

## Parents' Association Meeting of the Alberico da Rosciate Institute, 30 November 2020

The Parents' Association Meeting took place at 21.00 on 30 November via *Meet*, to discuss the following agenda:

- i. Summary of last year's activities;
- ii. Discussion of the Association's role and duties relating to the Institute's organization;
- iii. Compilation of parents' requirements and initiatives;
- iv. Presentation of the candidates for various positions and their election;
- v. Any other business.

**Summary of last year's activities:** The school year 2019/2020 was a complex year for both the Institute and the Association. The Association focused its energies on the mechanics of distance learning, gathering requirements from class representatives and bringing them to the Institute's attention; the Institute depended on extensive collaboration from the representatives, but there were difficulties in the dealings between Institute and Association.

The President began the meeting by reiterating the fact that the Parents' Association, by its very nature, comprises all parents, and that within the Association there is a committee whose purpose essentially is to represent and express the needs of the families.

The following positions which make up the committee were then outlined:

President

Vice-President

Representatives' Spokespeople (Infants)

Representatives' Spokespeople (Primary)

Representatives' Spokespeople (Secondary)

Neighbourhood Coordinators

Mrs Dessì and Mrs Pozzoni, the representatives for Borgo Palazzo's association (*Calliope*) and the Borgo Santa Caterina neighbourhood respectively, briefly outlined the role of the two associations.

- *Calliope* Association: this was set up a few years ago to support the school choir, and to promote culture and art within the school with the help of Francesca Poliani in obtaining local council funding (for example, open school funding for extra-curricular activities). *Calliope* is an *economic operator* which forwards money received from the local council to the school. At a primary school level, it provides practical workshops (carpentry, board games, pottery ...) which are well-attended with many parent volunteers. At a secondary school level, virtual activities will continue (such as *Galgario News*), and an expansion of courses provided by external specialists in music and autobiographical writing is planned. Other ideas include tutoring and internet skills. These projects offer a sense of belonging to students and their families, a sense that their district is a resource worth cherishing.

- *Scuola Insieme* (School Together) Association: Teresa Cortelli is the president. The association was formed by a group of parents to create a link between school and neighbourhood. It manages the community centre's play group, organizes activities for children including a homework club, and has strong links with the *oratorio* (parish hall). *Scuola Insieme* works together with *Calliope* on the Open School project, *Pranzo insieme a scuola* (Eating together at school) and *Parliamo di...* (Let's Talk) at the secondary level, and *Progetto ponte* (Transition project) at the primary level (to assist the transition from primary to secondary school). The projects are led by instructors provided by educational cooperatives. The *oratorio* has provided the use of various sites it manages on behalf of the region for courses held in person.

The President thanked the representatives for their time and energy, and wished them well in their role.

The representatives were asked their thoughts on the Association and its structure, and for any suggestions, but no responses were given. Any thoughts should be sent to the Association via its email address: [info@genitoridarosciate.it](mailto:info@genitoridarosciate.it)

The following candidates for committee positions were presented:

Roberta Patelli – Representatives' Spokesperson Girasoli Infants' School

Silvia Zerbini – Representatives' Spokesperson Arcobaleno Infants' School

Giulia Bonomi – Representatives' Spokesperson Ghisleri Primary School

Cristina Colombo – Representatives' Spokesperson da Rosciate Primary School

Micol Angeloni – Representatives' Spokesperson Codussi Secondary School

Francesca Colacrese – Representatives' Spokesperson Galgario Secondary School

Tiziana Pozzoni – Representative for Borgo S. Caterina

Francesca Poliani – Representative for Borgo Palazzo

Barbara Ferrè – Association President

No candidate for the role of the Vice President

Voting took place through *Meet's* chat function: the formation of the committee was unanimously approved.

At this point, those parent members of the *CDI* (School Board) present at the meeting were introduced: the President Luca Rizzi, and board members Enrica Puppi, Elisa Dal Gal, Luigi Scandella and Stefano Butti.

At the end of the 2020/21 school year, their three-year term will end.

Any Other Business: following the initial meeting with the *DS* (the head of the Institute) to discuss the need for the Institute to unify the school timetables of its two secondary schools, the discussion focused on this matter.

To summarize: generally, parents believe that whilst the academic aspect is of primary importance, inclusivity cannot be ignored by schools. Therefore, in addition to a generally positive response to the possibility of shifting the school timetable from six to five days, nearly everyone hoped that the Institute would increase its inclusivity offer, offering the possibility of a school canteen and afternoon activities, allowing the school to become a space not only for academic studies but also for personal development and a meeting place, demonstrating a greater interest in inclusivity, a matter considered fundamental to development.

In conclusion, it was noted that before Christmas there would be an initial meeting with the families of students who already attend the secondary schools to discuss the emergency timetable and a return to the previous timetable.

The departing President, Mr Alessandro Quarenghi thanked everyone for their collaboration during his years as President, and said his goodbyes.

The meeting ended at 23.00.