

**Laurel Hill Parents Advisory Council  
Meeting - Minutes 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2017**

**1. Welcome**

- Tony Howlett Chairman opened the meeting and wished everyone a happy new year.
- Aedín Ní Bhrian offered a prayer for all the students and their families for the coming year.

**2. Minutes of meeting 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016**

Proposed by: Stephanie McKeon

Seconded by: Virginia O'Neill

**3. Fashion Show**

Stephanie McKeon gave the following report:

- Participating shops are confirmed including Brown Thomas. The students will model their clothes.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the committee if they have a contact who would be interested in advertising in the show programme.
- The Press launch has been confirmed for the 7<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00pm.
- 6 Show tickets were distributed to Parent Council members to sell. Money or unsold tickets should be returned to the schools by the next meeting.
- Art work will be collected from the students this week and winning poster and programme designs selected.

**4. A.O.B.**

- Aedín Ni Bhrian asked for an expression of interest from parents interested in reviewing the school guidance plan. The policy document is at draft stage. Parents would be required to meet, not very often and the plan would be completed by the end of this academic year,
- Aedín Ni Bhrian and Michael Cregan gave a brief synopsis of the Parent / Student Charter. The Minister for Education published the General Scheme of an Education (Parent and Student Charter) Bill 2016. Under this legislation all schools will have to develop a Parent and Student Charter. It is compulsory for every school. Parent and student councils have to come up with a charter for their school. It will probably be next year before it is up and running. Further information is available on [www.fesspa.ie/parents.html](http://www.fesspa.ie/parents.html)

- Both principals addressed the upcoming vote on further teacher industrial action. They explained teachers have no appetite for strike but they did acknowledge there were a number of issues involved i.e. equality for younger colleagues etc. It is a national issue and shouldn't become a local one. It is important that parents are kept informed. Both schools have made arrangements to hold parent teacher meetings for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years which were not held during the last industrial action. They said it was impossible to predict the result of the upcoming vote.
- A local resident has contacted the school concerned for the safety of children attending local schools. Her concern relates to the lack of traffic calming in the small area of four busy schools. There is no zebra crossing, no bollards, no footpath railings or ramps in and around Laurel Hill Avenue. It was agreed that a letter should be sent from the Parents Council to the City Council.

5. Next Meeting: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.