



PICT MODEL SCHOOL
Survey no. 6, Mahalunge - Balewadi, Pune - 411045

**Minutes of the First Executive Committee of Parent Teacher Association (EPTA) Meeting
2024-2025**

Date: Thursday, 2nd May 2024, Time: 09:00 am to 11:00 am
Venue: Board Room

Members Present:

Mrs. Abira Mishra	Chairperson
Mr. Utkarsha Puranik	Parent Representative-Nursery
Ms. Priyanka V. Godse	Parent Representative-Jr. Kg
Ms. Varada Kedar Kulkarni	Parent Representative-Sr. Kg
Mr. Piyush Premkishor Gilda	Parent Representative-Grade 1
Ms. Sneha S. Kanase	Parent Representative-Grade 3
Mr. Saket P. Newaskar	Parent Representative-Grade 4
Ms. Vibhavari Pandya	Parent Representative-Grade 5
Mr. Nitin V. Paygude	Parent Representative-Grade 6
Mr. Kunal Waghmare	Parent Representative-Grade 7
Ms. Nilambari Shirodkar	Parent Representative-Grade 9
Ms. Namita Malagi	Parent Representative-Grade 10
Ms. Aparajita Chowdhury	Parent Representative-Grade 11
Mr. S.T. Venkatesan	Parent Representative-Grade 12
Ms. Ann Claret	Teacher Representative-Nursery
Ms. Ophelia Colaco	Teacher Representative-Jr. Kg.
Ms. Prasanna Lakshmi	Teacher Representative-Sr. Kg.
Ms. Sonashree Sarkar	Teacher Representative-Grade 1
Ms. Megha Kalantri	Teacher Representative-Grade 2
Ms. Samiksha Shah	Teacher Representative-Grade 3
Ms. Anupa Biswas	Teacher Representative-Grade 4
Ms. Payal Ghosal	Teacher Representative-Grade 5
Mr. Vipul Goundaje	Teacher Representative-Grade 6
Ms. Jimmy George	Teacher Representative-Grade 7
Ms. Shamika Phadke	Teacher Representative-Grade 8
Ms. Bhawna Pal	Teacher Representative-Grade 9
Ms. Aditi Ghosh	Teacher Representative-Grade 10
Mr. Ranjan Kumar	Teacher Representative-Grade 11
Mr. Bharat Pawar	Teacher Representative-Grade 12

Members Absent:

Ms. Priyanka V. Baviskar	Parent Representative- Grade 2
Ms. Sneha S. Kanase	Parent Representative- Grade 3
Ms. Varada Gupta	Parent Representative-Grade 8

Welcoming Members:

Mrs. Abira Mishra, Principal and Chairperson, extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Executive Committee of the PTA of PICT Model School for the academic year 2024-25. The Chairperson noted the attendance and marked the requisite quorum. Leave of absence was granted to members who were not present with prior intimation. The agenda was presented to the members.

Agenda:

1. Welcome Address
2. Introduction of the members of the Executive Committee.
3. Reading the Maharashtra Educational Institutions (Regulation of Fee) Act, 2011 and the Rules made thereunder.
4. Constitution of the Executive Committee.
5. Adoption of By-Laws of the PTA of PICT Model School.
6. Major academic and co-curricular achievements of 2023-24.
7. Cambridge English Language Assessment (CELA) 2024-25: The Way Forward
8. Vote of thanks.

Introduction of the members of the Executive Committee:

The Chairperson commenced the meeting by requesting all the Parent Representatives and Teacher Representatives to introduce themselves.

Reading the Maharashtra Educational Institutions (Regulation of Fee) Act, 2011 and the amendments made with respect to the formation, rules and responsibilities of the EPTA. The Chairperson Mrs. Abira Mishra read out the Act and the rules thereunder.

