

# **GURGAON PROGRESSIVE SCHOOLS COUNCIL, GURGAON**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

A General Body Meeting of the GPSC was held on 9<sup>th</sup> May'19, at DAV Public School, Sector 14, Gurugram.

### **The following members attended the meeting:**

1. Ms. Aparna Erry, DAV, Sector-14, Gurugram
2. Ms. Arti Chopra, Amity International School, Sector-46, Gurugram
3. Dr. Anshu Arora, Amity International School, Sector-43, Gurugram
4. Ms. Shalini Bajaj, The Maurya School, Palam Vihar, Gurugram
5. Mr. Harsh Kumar, Bal Bharati Public School, Manesar
6. Ms. Dipinder Kaur, DPS, Pataudi
7. Ms. Anita Gupta, Raman Munjal Vidya Mandir, Gurugram
8. Ms. Sheena Yadav, Gyan Devi Senior Secondary School, Sector-10, Gurugram
9. Ms. Vineeta Yadav, Gyan Devi Public School Senior Secondary, Sector-17, Gurugram
10. Ms. Rani Rai, St PBN Public School, Gurugram
11. Ms. Dhriti Malhotra, Manav Rachna International School, Sector-46, Gurugram
12. Ms. Anita Makkar, The HDFC School, Gurugram
13. Ms. Asha Sharma, SDAV, Sector-47, Gurugram
14. Ms. Alka Singh, Blue Bells Public School, Sector-4, Gurugram
15. Ms. Irina Mukherjee, Summer Fields School, Gurugram
16. Ms. Rashmi Mehta, Salwan Public School, Sector-15, Gurugram
17. Ms. Sandeepa Rai, Rotary Public School, Sector-22, Gurugram
18. Ms. Rounaque Saba, Aravali Public School, Gurugram
19. Ms. Rupa Chakravarty, Suncity School, Gurugram
20. Ms. Veena Sanger, DPS, Sushant Lok, Gurugram
21. Mr. Akhilesh Chaturvedi, DPS Maruti Kunj, Gurugram
22. Ms. Charu Maini, DAV, Sector-49, Gurugram
23. Ms. Nirmal Yadav, CCA School, Gurugram
24. Ms. Meena Singh, CCA School, Gurugram
25. Ms. Asha Saxena, Rao Lal Singh Public School, Gurugram
26. Ms. Arpita Acharya, Blue Bells Public School, Sector-10, Gurugram
27. Dr. Indu Khetarpal, Salwan Public School

### **Proceedings:-**

1. The members were welcomed by the Chairperson Ms. Aparna Erry and the meeting commenced at 3 pm after ascertaining the quorum.
2. The minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April'19 at DPS, Sector 45, Gurugram were ratified and approved.
3. The Chairperson welcomed a new member, Ms. Dipinder Kaur, Principal, DPS, Pataudi with a green sapling and formally introduced her to the Council. The members welcomed her with a round of applause.
4. On the occasion of the superannuation of Ms Asha Saxena, Principal, Rao Lal Singh Public School, Sidhrawali, Gurugram; the Chairperson felicitated her and presented her with a

book and a planter on behalf of GPSC. Thanking her for her relentless support and ever participative nature, the Chairperson wished her luck in the next phase of her life. Ms Asha Saxena recalled her long association with the Council and congratulated them for taking all the member schools along towards progress in a collaborative manner.

5. The Chairperson welcomed Dr Arvind Kumar along with his team members and invited them to give their presentation on ***Air Pollution & Climate Change- Act now or Perish*** as per the circulated agenda. Dr. Arvind Kumar is the Chairman, Center for Chest Surgery and Director, Institute of Robotic Surgery at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi and Founder & Managing Trustee, Lung Care Foundation. Some excerpts from his address are as follows:

