

The Orchid School
Parent Teacher Association- Executive Committee Meeting
2023 - 2024

Date: 25th Oct'23

Venue: Conference Room

Time: 04:30 PM

Agenda:

- Fee proposal for AY 2024-25
- Ratification based on actual incurred in 2023-24 & expenditure projections for 2024-25.

Members Present:

1. Dr Lakshmi Kumar – Director, Board Representative
2. Ms. Sangeeta Kapoor – Principal, Ex- Officio Secretary
3. Ms. Atreyi Saha – Vice Principal
4. Mr Bhairavnath Godase – Accounts Head
5. Ms Supriya Khanolkar
1. Ms Preeti Bajpai Ratti
2. Ms Duhita Deshmukh
3. Ms Sayali Kulkarni
4. Ms Sonal Soundankar
5. Ms Divya Gupta
6. Ms Suvarna Mahashabde
7. Ms Madhurima Majumder
1. Ms Mahua Dey
2. Ms Rudrani Anandgaonkar
3. Ms Rajeswari Srikrishnan
4. Ms Kamini Mistry
5. Ms Simran Swami
6. Ms Sharmishta Biswas
7. Ms Richa Joshi
8. Ms Shivani Acharya

Points of discussion:

- Principal, Ms Sangeeta Kapoor welcomed all the parents and teachers to the PTA Meeting.

Overview of the Budget AY 2023-24 and Fee Ratification Proposal for AY 2024-25

- Members were apprised of the Fee Fixation Act and the process to be followed for the same.
- Past five years fee hikes were shared to get a historical perspective.

- Proposed Income (receivables minus RTE), Proposed Expenditure based on actuals till September 23 and projected for October 23 to March 24 for AY 2023-24 was presented.
- Parents were apprised of concept of permissible allowance and how it is calculated and the summary of total expenditure, total income.
- Income based on fees for full capacity including RTE, fees receivable minus RTE and government contribution towards RTE too were shared.
- The proposed expenditure of 2024-25 based on expenditure of 2023-24 was also presented to the members.
- Based on the proposed expenditure for 2024-25, two proposals of fee hike were tabled. Many deliberations happened on the proposals.
- Proposal 1 – 12 % hike; Proposal 2- 14 % hike.
- To alleviate the fear and assumptions that RTE students' fees are distributed on rest of the students, the members were informed that the Board has not distributed the RTE fees to other parents.
- Since, two years fees need to be shared, it was also announced that for 2025-26, the fee hike announcement would range from 8 % to 10%.
- This proposal is announced as per the process and the ratification of the same will be done by the next year (2024-25) PTA Executive Committee. The final hike would be arrived at based on the realities at that time including increase in expenditure and rate of inflation.
- The members shared their concern on the increase in hikes and how it can impact families.
- It was mentioned that the school was extremely mindful while proposing the fee hike and that this was the best possible scenario considering the growing cumulative gap in income partly because of the low / no hikes during covid times.
- Parents discussed different activities which the school can undertake to raise funds.
- They were informed by the school that few projects were undertaken however as the financials were not very impressive compared to the efforts and energy that went in it, the same were discontinued. Also cost cutting beyond a certain extent will compromise the quality of education.
- The PTA members agreed of the rationale for proposing the fee hike of AY 2024-25.
- The PTA members were given time to discuss and arrive with the decision amongst the two proposals of 12 and 14%.
- PTA members were then individually asked to state their choice as the fee hike for AY 2024-25.
- The PTA members finally agreed on the fee hike of 12% for AY 2024-25 for classes I to XI.
- It was also announced that for classes XI and XII, as the same fee structure is applicable for 2 years for the students, there would be no hike in fees for the students in Class XII.
- The plans for the upcoming year and the important dates for Class I and XI admissions were also shared with the members.
- Sangeeta Di thanked all the parents for attending the meeting.