Constitution of the Executive Committee:

On 4th April, Thursday, an email was sent to parent partners informing them about the initiation of the formation of EPTA. The consent forms, to be a part of the school EPTA, were sent to the parent partners on the same day and were to be returned by 8th April, Monday. Given below is the data for the consent received:

Grade	% of Total Form Submitted	% of 'Yes Response'
Nursery	78.87	26.78
Jr. Kg.	60.81	11.11
Sr. Kg.	63.88	36.95
Grade 1	58.88	26.41
Grade 2	69.16	13.25
Grade 3	28.33	26.47
Grade 4	49.16	28.81
Grade 5	47.45	17.85
Grade 6	54.31	20.63
Grade 7	48.78	11.66
Grade 8	64.40	6.57
Grade 9	77.31	4.34
Grade 10	69.91	2.53
Grade 11	86.11	16.12
Grade 12	87.50	8.57

On the 13th April, Saturday, the Parent Representatives of the School Managing Committee, Dr. Pradnya Ahire and Mr. Vikas Labba came to the campus and took out the consent forms from sealed boxes, on camera. After that, calls were placed to inform the parent representatives that their names had been picked up and their

consent was sought. This was followed by a welcome mail. The final list of EPTA parent members is as follows:

1.	Mr. Utkarsha Puranik	Nursery
2.	Ms. Priyanka V. Godse	Jr. Kg.
3.	Ms. Varada Kedar Kulkarni	Sr. Kg.
4.	Mr. Piyush Premkishor Gilda	Grade 1
5.	Ms. Priyanka V. Baviskar	Grade 2
6.	Ms. Sneha S. Kanase	Grade 3
7.	Mr. Saket P. Newaskar	Grade 4
8.	Ms. Vibhavari Pandya	Grade 5
9.	Mr. Nitin V. Paygude	Grade 6
10.	Mr. Kunal Waghmare	Grade 7
11.	Ms. Varada Gupta	Grade 8
12.	Ms. Nilambari Shirodkar	Grade 9
13.	Ms. Namita Malagi	Grade 10
14.	Ms. Aparajita Chowdhury	Grade 11
15.	Mr. S.T. Venkatesan	Grade 12

The Chairperson mentioned that the parent representatives of Nestling Preschool are also a part of this EPTA as NEP 2020 guidelines require the integration of preschool with mainstream schooling.

The Chairperson also read out the list of teacher representatives:

1.	Ms. Ann Claret	Nursery
2.	Ms. Ophelia Colaco	Jr. Kg.
3.	Ms. Prasanna Lakshmi	Sr. Kg.
4.	Ms. Sonashree Sarkar	Grade 1
5.	Ms. Megha Kalantri	Grade 2
6.	Ms. Samiksha Shah	Grade 3
7.	Mr. Anupa Biswas	Grade 4
8.	Ms. Payal Ghosal	Grade 5
9.	Mr. Vipul Goundaje	Grade 6
10.	Ms. Jimmy George	Grade 7
11.	Ms. Shamika Phadke	Grade 8
12.	Ms. Bhawna Pal	Grade 9
13.	Ms. Aditi Ghosh	Grade 10
14.	Mr. Ranjan Kumar	Grade 11
15.	Mr. Bharat Pawar	Grade 12

Constitution of the Executive Committee:

Mrs. Abira Mishra informed that the Executive Committee will be headed by the 'Principal' who is the Chairperson of the EPTA by default. She then requested the parent members to nominate the Vice Chairperson and one Joint Secretary from among the Parent Representatives. She reminded the gathering that as per rules sufficient representation should be given to women and all segments of society.

Mr. Saket P. Newaskar, Grade 4 parent representative, had a query regarding the office bearers of the EPTA. Mrs. Mishra explained the regulations as laid down by the government in this regard.

Ms. Aditi Ghosh, Teacher Representative of Grade 10, was proposed as the EPTA Secretary and Ms. Megha Kalantri, Teacher Representative of Grade 2 was proposed as the EPTA Joint Secretary [teacher representative].

Ms. Nilambari Shirodkar, Parent Representative of Grade 9, proposed her name for the position of Vice

Chairperson. Mr. Nitin V. Paygude, Parent Representative Grade 6, was proposed for the position of Joint Secretary [parent representative].

All the positions were unanimously agreed upon by a show of hands. The Chairperson thanked all members for the smooth conduct of the nominations.

Adoption of Byelaws of the EPTA of PICT Model School:

With a unanimous show of hands, the adoption of the Byelaws of PICT Model School's PTA, which was read out by the Secretary, Ms. Aditi Ghosh, was confirmed.

Status Report on Academic and Administrative Operations of 2023-25- Second Term:

The Chairperson, Mrs. Abira Mishra then presented some of the major achievements and events of the second term of the previous academic year to the parents.