- Lung Care Foundation (LCF) was established on 25th May 2015 as a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to the cause of promoting “Lung Health” in India. The Lung Care Foundation is committed to saving lives by helping people in planning ‘Every Breath.’
- We breathe 25000 times a day and inhale about 11000 litres of air per day using our Lungs. It is important to care for our Lungs so we can have a good and healthy life.
- Air Pollution is known to be causing much harm to human health spreading to all the organs of the human body. According to the 2010 Global Burden of Disease report, outdoor air pollution caused more than 6,20,000 premature deaths in India. Air pollution has reached extremes, making inhaling it equivalent to consuming 15-20 cigarettes a day for an individual and making lung cancer a common disease even amongst non-smokers.
- The Respiratory System and Lungs being the first line of defense for the body, are the most direly affected human organs when referring to Air Pollution
- Airborne dust particles are potentially hazardous for human health. Particles more than the 10 µg are not breathable and hence are very harmful to our lungs and other external organs of the body.
- Lungs are damaged primarily because of the two factors of ‘धूल’ or Dust and ‘धुआं’ or Smoke. Smoke or ‘धुआं’ is emitted from various sources such as vehicular sources, industrial sources, high exposure to other VOC fumes and burning landfill sites. Dust or ‘धूल’ could be originating from various sources like the roadside, construction sites and unauthorized dumps of construction waste, empty grounds with no grass or plantation etc. It is time to wage war against ‘धूल’ and ‘धुआं’
- It is very essential to be able to identify signs/symptoms of Lung Diseases for early identification and treatment of diseases like COPD, Asthma, Lung Cancer etc.
- Carpooling, segregating waste and planting more trees can help in reducing pollution.
- Have more indoor plants like Areca Palm, Peace Lily, Spider plant, Money Plant and Snake Plant can also aid in this crusade.
- It is suggested that electricity generated from renewable energy sources be bought, like hydroelectric, wind or solar power.
- Lung care Foundation’s Dream is to provide “Care and Cure for 2.6 Billion Lungs” in our Country. More information could be reached out for at <http://lcf.org.in/>
- B.E.S.T (Breathe Easy Stay Tough) school club is a student led initiative to effectively empower our country’s youth towards better Lung Health by engaging school students in conceptualising and implementing an annual engagement plan involving over 100 activities.

- Around 25% School Children have Asthma. To prepare schools to be ready to deal with an asthma emergency, Dr Arvind provided an Asthma Manual which can be downloaded too from <http://lcf.org.in/asthma-management-manual-for-schools/>

The members of the council thanked Dr. Arvind for his insightful and educating endeavour to reach out to schools through GPSC and for working towards a noble cause to save humanity.

5. As per the circulated agenda, all the members of the council were requested to submit the completed forms for hosting GPSC activities in a bid to frame activity calendar for the current session. The Chairperson thanked the members for their contribution and requested the Joint Secretary Ms. Arpita Acharya, Blue Bells Public School, Sector-10, Gurugram to consolidate the calendar and get it uploaded on the GPSC website.
6. The Treasurer Dr. Indu Khetarpal reminded the members about their pending yearly subscriptions. She also shared that apart from a balance of Rs 2.57 lakhs in the saving account of GPSC, there was a fixed deposit of Rs 8 Lakhs also, safely kept in the credits of the council. She circulated a list for updating the names, addresses, phone numbers and e mail ids.
7. Mr Akhilesh Chandra Chaturvedi, Principal, DPS, Maruti Kunj, Gurugram, enquired that in the incidence of an application of EWS students sent by the Education Department, which does not meet the necessary criteria, as stipulated in the RTE act, the schools should be able to present their case to the department. The Chairperson affirmed the same and informed him that the Department would hear out such cases and suggest amendments too.
8. The draft letter prepared by Ms. Anita Makkar to mandate the minimum age of 5½ years for Grade I admission was circulated amongst all the members present in the meeting for their approval and signature. This letter will be further sent to DEO, Gurugram.
9. The Chairperson shared that on the occasion of superannuation of DEO, Dr. Dinesh Shastri, GPSC had presented him with a silver souvenir as a mark of respect for his continued support to the GPSC schools. The members acknowledged and applauded for the same.
10. The next GPSC meeting shall be hosted by Suncity School, Gurugram on 19<sup>th</sup> July'19. Detailed agenda shall follow in due course.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks for the host school, extended by Ms Rani Rai, Principal, St PBN Public School, Gurugram; for the warmth and hospitality extended by them to all.



Arti Chopra  
Secretary, GPSC