persons rather than expanding. This situation could be reviewed if it was felt to be necessary
- This means there is to be election for a parent representative from each campus
- It was suggested that a meeting be held for parents to outline the different ways in which parents can help in school; SCG, class parents representative, social committee, welcome group etc
- It was decided that the committees would be across the whole school not separate as Compass is a community, one school not two separate schools.
- Keep parents groups as one

#### Parent information sheet

JC is happy to prepare this document and will send the first draft by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October for our comments

#### Parent Meeting - Evening

Meeting scheduled after the document that has been created has been sent out

A letter explaining the election process and an invitation to stand be sent out

#### Re-Election

JV/RB are both standing for re-election

As a result of this, JV cannot be involved in the election process

#### Dates for election

These will be decided by JT and dates distributed

We will aim to hold the elections in the last week October

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> last week there will be the parent information evening

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October a letter will go out inviting parent to the meeting

## Some guidelines

There will be 2 parents per campus, 1 vacancy at each campus at the moment

Parents will only be permitted to vote for their own campus only

### **4 From parent representatives**

- Dion raised the point that some parent did not receive the communication from the school re the opening of the new building and the closure of Rayyan
- John said that a number of methods were tried with email and phone calls to every Rayyan parent however, it was agreed we need to tighten up on communication
- Arabic classes  
Jeannette – feeling that children do not enjoy it. This feeling was echoed by some other members of the group  
John and Leadership team will take this concern away and work with Arabic dept. They will feedback at next meeting. It is already on our strategic plan to review Arabic provision.
- Class size.  
22 maximum – what are we going to do to keep numbers to this  
John – In Yr 1 where we are oversubscribed, we are opening an extra Yr 1 class  
Yr 6 has large numbers at the Gharaffa campus but space at the MK campus. All parents have been given the opportunity to move
- School buses Tri-logistics  
Complaints were received regarding the Tri Logistics bus service.  
Unfortunately this is an organization outside the school's control. The school has attempted to intervene to help improve the situation on a number of occasions to no benefit. If it continues to cause such problems the school will consider withdrawing them.
- Uniform  
Deon raised the issue of strictness on wearing the correct school uniform.  
John explained that as a school we are trying to marry many different cultural norms regarding uniform, from countries that have no uniform, to those that are very strict. For many it is a cultural change and this will not happen overnight. Whilst we consider it important and will be tightening up, it does not impact upon our student's learning and as such is not the most important thing we do.
- Traffic  
The traffic situation at Gharaffa has improved greatly, due in part to the extra guard employed for the start of year
- MK Canteen  
Deon asked about the plans for the school canteen. John stated there were none and wouldn't be until the school grew to 400+, which would then make providing food a viable option  
Deon asked was there going to be a school photograph for the new campus like last year when Rayyan opened – John stated that the new campus is a continuation of Compass not a brand new situation

- Principal reports  
No questions

**Next SCG meeting will be held at Madinat Khalifa in the Meeting Room on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 6:30pm**