Learnometer results:

Mrs. Abira Mishra said that we have always believed in the concept of competency-based learning and the results of the Learnometer assessment have strengthened our belief that we are headed in the right direction. XSEED Learnometer is a computer-based benchmark assessment test for English, Science, and Math that assesses Conceptual Understanding, Applied Thinking and English Grammar & Comprehension at international standards.

The Chairperson shared the exceptional results of our learners with the parent partners.

Subject wise Score:

Total Overall Score - 99%

Average English Score - 99%

Average Mathematics Score -98%

Average Science Score - 99%

Skill wise Score:

Average Understanding Score - 99%

Average Solving Score - 99%

Average Communicating Score - 98%

This outstanding result has been the outcome of focused academic rigour and training of the learners in competency-based education. Mrs. Abira Mishra congratulated our learners and the educators for this wonderful result.

Cambridge English Language Assessment (CELA):

11 of our educators qualified to become Cambridge Speaking Examiners after a stringent process of certification. Learners were trained regularly and rigorously by the educators, within the school hours. The Assessment was conducted after weeks of meticulous planning which was implemented flawlessly by the team under the guidance of our Director Principal and Centre Exams Manager, Dr Pampa Chaudhuri. 1133 learners took the different levels of exams, Pre A1 to FCE. They performed exceptionally well which is a testament to all the efforts put in by the educators.

She then shared the exceptional results of our learners with the parent partners.

Scale	Starters	Movers	Flyers	KET	PET
Scale A	129	142	134	196	93
Scale B	72	33	21	33	46
Scale C	47	15	10	9	13
Scale D	21	4	4	0	0

The CELA certificates were distributed to the learners in a Special Assembly. For the Assembly of Grades 1-5, Ms. Rupashree Sable, Director of Bedrock Educare, was the Guest of Honour while for the assembly of Grades

6-12, Ms. Kavita Roy, Principal, Oxford World School was the special invitee who gave away the certificates. The guests applauded the incredible performance of the learners in the international assessment.

Events from 2023-24:

The Chairperson took the members through some of the major events of this term. At PICT learners are given various opportunities to showcase their talents, build their confidence and also imbibe important life skills in this process. The chairperson showcased the same through a photo journey of some of the important events in the second term of 2023-24.

- **Joy of Giving:**
- **Strokes and Splashes:**
- **Drumming Session by Ray Bally**
- **Christmas Celebration:**
- **Performance Day and Helen O'Grady Performance**
- **Farewell for Grade 12- Batch of 2023-24**
- **Good Luck Party for Grade 10- Batch of 2023-24**
- **Bhagwad Geeta Chanting Competition- Chinmaya Mission**
- **CBSE Regional Science Exhibition and Science Day Project Displays**
- **Happy Hours - Nestling and Graduation Day of Sr.KG**
- **Sports Carnival**
- **Exhibition and Art Walk**
- **Republic Day**
- **Outstation and field trips**
 - **Pondicherry Trip-** Grades 8 to 12: 4th November to 8th November 2023.
 - **Nashik Trip:**

Grade 5- 5th November to 6th November 2023

Grade 6- 6th November to 7th November 2023

Grade 7- 7th November to 8th November 2023

- **Grades 1 and 2** were taken for field trips to the zoo and Grades 3-5 were taken to the Go Cheese Factory at Manchar. They had a lot of fun and learning also. They also got a cheesy bag from the factory as a takeaway treat.
- The **Nestling** learners went for their field trip to Dnyanjyoti Savitribai Phule Udyan and also had a chance to witness the Story of Jafar in the 'Poetry World Show' put up for them in the school auditorium.

Sports Achievements:

The Principal then talked about the major achievements in sports.

Besides winning several medals at the Sakal Olympics, Zila Parishad and CBSE zonal and National Levels, this year, many of our learners got selected for the zonal, state and national teams. The list of tournaments won is long and the learners have performed exceptionally well in all sports. Nehal Jain of Grade 12 won the bronze medal at the CBSE National Level Taekwondo Competition and made us all proud.

