

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

GURGAON PROGRESSIVE SCHOOLS COUNCIL, GURGAON

A General Body Meeting of the GPSC was held on 18th February '21 on the virtual Zoom platform. It was attended by 25 members. The details of the proceedings are as follows:

The minutes of the meeting are as follows:

1. The Chairperson welcomed all the members and complemented them for the success of XIX th GPSC Virtual Conference held on 23rd January'2021. She thanked each and every member for their contribution to the smooth conduct of the program. The members were extremely thankful for the informative and insightful conference that was beautifully executed and well appreciated by the NCR community and media.
2. As per the circulated and updated agenda, Ms. Niti Shankar Sharma, Deputy Secretary, CBSE, Panchkula, addressed all the members and complemented them for the success of their Annual Conference. She urged all the members to let the teachers register themselves for the upcoming Webinar being conducted on New Education Policy (NEP), by the CBSE Center of Excellence, Panchkula. The attendees shall be expected to complete the quiz based on NEP, after the webinar, for which they will be rewarded with a certificate. She announced that District Training Coordinators and Deputy District Coordinators are being appointed in all the districts to ease the execution of the training programs. The members were asked to cooperate with them. The Chairperson and Secretary thanked Ms. Niti Shanker Sharma for her presence in the GPSC meeting. However due to technical glitches, at her end, she had to leave.
3. Taking the agenda ahead, the Chairperson asked the members to share their experiences about the challenge in hand, the reopening of the school after a yearlong lockdown. She also asked the members to share their best practices planned for the upcoming new session 2021-22.
 - Ms. Aditi Misra, Principal & Director, DPS, Sector 45, Gurgaon, shared that only 25-30% of parents have confirmed about sending their wards for the offline classes to school. She also said that it would be difficult to run both online and offline classes simultaneously. Since, the guidelines for running the school's buses are yet to be received from the Government, their school is not able to run buses.
 - Ms. Anita Makkar, Principal, HDFC School, Gurgaon, said that they had begun a hybrid model for grade VIII -XI, as they have enhanced their Wi-Fi capacity. Those students, who are not attending the classes in school, are able to connect online and participate in the classroom discussion. For the new session, they intend to start offline classes from Grade VI upwards.
 - Mr. Akhilesh Chandra Chaturvedi, Principal, DPS, Maruti Kunj, Gurgaon, shared that Grade X and XII students are attending the offline classes. In the absence of directives to run the buses, a lot of staff will have to be appointed. As it is not clear, whether the parents will pay the bus fees, the financial implications on the said schools would be high. In any case, the school intends to open the new session from 5th or 6th April'21. However, there were parents in their school who had yet not cleared even last session's dues, which was causing some anxiety.

- Ms. Charu Maini, Principal, DAV, Sector 49, Gurgaon, added that they are getting 100% attendance in Grade IX and are wondering how to get the transport systems in order. She also sought suggestions, about how to handle parents who are not paying any fees and whether schools should be taking Annual Charges in the new session. Other members stated that this problem prevailed over all the schools. The Chairperson responded by saying that more directives from the Govt should bring clarity in this matter. Dr Neelima added here that the court orders did not say that Annual Charges could not be collected. The Chairperson added that the orders of the court were interpreted differently by parents, so it would be better to wait for some more clarity from the Govt's end.
 - Ms. Anita Gupta, Principal, Raman Munjal said they were seeing a strength of 80% of the students in grade IX-XII, and their students in grade VI- VIII were attending school for three hours. They were being given revision classes online in the evening too.
 - Ms. Sandeepa Rai, Principal, Rotary Public School, Gurgaon, stated that their school was successfully conducting offline classes for grade VIII and IX and that their school was all set to reopen in the new session and was working on its transport system.
 - Dr Neelima, Principal of Lion's Public School, Gurgaon stated that they began offline classes for Grade VI – XII from 6th February 2021 and are giving online revision classes in the evening. Their school, wishes to open school from Grade III upwards in the new session or shall follow the directives from Govt.
 - Ms. Aparna Erry, Chairperson and Principal, DAV, Sector 14, Gurgaon added that the students and parents have become too comfortable and are comparing the working of MNCs with the running of schools even though the two situations are not comparable at all. Though the parents are letting children visit shopping Malls and Wedding halls, they have reservations about sending their children to school. She concluded by saying that the situation would improve, only after clear Govt directives for next session's fees are declared.
4. Dr. Indu Khetarpal, Treasurer, was requested to share the list of schools, whose annual subscription for the current session were not yet cleared. Due to network issues, her call dropped. The Chairperson then said that her office shall be making calls to those schools who were listed by the Treasurer as non-payees.
 5. The Chairperson enquired from the Founding members present; whether Meenakshi Public School, whose management had now changed and been taken over by G D Goenka Public School, could continue to be a member of GPSC. The Founding members responded that the association with Meenakshi Public School, Gurugram, must come to an end and G D Goenka School, could apply for a fresh membership of GPSC, once they were settled in and functioning properly.
 6. There being no other matter, the meeting ended with a formal vote of thanks, proposed by Ms. Aparna Erry, Principal, DAV School, Sector 14, Gurugram to the members.

The next GPSC meeting shall be held in due course of time and information shall be shared soon.

Warm regards

Secretary