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School Lane, Baldoyle, Dublin 13, D13F9K2

17/5/2022

I would like to thank each of the candidates for allowing their names to go forward as Parent nominees to our Board of Management. A brief biography has been provided by each candidate.

P. McKenna

Secretary Board of Management

Pobalscoil Neasáin

**Barry Brophy (Father of present 1st Year student)**

I grew up in Bayside, attended Pobalscoil Neasain from 1983 to 1989, and my daughter is in first year there now. After school I studied engineering at college, worked for a few years in industry and now I teach in the Mechanical Engineering school in UCD. My main role is as a lecturer in technical communication through presentations, videos and reports.

I don’t think school should just be a leaving cert training course, and even though I have taken what looks like a very academic route through life, I realise the importance of people skills, communication skills, creativity, and self-motivation. I think Pobalscoil Neasáin promotes these things by being co-ed, inclusive and creative, and I would like to help sustain these values into the future.

**Siobhain Crean (Mother of present 1st Year and T.Y. students)**

Siobhain Crean is a past pupil, mother of three (two of whom are current students in the school) and current parent representative on the Board of Management. Having served two years on the during the pandemic, Siobhain would love the opportunity to serve another term during normal times!

A civil servant working in An Garda Síochána, Siobhain is used to attending meetings and representing her team as well as providing Business Services in her Division.

**Steve Meaney (Father of present 3rd Year student)**

My name is Steve Meaney and I am a parent of a third-year student in PSN. I am seeking to be elected to the board of management of PSN as one of the Parent representatives. I have many years of experience in the third level education sector which I feel will be of benefit to the PSN Board of Management.

I currently work as one of the two assistant heads of the School of Biological and Health Sciences in Technological University Dublin and have met many students from the local area in my lectures. I also chair the university’s Research Ethics and Integrity committee, and am a member of several of the university’s committees focusing on issues such as academic quality assurance and academic integrity.

I am a medical scientist by background, and I worked in hospital laboratories in Ireland before completing a PhD (in Medical Biochemistry) at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Since returning to Ireland I have worked at the Health Research Board, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and, since 2007, in the Dublin Institute of Technology (which is now TU Dublin). While at TU Dublin I completed a masters in applied e-learning to develop my skills and knowledge in teaching learning and assessment. This came in particularly useful during the emergency pivot to online teaching we all went through recently. I am an active researcher and have recently have been funded by SFI to work on developing a saliva-based test for COVID using a new technology. I write and review articles for medical and scientific journals, and also review applications for funding by other researchers.

I feel my current role and responsibilities gives me a unique insight into the main issues in education, and this paired with having a vested interest in the running of the school as a parent of a current student makes me an optimal candidate for Parent representative on the PSN Board of Management.

**Lorraine McLoughlin (Mother of present T.Y. student)**

My name is Lorraine Mc Loughlin my son is about to start 5th year and the year he finishes (2024) my second son will be due to start as a 1st year.

Prior to submitting my interest in the post, I gave this matter a great deal of thought. I took it seriously because well it is serious and if I’m to do it I want to do to the best of my abilities.

Researching the role, one particular sentence (contained within the explanation of what a board of management does) really did resonate with me: to provide an appropriate education for each student at the school’ each (I believe) being the operative word. I hope to be the voice (if and when needed) of the parents and by extension the children. One of the most important responsibilities of school boards is to work with their communities to improve student achievement in their local public schools.

Governance is an issue that is also important to. me, we need transparency and representation on boards, and I wish to continue that structure in Pobal Scoil Neasain. I will fully commit to each meeting participating and hopefully enriching the board.

Whom ever you vote for I’m sure will be a worthy of the role.