Name of the Learners <u>State Level Players</u>	Grade & Section	Sports and Age Category
Parnika Thakare	9 Topaz	Badminton U 17 Girls
Janisha Asija	9 Topaz	Badminton U 17 Girls
Ruhee Bhise	10 Garnet	Badminton U 17 Girls
Parth Zalavadiya	9 Sapphire	Badminton U 17 Boys
Aditya Patil	9 Topaz	Badminton U 17 Boys
Ishaan Bhat- 9 E	9 Emerald	Badminton U 17 Boys
Sharvil Zumade	9 Emerald	Badminton U 17 Boys
Ranveer Dhabholkar	9 Emerald	Badminton U 17 Boys
Ashwin Kumarguru	9 Emerald	Table Tennis U 17 Boys

Arjun Kumarguru	9 Sapphire	Table Tennis U 17 Boys
Keval Sheth	7 Topaz	Table Tennis U 17 Boys
Kaavya Dhuri	10 Topaz	Swimming <u>4X100 Medley</u>
Tanvi Kothavde	10 Topaz	Swimming <u>4X100 Medley</u>
Palak Choudhary	10 Sapphire	Swimming <u>4X100 Medley</u>
Sameera Jagtap	10 Garnet	Swimming <u>4X100 Medley</u>
Anshul Pujari	6 Topaz	Lawn -Tennis
Nehal Jain	12 Science	Taekwondo

Name of the Learners <u>National Level Players</u> (CBSE)	Grade & Section	Sports and Age Category
Ashwin Kumarguru	9 Emerald	Table Tennis U 17 Boys
Arjun Kumarguru	9 Sapphire	Table Tennis U 17 Boys
Keval Sheth	7 Topaz	Table Tennis U 17 Boys
Raj Bhatane	7 - Topaz	Table Tennis U 14 Boys
Divyen Khot	8 Topaz	Table Tennis U 14 Boys
Abhinav Kavale -	8 Emerald	Table Tennis U 14 Boys
Anish Rathi	6 Emerald	Table Tennis U 14 Boys
Nehal Jain	12 Science	Taekwondo

Career Counselling Initiatives

The Chairperson then listed the various sessions and initiatives taken for career counselling. In the second term, we had experts guide the learners in the following sessions:

- Company Secretaryship:
- Design Your Destiny- conducted by Symbiosis Institute of Design
- Eduoption Germany- Regarding educational opportunities in German
- We also had an association with Acadspace for career counselling and aptitude test for all our learners of Grades 8-12.

Community Connect:

The Chairperson then outlined how the school collaborates with the community so that we can do our bit to support community development.

- **'Ek Diwas Shaala Saathi' Programme:**

An Assembly on Exam Stress and Safety Issues was conducted for Grades 7-12 by the Hinjewadi police, to raise awareness about road safety, cyber safety and exam related stress. The learners were given free copies of the book 'Exam Warriors' [Marathi version] authored by the honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

- **Zilla Parishad Teachers' training, Mulshi Taluka:**

Our school collaborated with the local education department and made provisions for them to conduct their 5-day teachers' training programme on our campus. This training was conducted by the Mulshi Zonal Educational Department.

- **Health checkup camp for all school bus drivers:**

A health checkup camp was held at PICT Model School, where specialists conducted eye, ear, BP (Blood Pressure) and Sugar checkups for all the school bus drivers. She also mentioned that these routine checkups will be conducted every 6 months on the school campus.

New Academic Session - 2024-25

The Principal then outlined the events that marked the beginning of the new session and were conducted during March- April 2024:

- **Continuous Professional Development:**

We have had a rigorous training programme for all our educators in February and March 2024, to ensure preparedness for the new academic session. Throughout the year our educators have attended many trainings conducted by CBSE, XSEED and in-house sessions, especially by our respected Director Principal, Dr. Pampa

Chaudhuri. Besides this, the school has signed an agreement with Orient BlackSwan to train selected educators in their specially curated 60-hour language enhancement course.

- **Collaboration with Ei:**

We are continuing our association with **Educational Initiatives** for Grades 8-10. We commenced this association on a pilot basis last year and with the rapidly changing scenario of CBSE, our learners will benefit immensely from this association. Though the school has to make a huge financial commitment to this association, the outcomes of learners taking a paper set by an outside organization have made it worthwhile. The insights have helped the educators to guide the learners as per their individual needs.

We have also invited **subject matter experts** to conduct special sessions in our school for various subject educators.

- **TCS iON:**

TCS iON also conducted training sessions for our educators and took their feedback to improvise their Learning Management Systems [LMS] and for the TCS iON Career Edge. Due to our long association with TCS, they have selected our school to launch this pilot project for the Senior Secondary segment, which will immensely benefit all stakeholders in the school.

