



National Parents Association for Vocational Schools & Community Colleges

*Cumann Náisiúnta na dTuismitheoirí Garm scoileanna agus Coláistí
Comhphobail*

It's the Spring edition which comes early this year with our Annual Congress on February 22nd & 23rd. This will be held in the Keedean Hotel, Newbridge. We look forward to seeing some of you there – hopefully quite a few.

Our four guest speakers for Saturday are:

Maureen Mulvihill – Irish Heart Foundation
Anne Looney – CEO – NCCA
George O'Callaghan – CEO Co. Clare VEC
Brian Hayes – Opposition Spokesperson for Education

The non-funding of the Summer Works Scheme came as a disappointment in the Budget. We hope to make strong representation for this to be reversed as soon as possible. So any opportunities any of you get to lobby your local politicians will help.

I look forward to a “bumper edition” for the Summer issue.

Should you have any items for publication or any articles of interest please forward them to me and I shall include them in the next issue – Summer 2008.

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Note from Jackie O'Callaghan – Secretary.

With Congress pending all else is on the back burner to a point.

A working group has however been set up to forward the “Anti-Bullying” initiative in conjunction with IVEA and IPB.

As another year ends I would like to thank all those with whom we work, for their ongoing help, support and co-operation throughout the year.

Jackie O'Callaghan
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What is NCCA – a frequently asked question ???

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) is the statutory body that advises the Minister for Education and Science on matters relating to the curriculum for early childhood education, primary and post-primary schools and the assessment procedures employed in schools and examinations on subjects which are part of the curriculum.

The Council consists of 25 members appointed by the Minister and is composed of representatives of the partners in education, of industry and trade union interests and a nominee of the Minister. The Minister appoints the chairperson. The present Chief Executive is Dr. Anne Looney and the present Chairperson is Dr. Tim Collins.

National Executive Meetings for 2008

Proposed dates – Post Congress

Saturday 8th March 2008

Saturday 12th April 2008

Saturday 10th May 2008

Saturday 14th June 2008

Saturday 12th July 2008

All Meetings will be held in the Comfort Inn in Portlaois unless otherwise notified.

Please remember that each school can send two representatives to these monthly meetings. Participation at these meetings is the mainstay of our National Parents Association. The more people that attend the more we can achieve – everybody's contribution is important – we all learn from each other.

Contact : NPAVSCC

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P.P.E.F.

The Post Primary Education Forum involving the National Parents Council, Management bodies and Trade Unions in the post-primary education sector,

This is a National Parents initiative and was launched in December 2007.

Initially the Forum calls for greater investment in second level education. Whilst it is acknowledged that spending on education has increased over the last decade the proportion of our wealth that we spend on education has fallen from 5.2% in 1995 to just 4.8% today.

There will be further meetings of the PPEF through 2008.

CAO Dates for your Diary

February 5th – March 1st : Online facility to amend choices is available at a charge of 10 euros.

May 1st : Closing date for late applications, subject to certain restrictions 70 euros for online applications, 90 euros for paper applicants.

May 2nd – July 1st : Change of Mind facility available at no charge.

August 13th : Leaving Certificate results.

August 18th : Round 1 offers from CAO

August 27th Round 1 acceptances

August 29th Round 2 offers