

**CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT/TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2011**  
**St Gerard's Hall**

The meeting was called to order by the President – Mr Nathaniel George at 4:35 pm. Mrs Beverly Lawrence led in an opening prayer.

**Adoption of Agenda**

The item 'COR Weekend' was deleted.

On a motion by Mr Austin Bell and seconded by Mrs Glenda Bertrand, the Agenda was accepted as amended.

**Reading and confirmation of Minutes of 28 September 2010**

This was read by Ms Isabella Prentice and confirmed as read on a motion, by Miss Patricia Etienne and seconded by Ms Selora Charles.

**Matters Arising**

There was none.

**Reports**

**i. PTA President – Mr George**

- a. *CSEC results* – he stated that although 2010-2011 year started as a challenge to both faculty and student, the performance at the exam proved that 'when the going gets tough the tough gets going'. On behalf of the PTA he congratulated the school on its excellent performance at the examinations.
- b. *Family Fun Day* – that year's event took the form of a hike on Segment 2 of the Waitukubli National Trail. The event took place on 4 June 2011. Some 200 persons including teachers, parent and students participated. He called on parents to support these endeavours as they help in familial bonding. He urged all present to participate in next year's event.
- c. *National PTA* – along with Mrs Dublin [Principal] he was invited by the Ministry of Education to a initial meeting geared at the establishment of a National PTA. The draft constitution had been circulated to them for discussion and input. It was hoped that the National PTA would provide networking for and among schools, teachers, parents.
- d. *Dominica State College* – Mr George felt that parents should begin to decide on the next step for their students/wards after Convent High, hence he felt it imperative to give some data that parents could think over in the interim. He had been appointed to form part of a steering committee to ensure smooth transition of the 'A' level programme viz the Associate degree at the DSC. He posed a few questions to parents asking them to ponder on these as they would make their decision:
  - should the 'A' level programme be a separate evening programme?
  - there exists a duplication of fees as the 'A' level fees are separate from that of the Associate degree.

Mr George stated finally that he had served as President since 2007 and that though he was willing to continue serving, he should allow another the opportunity to serve as President.

ii. **Principal's Report**

Mrs Dublin thanked Mr George for his years of service as President of the PTA. She stated that he provided stellar leadership over the 4-year period.

She noted that 2010-2011 was an unusual academic year which provided its challenges to the faculty and students. She stated that the academic year ended for the 5<sup>th</sup> Formers before Term 3 started for the rest of the school, hence posing its own difficulties. She thanked all stakeholders for the ability to marshal and ensure that the year went smoothly.

- a. *CSEC & CCSLC 2011 Results* – Mr McAulay presented this component to the PTA. The year saw CHS with a 96.8% overall pass rate. 10 subjects obtained 100% pass rate whilst the lowest rate this year was 90.3%. Twenty-one students excelled with 5 or more grade ones.

He went on to state that at the CCSLC level Mathematics was included for the first time this year and the school got on 100% pass rate in English and Science with a 96.6% in Mathematics. Mr McAulay called on parents to continue supporting the school in its drive for academic excellence and to recognise the efforts of the faculty. He also called on parents to ensure that (i) homework was done (ii) nutrition was considered (iii) students got sufficient sleep (v) students were provided with sufficient financial, spiritual and emotional support.

Mrs Dublin stated that effective 2011-2012 academic year, the school will not register students for the CCSLC programme except at the 5<sup>th</sup> form level in the area of Foreign Languages. This was because within this area, there appeared to be a general malaise and students were not too keen to write the CSEC exams in French and Spanish at the CSEC Level.

- b. *School Development Plan [SDP]* – Mrs Dublin stated that due to the difficulties of the last academic year and the toll it took on the faculty, the SDP had not been evaluated, at the planned time, hence the plan for this new academic year was not presented. She promised that it would be made available at the earliest.
- c. *Student Council* – because of the varied curriculum being offered at the CHS, it proved a challenge in the 2010-2011 academic year to get a convenient day and time for the Student Council meetings. It has been agreed that effective this year once a month, during Home Room session, the Student Council will have its meeting.
- d. *Homework Diary* – last academic year, it was noticed that students did not make full use of the diary. Parents are urged to help by checking through as the diary can serve as a communication medium for the school and parents.

Finally Mrs Dublin called on Parents/Guardians to support the teaching fraternity as it is comprised of mainly young persons who need much support as persons are not attracted to teaching any more.

iii. **Treasurer's report** – presented by Mr Nathaniel George

Balance b/d	\$8340.68
collected	\$612.93
Family fun day	<u>\$197.80</u>
Total	\$9151.41

Receipts

Domlec	\$1500.00
Registration	\$1785.00
Lime	\$1500.00 [ special promotion campaign]

Disbursements

T-shirts and drinks	\$1687.20
Video production	\$500.00
Transportation	<u>\$900.00</u>
	\$3087.20

Balance	\$197.80
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**New Business**

i. **Creole Day**

Near regular classes. Students are expected to dress in national wear. Classes would be truncated to 30 minutes. Creole assembly at 7:50 am. 12:00 noon there will be a drumming competition.

The Student Council would be having a sale of snacks on that day.

ii. **National Youth Rally**

Ministry of Education had stated that this was a regular school day, however, because of the large number of students involved in various aspects of the Rally, it will not be possible to hold regular classes. Hence, the school as one body would attend the rally accompanied by teachers. Students would be dismissed at noon.

iii. First term's exams are scheduled to run from 29 November to 7 December. The schedule would be posted very shortly on the school's website.

Parents were expected to collect report cards on 16 December. If parent/guardians are unable to do so, they were to send a notice along with the individual they had authorised to collect on their behalf.

iv. **CSEC 2012 Registration**

Deadline for receipt of payment is 25 November 2011 by paying candidates – this included private scholarship holders. Students who are government Scholarship or Bursaries would be informed of the date for bringing in their completed forms.

v. **Outrageous in Orange**

The annual social for students would be held on 19 November 2011 on the school's grounds. The cost is \$35 single and \$65 a pair. Time – 6:30 pm to 10:30 pm.

**Elections**

There existed one vacancy on the PTA executive. The following persons were nominated and the results were:

Marie Lewis	5 votes
Glenda Bertrand	54 votes
Patrick Fontaine	18 votes

Mrs G Bertrand was duly elected.

**Any Other Business**

- i. One parent stated that he understood the point made that the school was unable to afford a security officer, but this should be seriously considered. He also stated that the school should do some fund raising on its own rather than solicit from parents.
- ii. Another asked if it was possible for the teachers to put the notes used in class and data required such as text on the school's website for access by students. This point is legalistic as the issue of intellectual property rights and plagiarism would come into play.
- iii. Passing of the Hat - \$450.39 was collected at the meeting.

The meeting ended at 6:20 pm after the gathering was led in prayer by Mr Nathaniel George.