TCS iON's Digital Classroom (DCR) is a Learning Experience Platform that aims to help schools move seamlessly to the new learning requirements by providing a single hub enabling refreshingly new teaching content, gamified learning, assessments, skill building, collaboration & communication.

The entire costs of these trainings and associations have been borne by the school, in the best interest of the learners and for the professional development of their educators.

- **Champions Academy**

We are also continuing our association with Champions Academy for enrichment sessions in JEE and NEET which will immensely benefit the learners appearing for these highly competitive exams.

- **Indus Cup Interschool Competition:**

The year commenced with our learners participating and winning in various categories of the Indus Cup Interschool Competition. In the U-15 Football tournament, the PICT team defeated 12 teams to emerge as the winners. Ranveer Patil of Grade 9 got the best player award.

In the U-11 tournament, PICT was the runner-up and Ronan Nagpal of Grade 3 Cygnus won the best player award. In badminton U-15, Parnika Pawankumar Thakare (Grade 10 Topaz) emerged as the winner.

- **Transport Committee Meeting:**

At PICT, the safety of our learners is always our priority. To ensure that our transport services comply with all government norms and the learners' security is well taken care of, we reviewed the rules and norms in the Transport Committee meeting on Wednesday, 24th April 2024. All measures taken by the school were presented to the Committee members and suggestions were discussed. The following members attended the same:

1. Dr. Pampa Chaudhuri - Director Principal
2. Mrs. Abira Mishra- Principal
3. Mrs. Rini Chatterjee- Foundation Head
4. Mr. Vikas Nagargoje - Zilla Parishad Educational Department (Mhalunge)
5. Mr. Somnath Melshetty - Zilla Parishad Educational Department (Mhalunge)
6. Mr. Satish Jadhav - Police Sub Inspector, Hinjewadi-Traffic Division
7. Mr. Pandit Dhulgande - Police Constable
8. Mr. Dinesh Patil - RTO Assistant Inspector
9. Mr. Pawan Singh - Parent Representative
10. Mr. Sudeep Shinde - Transport Service Provider, Owner of Sudeep Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
11. Mr. Vishal Sawant - Transport In-charge of PICT Model School
12. Mr. Chandrakant Shinde - Transport Manager of Sudeep Logistics Pvt. Ltd
13. Mr. Vijay Bhosale - Operation Head of Sudeep Logistics Pvt. Ltd

After the meeting, the committee members carried out an inspection of the buses with special checks on the functioning of emergency doors, panic buttons, cameras, and first aid boxes. The RTO Inspector and PSI checked all the equipment in the buses and were very appreciative of all the measures taken by the school. The members

applauded the school for the stringent measures regarding safety and security and urged us to continue to maintain the same standards.

- **POSH & POCSO Awareness Sessions- April 24th, 2024**

To create awareness and sensitize our educators and support staff about the important aspects of the POSH and POCSO Acts, sessions were conducted by Adv. Ishaan Kolhatkar, a lawyer specialized in these laws and their application to schools. The session for housekeeping staff and driver kakas was conducted in Marathi for their better comprehension.

Special assemblies were conducted for the learners regarding POCSO. The school counselors are also conducting sessions on good touch- bad touch and POCSO in the classes, engaging learners in age-appropriate discussions.

- **The proposed change in timings of Nestling Preschool**

One of our observations in the first month of this academic session has been that our Preschool learners tend to get very hungry around noon time, so we are moving the snack break during dispersal to 11.30 am. This will help the little ones to replenish their energy levels and focus better on learning. All the home food learners need to carry a snack box with some finger food, which the learners can have in 10 minutes. The learners who have opted for the school cafeteria will get snacks from school and no separate snacks need to be sent.

