

## ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION AGM MEETING

### AGM MINUTES: THURSDAY 21 September 2023

**Time and Location:** 7:30pm in St. Augustine's School

**SASPA Attendees:** Yolima Power (YP), Jane Ryder (JR), Trish Dockery (TD), Maria Doherty (MD), Fiona Redmond (FR), Deirdre McGivney (DMcG)

**SASPA Apologies:** Nika Gallagher (NG), Martha Hayes (MH), Corina Udhin (CU), Debbie Pakenham (DP) and Jackie Brophy (JB)

**Other Attendees:** Ms Theresa Ghalaieny, Board Chair, Mr David O'Brien, Principal and a number of parents and guardians

1. **Welcome:** JR welcomed parents to the AGM
2. **Board Chair:** Ms Theresa Ghalaieny joined the meeting at the start and thanked all parents and guardians for all their support for St. Augustine's School.
3. **Chair Report:** YP outlined the work of SASPA in 2022/2023 – see Appendix 1
4. **Treasurer's Report:** TD outlined the Treasurer's Report – see Appendix 2.
5. **Update from the School:** Mr O'Brien gave his school report and reported on the following:
  - Mr O'Brien thanked SASPA for its work in 2022/2023.
  - The official opening of the new school yard will be in November/December and it will take place on a Saturday. During Halloween mid-term break further work on the school yard will take place. This will include a pirate ship; climbing rocks; a roundabout; 10 swings; a band area; a balance beam and a number of sensory items.
  - The school has a new kitchen and courtyard for the children. These were built by John Paul Construction. The new kitchen, which is wheelchair accessible, was put together by Ms Aine Maher, the home economics teacher and it will be used as a teaching kitchen for the pupils.
  - Mr O'Brien thanked Mr Moore for all his work with the school buses. St Augustine's now has its own bus service (this was shared with another school previously). The school buses and drivers are managed by Bus Eireann and the school has no control over this service. There is currently a shortage of buses and drivers in Ireland. The school escorts are managed by the school directly.
  - There have been a small number of cases of Covid in the school since the beginning of the school year. Parents and guardians were reminded to follow the advice from the HSE and not to send their children to school if they are sick.
  - The school buses and staffing continue to be challenging, but that so far, there has been a great start to this school year.
  - The CDNT 2 service in the school is now only one social worker and one speech and language therapist. There is a new manager for the CDNT 2 service and Mr O'Brien will be meeting with them shortly.

- Two new appointments of parents will be made to the Board in December. These will be one mother and one father, and they will be appointed following an election.
6. **SASPA Membership:** The chair and all member of SASPA stepped down from the Association. The new SASPA was proposed, seconded and agreed as follows:

Chair: Yolima Power

Treasurer: Trish Dockery

Secretary: Jane Ryder

Secretarial Assistant: Fiona Redmond

Members: Maria Doherty, Deirdre McGivney, Martha Hayes, Jackie Brophy and Debbie Pakenham

New Members: Rosemary Molloy, Joanne Lawless, Philip Kavanagh and Grace Jepkosgei

Nika Gallagher and Corina Udhin stepped down from SASPA.

7. **AOB:** A parent raised the question if the Aladdin system could be used by the school and Mr O'Brien said that it is in the pipeline.

**Meeting closed:** 8:30pm.

## Appendix 1 – Chair Report

Good evening,

You are all very welcome and thank you for taking the time to attend SASPA's AGM meeting.

For those who don't know me, my name is Yolima Power. My son Gavin is in PP1, this is his 4<sup>th</sup> year in the school and I have to say he has absolutely loved every second of it, thanks to the support of Mr O'Brien and team who do such an amazing job every day in school.

I was privileged to be elected as chair last year after being SASPA's secretary for two years. I was fortunate to have such an amazing committee with me who worked so hard all year. We wouldn't have been able to achieve everything that we achieved without their support. Thank you all for all your help the past year.

Last year we focused mainly on two areas:

1. Improving school community.
2. Fundraising for school.

In relation to improving school community, we set up WhatsApp groups for all classes where a class rep for each class was appointed. This is our second year setting these groups up and they have proven to be a great tool for all parents to get useful information in relation to after school activities and to get to know parents/students within their children's classes.

In relation to fundraising for school, we raised an amazing amount of €9,645.30 during the academic year to go towards the school yard project. We had fantastic success on all SASPA's initiatives we committed to do this year, Christmas Cards, Table Quiz, Sponsored Walk, Disco and School Photos.

We, as parents, are all members of SASPA and our goal is to ensure that Saint Augustine's School is an amazing place for our children to grow and prepare for the future.

**Yolima Power**

**SASPA Chair**

**Appendix 2 – Treasurer Report****SASPA TREASURER'S REPORT****AGM SEPTEMBER 2023**

<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	3,309.80
<b>INCOME</b>	
Christmas cards	2,102.50
Table Quiz	3,055.24
Sponsored walk	4,328.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,486.30</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Christmas card printing	1,088.55
NPC Membership	45.00
Insurance	215.00
Parent Night refreshments	20.89
Quiz Master Voucher	40.00
Venue for Table Quiz	100.00
Disco DJ	200.00
Refreshments Disco	140.00
Bank Fees	15.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,865.15</b>
<b>Cheque to school for the Yard Project</b>	<b>10,829.00</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>101.95</b>