

# CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BANGALORE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (SCA)

Monthly General Meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> September commencing at 2:30pm.

**Apologies:** Cher Pradhan

**Vickie Reay** (chairwoman) introduced herself and the committee to the meeting and explained the role of the SCA (school community association).

- The role of the committee is to organize and run social functions as well as trying to improve and encourage school spirit among the students and families.
- The committee is not a tool for grievances or issues that you have with the school.
- These are discussed below.
- Open positions are for sports booster and campus co-ordinator G7-12
- Dates to remember of upcoming events are placed in the newsletter. The newsletter is produced every 2<sup>nd</sup> month.

**Lynda Gigg** (principal) introduced herself and spoke about the following:

- If issues in the classroom the procedure to follow is:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> speak to the class teacher
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Group Co-ordinator if not happy with result from the teacher
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> to go to Lynda if unhappy with the results from the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 steps.
- Lynda wants to bring the school along in a positive way
- The grievance committee. You need to write and submit your concerns the Wednesday before the grievance committee meeting that occurs every Friday. The committee will try to resolve the issue that has been raised and will give feedback to the recipient
- If you have a concern about a particular facility you need to go to the Manager of that area. E.g. Facilities, transport, cleaning.

Questions raised to Lynda were:

- **Cafeteria:** the cafeteria is happy to accept recipes (if the ingredients are available) and suggestions on how to improve
- **Homework:** Lynda was going to look at the guidelines of the expected homework for years 9 – 12 and will pass the information on.
- **What if different parents from same class have the same issue:** Issues would be resolved (hopefully) by the change in actions resulting from the issue raised. If given permission would pass information onto other class members if not a confidential matter.

**Shweta Sastri** (executive director) introduced herself and explained that she will be more hands on with the school as she will now be here for good.

Issues discussed were:

- **Accreditation:** CIS (council of international schools). The school is a member of the council of international schools. However, it is not accredited as an international school. It is currently going through the process of applying to be credited.
- **IB (International Baccalaureate):** A recognized program that the school has offered since 1996. The school is re-assessed every 5 years to ensure it is equipped to continue to offer the program.
- **IGCSE(International General Certificate of Secondary Education):** The program is provided by the Cambridge International Examinations. It is a 2 year program for year 9 and 10 and is the most popular international qualification available.
- **School Fees:** Shweta asked for school fees to be paid on time as it makes the running of the school very difficult if fees have not been paid.

Suggestions to rectify the problem were:

1. Direct debit
  2. Monthly fee payment
  3. Deposit at end of school year for the next year enrolment
  4. Structures to be put in place for payment of fees
- **Cover area for pick-up and drop-off:** Statistics show last year that only 3 days of rain during pick-up and drop-off. This year has been an unusual situation with amount of rain. It is currently not in the schools plan to cover any areas around the school.
  - **School discipline:** The school has a zero tolerance policy as laid out in the school handbook
  - **Where do junior school have lunch when too hot?:** No solution was made and it is too far for the littlies to walk to the cafeteria
  - **% of Foreign Teachers:** Shweta explained that the percentage of Indian teachers is 60% and Foreign teachers is 40%. However when you look at the credentials of the teachers and who have taught at overseas or other international schools the percentages change to 70% international teachers and 30% Indian teachers.

Other issues discussed:

- E-mail address for class representative to all class members.
- SCA (school community association) to implement cafeteria committee to help sort the issues relating to the food, the level of spiciness etc.
- As many families have English as their second language could we please not abbreviate words and speak a bit slower for easy understanding.

Meeting closed at 3:45. Next meeting to be held Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.