To enable us to accommodate this extra break and ensure that this does not have an impact on their learning outcomes of the day, we will modify the dispersal time. The meeting noted that effective **from June 2024, buses will leave the campus by 12.55 pm and the Nestling parent pick-up will be at 12.45 pm.**

- **Cambridge English Assessment (CELA)**

The Cambridge English Assessment is mandatory for all learners at PICT Model School, given the immense benefit that it brings to the learners. This year, as mentioned in the important dates document shared by mail on 28th December 2023, the CELA fees will be collected between 24th June and 6th July 2024. The fee structure remains the same as mentioned in the mail shared with parents on 28th October 2023, mentioning the tentative fees for CELA. Only in the case of the C1 Advanced exam, Cambridge has increased the by a slight margin. The fee structure which includes all learning material, coaching sessions and GST is as follows:

The Chairperson informed the meeting that our school fee is due for an increase for the academic year 2025-2026

CELA Cambridge Assessment English (Compulsory for Grades 1 to 12)	
Exams	Registration Fee + Books
	(Inclusive of 18% GST)
YLE Starters	INR 4200
YLE Movers	INR 4410
YLE Flyers	INR 4725
KET For School	INR 5040
PET For School	INR 6510
FCE For School	INR 7980
CAE C1 Advance	INR 11,000
CELA Fee will be collected between 24th June to 6th July 2024.	

across Nursery to Grade 12 and the same will continue through the following academic year 2026-2027. The revised fee will be presented in the next meeting of the EPTA. She also informed the members that before we open admissions for the new academic year, it is customary that a consent form is sent to all our parent partners with the next year's school fee structure, tentative CELA fee, transport, and cafeteria fee as charged by the vendors, tentative costs of books and uniform as charged by the vendors so that parents can make an informed decision. Last year too we sent the same on the 28th of October 2023. Out of the 98% of parents who had given their consent to continue with us in 2024-2025, around 2.4% intimated to us about withdrawal towards the end of February and March 2024. By that time, the waitlisted parents had already taken admission to other schools and some of them had to forego their fee to join us. This has forced us to start thinking of a policy with monetary implications to curb the rate of last-minute unplanned withdrawals which inconveniences the waitlisted parents seeking fresh admission to the school. The new policies which will be applicable in the later part of this academic year as well as through 2025-2026, will be presented in the next EPTA meeting.

The Chairperson noted that the agenda items were covered and welcomed other points for discussion.

Seeking help from parent partners: The Principal had put forth these concerns where she requested active cooperation from the parents.

Absence from school, impact on learning and assessments: Assessments provide educators with an insight into the strengths and weaknesses of the learners and help us modify the lesson plans and teaching methodology accordingly. Assessments also give an opportunity for the learners to identify their learning gaps and seek help accordingly. Continuous feedback from assessments helps us to plan individualized enrichment sessions and enable mastery of competency. It has been observed that some of our parents are not firm about their wards taking these assessments, while many others have planned trips during the assessments such as the UT1 conducted this month. Our educators are concerned about this since they have no feedback about the child's progress.

Grade 8 upwards, the papers are set by Ei, so the assessments give us a clear indication of the child's learning and ability to take an external assessment. The school pays about Rs. 3500/-per child to Ei and when assessments are missed, the effort goes in vain.

She mentioned that henceforth if a learner does not appear for at least 95%of the internal assessments, including worksheets, Subject Enrichment Activities, Unit Tests, Periodic Tests and Term examinations, the report cards will not be published.

Reading the Beacon and meeting deadlines: Many of our parents neither read the cover letter sent along with the Beacon nor go through the WTR. As a result, they are missing deadlines for forms to be filled in, such as choice of sports and performing arts as well as fees, much to the inconvenience of the learners. We give notes and reminders to the parents through the Beacon. It becomes extremely difficult for us to pursue the parents in this regard. She requested parent partners to go through the Beacon mindfully.

Some of the member parent representatives mentioned that there are sometimes too many points in the Beacon. The Principal insisted that the parents make some time for their children since the Beacon is used to communicate all important information to parents.

Parent collaboration: The Principal reminded the parents that the school has reached out to the parents for internship opportunities at their offices/firms for the learners of Grade 11. She requested parents to come forward to help in this regard.

Interaction with EPTA members:

Mr. Piyush Premkishor Gilda, the parent representative of Grade 1, applauded the teachers and the learners for their innovative presentations at the Exhibition and the Art Walk. He also appreciated the educators for making his child interested in learning and mentioned that his child was trying to do the learning log and the educators were guiding him in this regard. He mentioned the positive change that he has observed in his ward after joining PICT and appreciated the approach of the school towards academics.

Ms. Namita Malagi, Grade 10 parent representative, had a question whether the association with Champions is for classes within school hours or after school hours. The Principal mentioned that all classes are conducted during the regular school hours. She explained how the enrichment sessions are conducted and how the performance is tracked so that the learners benefit from these sessions.

