



National Parents Association for Vocational Schools & Community Colleges

Cumann Náisiúnta na dTuismitheoirí Garm scoileanna agus Coláistí Comhphobail

PARENTS NEWS Issue 6, Winter 2008/09

Hello again, we are entering tough times for education in Ireland with the recent thoughtless cutbacks announced by the Minister of Education and Science.

EDUCATION CUTS :

The Minister of Education proposed a number of cuts and increased costs which affect our children's education in the Budget. The first of these will take effect when schools reopen in January 2009, the remainder will come into effect in the new school year in September. The partners in education, students, parents, teachers and management bodies all oppose these changes and have demonstrated loudly and clearly to the final partner – "Our State" which is represented by the Minister of Education Mr. Batt O'Keeffe.

The National Executive urge all parents to continue to put pressure on their local elected representatives to reverse all budget cuts that effect our children's education.

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Annual Congress 2009

This takes place on 27th & 28th February 2009 in The Meadowlands Hotel in Tralee Co. Kerry.

Nominations for Officer Board and Motions for Congress should be returned to the Secretary as soon as possible. All schools should send representatives as this can be a very valuable experience.

National Executive Meetings for 2009 – Proposed dates.

Saturday 17th January 2009

Fri & Sat 27th & 28th Feb 09
24th Annual Congress

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. All meetings are at 10.30 in Maldron Hotel Portlaoise unless otherwise notified.

Officer Board

President	John Gibbons	087 942 0668	npavscc@npavscc.ie
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Elections of VEC Parents Representatives

These elections will take place in September/October 2009. These representatives have an important role to play in their local VEC's. An Electoral Register of parents with children under 18 years of age attending VEC schools will be compiled in September 2009. To be nominated, one requires five parents from this register to sign their nomination paper. At the moment there are several VEC's without a parent representative, so please think seriously about having someone elected in your particular area.

Affiliations

Parents Associations were reminded that all Affiliations were due by the end of September. Fees are 50cents per pupil if more than 200 in the school. Schools with 200 pupils or less – €100 : Minimum payment €100, maximum payment €500 per school or college. Affiliation forms are available from any member of the Officer Board or our website, please remember that up to date information of Parents Associations helps the National Executive to stay in contact with the correct people in your school.

Congratulations

Since our last Newsletter Mr Jim Moore has been elected as President of The National Parents Council (post primary), we wish Jim every success in his new post.

REMINDER:

Parents with children moving on to third level education, now is the time that CAO application and choices need to be considered.

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