



Agenda

- 10.30 Introduction
- 10.40 The role of Parents / Parents Association (Tommy Walshe)
- 11.15 The role of ACCS / Grace Mooney
- 11.45 Tea / Coffee
- 12.00 Role of Parents
- 12.40 Questions and Answers



PACCS

Tommy Walshe

Connie Carolan

Margaret Molloy



PACCS

PACCS is a Voluntary Body.

How is PACCS funded.

National Parents Council post primary (NPCpp)

Post Primary Education Forum (PPEF)



Meetings

Management Body

ACCS

Teacher Unions

TUI and ASTI

Department of Education

State Examinations Commission



Website

Working on our new Website

Conference 2010

Workshops:

Mental Health for Teenagers

Project Maths



Initial 24 Schools

All other schools

Sept 2008	Strands 1 + 2	
Sept 2009	Strands 3 + 4	
June 2010	Changes to paper 2 (S1+S2)	
Sept 2010	Strand 5	Strands 1 + 2
June 2011	Changes to paper 1 S3 + S4	No change in exams
Sept 2011	All strands in place	Strands 3 + 4 (*)



24 Schools

All other Schools

June 2012 Full changes to both paper 1 and 2

No change paper 1
Changes to paper 2 (S1+S2)

Sept 2012 Full new syllabuses in all schools

Full new syllabuses in all schools

June 2013 New exam paper 2

Changes to paper 1 (S3+S4)*
New exam paper 2*

June 2014 New papers 1 + 2 in all schools

New papers 1 + 2 in all schools



McCarthy Report

Proposal to save €746 million in Education

- increase PTR to 20:1 in Post Primary
- Reduce SNA numbers by 2000
- Increase transport to €500 per child
- Reduce funding to schools by 10% in 2010 and a further 10% in 2011
- Suspend recruitment to NEPS
- Target of €100 million saving in Supervision and Substitution
- Reduce money for teacher training
- Re-introduce 3rd level fees.



Why Have a Parents Association

It gives parents at local and national level an opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas on the very important subject of education for their children



Why do Parents join Parents Association.

- Strong emotional bonds between parent & child.
- Importance of 2nd level education for child.
- Parents wish to support in any way possible.
- Joining the PA helps to get to know school.
- Helps to get to develop relationships with P & DP etc.
- May join because of specific issue



The Practical Possibilities of a Parents Association

As a member of a Parents Association parents will get to know more about the school:

the people working in the school

the everyday schedule

staffing difficulties - availability

the curriculum possibilities

funding



The Practical Possibilities of a Parents Association

Find practical ways to co-operate and support the work done by the teachers

Transition Year (local business)

Homework (journal)

Concerts (School Musical)

Sporting events (supporting, training, travelling)



The Practical Possibilities of a Parents Association

Organising events for parents Information

Transition Year information evening (The Program)

Curricular (SPHE) (CSPE) (HSCL)

Drug and drink abuse

Bullying

Study



The Practical Possibilities of a Parents Association

Organising parent / teacher, teacher / student,

Parent / student / teacher etc, social events such as;

Competitions

Socials

Quizzes

Exhibitions - Local industries and transition year efforts

Form and Fusion



Parent Association is Not

- a complaints forum against teaching staff.



Parent Association is Not

- a complaints forum against teaching staff.
- a tea and biscuit making committee.
- solely a fund-raising organisation.



yTEACH.

yTEACH: What is it ?



yTEACH.

- Each ready-to-use e-lesson consists of a selection of interactive activities, simulations, animations, videos, as well as assessment tools offering meaningful feedback to you and your students



yTEACH is:

- simple yet versatile function
- allows you to manage and organise your favourite interactive resources,
- prepare presentations for your students,
- build and store Playlists,
- create class assignments which you can send to your students and review their results.



Parent Responsibilities

Encourage excellent attendance

Supporting school work

Attending parent-teacher meetings

Checking homework/journal

Providing required text books/accessories

Supporting school policies

Willingness to participate in school life



Student responsibilities

Treating all with respect

Punctuality

Completing homework

Working hard

Attending regularly

Uniform

These goals have to be communicated?



The role of PACCS

- PACCS brings this to the next level, regional & national.
- PACCS can influence ACCS
- Must understand relationship between ACCS and individual schools.
- Each school is a stand-alone entity.
- ACCS influences but does not have authority over school



Effective Meetings

Effective meetings have the following characteristics:

- All parties are well-prepared.
- All documentation for discussion is sent out in advance and read by all participants.
- Everyone is aware of the need, purpose and objectives of the meeting.
- Meetings start on time and keep to an agenda.
- The meeting is efficiently managed by the Chairperson.



Role of Officers

The **Chairperson** is responsible for the conduct of meetings;

- Let all viewpoints be heard
- Where a matter is put to a vote the chairperson has a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.

The **Vice-Chairperson** takes over the chairpersons duties if the chairperson is not available.



Role of Officers

The **Secretary** records the minutes;

informs the membership of forthcoming meetings and agenda for same;

writes and receives correspondence on behalf of the association and

brings all correspondence to the notice of the members



Role of Officers

The **Treasurer** opens and operates a bank account on behalf of the Association;

- is responsible for all money received;
- prepares a statement of accounts for each meeting
- prepares and presents an annual account at AGM.



Role of Officers

The **PRO** is responsible, on behalf of the Association,
for liaison with the media,
the local community and other schools in the area.



Sample Agenda

Saturday 6th March 2009

1. Minutes of Previous meeting
2. Matters arising from minutes
3. Correspondence received
4. Treasurers Report
5. Public Relations' Officer Report
6. Main Business for discussion
7. Any other Business
8. Date and venue for next meeting.



Constitution

SAMPLE PARENTS COUNCIL CONSTITUTION



P.P.E.F

Post Primary Education Forum



P.P.E.F

- Education seriously underfunded in Ireland.
- Ireland 27th in OECD table % of GDP invested in education.
- PPEF set up to lobby for greater investment in education.
- Budget cuts set us back even further.
- Need to be organised to achieve sufficient funding



P.P.E.F

- Set up country/area committees.
- Good practice to involve partners.
- Need to co-ordinate efforts.
- Difficult to gain ground in present climate.
- Need to continue to lobby at local and national level



Questions

School Transport

€500 per child



Parents Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools

Thank you