Ms. Nilambari Shirodkar, the parent representative of Grade 9, enquired about whether the CBSE and other trainings available for educators are relevant to the ongoing changes in the education sector. The Principal assured her that the PICT educators are all well-trained and well-equipped for the ever-changing norms and educational requirements. She mentioned that the Director Principal, Dr. Chaudhuri is a well-sought-after trainer and educators at PICT are being constantly trained and guided by her.

Mr. Saket P. Newaskar, a Grade 4 parent representative, enquired about the participation of learners in Olympiads. The Chairperson said that the school does not encourage Olympiads since they are evaluative in nature and do not provide any diagnostic insights. The Learnometer assessments are more effective in gauging the competency of our learners. Our learners also take the internationally benchmarked Cambridge Assessments and the learners are trained for these critical assessments by the educators within the school hours.

Mr. Utkarsha Puranik, the parent representative of Nursery, discussed the proposed change in the break timings and the extension of dispersal time due to the same for the Nestling learners. He agreed that the break time would indeed be beneficial and the slight delay in dispersal would be ok with the parents if the children were comfortable. He also added that the parents trust the educators in this regard.

Ms. Nilambari Shirodkar, the parent representative of Grade 9, raised a concern that the school timings should be reduced during the summer season, also due to an increase in the temperature the classes and buses have to be kept cooler. Mr Kunal Waghmare, the parent representative of Grade 7, also raised the concern about the heat in the bus. The Principal discussed how the curriculum transaction and learning outcomes would be impacted due to the reduced school timings. She agreed that the heat wave was a concern and assured the parents that the school would look at some arrangements for keeping the buses cooler in the summer afternoons.

Mr Kunal Waghmare also appreciated that the learners of Grades 6 and 7 find the question papers of other schools easier as compared to PICT Model School. He mentioned that the application-based questions make the learners think and apply the concepts and agreed with the Principal that such an approach will make the transition under NEP 2020 seamless.

Ms. Vibhavari Pandya, the Grade 5 parent representative, raised a question about participation in the Sports For All (SFA) meet. The Principal responded that the school will look at the schedule and decide regarding the same. She also mentioned how SFA had informed us of the schedule at the last minute in 2023-24 and the dates coincided with CELA. She assured the parents that the school would always encourage students to participate in various interschool events, whenever there is an opportunity.

Mr. Saket P. Newaskar, the Grade 4 parent representative, raised a query regarding the reason for not sending the answer sheets of exams home. The Principal explained how at PICT the educators take responsibility for academics and the focus is primarily on the formative assessments. Therefore, test wrapping is conducted to provide continuous individual feedback. The aim is to create independent learners. Therefore, she appealed to the parents to monitor the child's learning on a day-to-day basis rather than looking into the summative answer sheets where changes in learning strategies do not help. The discretion of showing the answer scripts will be with the educators. Whenever they feel that showing the answer scripts to the parents will benefit the learning process, they call for individual meetings and do the needful. The Principal also mentioned that from Grade 8 upwards, summative assessment papers are made by Educational Initiatives and so, answer scripts are sent home. Mr. Saket appreciated it when the Principal mentioned that if a child still had queries after the test wrapping, he could approach his educator for a one-on-one clarification of doubts.

Ms. Namita Malagi, the Grade 10 parent representative, applauded the educators for taking immense care of all the learners. She also wanted to know if there would be an annual day programme. The Principal explained that at PICT, we have always believed that all the learners should get an opportunity to be on the stage. Hence, instead of one major event where we are forced to select only some learners to perform, we do a variety of events such as Sports Carnival, Exhibition and Performance Day etc. The learners get varied opportunities to explore their talents. She also assured that inter-house tournaments will be conducted during the regular sports periods so that all learners get a chance to play competitive sports.

The parent representatives thanked the educators for all their efforts to clear their concepts and guide the learners. Special appreciation was extended by all parents for the quality of the projects presented at the Exhibition and the confidence with which the learners presented their projects. They also thanked the Principal for answering all their queries despite the extended time of the meeting.

Vote of Thanks:

There being no other business, the meeting ended with the Chairperson Mrs. Abira Mishra thanking the members warmly for their participation and presence in the meeting. She wished everyone an enriching

and collaborative year ahead and with this, she ended the first meeting of EPTA for the academic year 2024-25.

Date: 2nd May 2024

Place: Pune