



WEMBLEY COLLEGE

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Annual General Meeting for Wembley College Parents Association – 23 February 2009

Chairman's Report

The last year has been a fun and exciting one, and I wish to sincerely thank all PA members for their dedication and support. Contrary to popular belief, we are not a fund raising committee, we know how to have a bit of fun too! In fact when I look back at last year, I have fond memories of times spent socializing and interacting with the Wembley population. The Mountain Bike Challenge, the Golf Day, Friends of Wembley Dance and the Duck race to mention just a few. These events gave us excellent opportunities to work together as teams, and to interact with parents, staff, scholars, board members and businesses, and to listen to what they have to say.

Ultimately our role is to be the sounding board between the parents of the school, the headmaster and the Board of Governors. The PA members hold monthly meetings, usually on a Monday, starting at 17h30 at the schools' administration building. At these meetings the head master and a Board representative is present to participate in our discussions and take back issues that need attention. (You are welcome to attend these meetings) I also have an audience with the Board on an annual basis to discuss our ideas and plans for the school in the year to come.

I therefore encourage parents to talk to the PA members or staff whenever there is something you are unhappy or unclear about. We want to eliminate, or rather assassinate, all coffee machine bandits that spread mis-information, which inadvertently creates a negative image of the school. It's all about communication, communication, communication.....

To our board members, and especially Brian and Dot, thank you for everything you do for us. Your generous contributions and commitment to the growth of Wembley College is admired and greatly appreciated. To Andrew, thank you for your efforts and the time you take to entertain me and other PA members whenever we come knocking on your door. And to our staff, thank you for your hard work and dedication to our children.

On the financial side, last year we didn't do much in the way of spending and as a result our funds have accumulated to more than R50 000. This is made up from funds left over from previous years, and from funds generated in 2008, i.e. Mountain Bike challenge (R18000) and the Golf Day (R12 634.16).

The PA committee has resolved to spend these funds as follows:

- Air conditioners for the computer rooms - subject to Board approval
- Ceiling fans in the JP classrooms – subject to Board approval
- Contributing to the Bursary Fund - usually R6000 per annum, but the PA Committee has resolved to consider doubling this amount during the course of the year at the request of the Bursary Committee.



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With regards to the Mountain Bike Challenge and the Wembley Golf Day, weren't these days just AWESOME! Apart from the funds we generated for our school, as mentioned above, it was a great day for all. (I had a BALL of a time! Pun on the word ball, because I won the prize for the most golf played). We were so well organized and everything ran so smoothly. It was excellent marketing for Wembley and I know that these events will grow from strength to strength every year. Thanks to my team of merry men and women that made it happen. There are too many of you to mention, you know who you are.

As from the beginning of the year we have adopted a Code of conduct which will be applicable to all aspects of your child's life at Wembley College. We should pay special attention to this document, because from this will emerge our pride and ethos, a pride and ethos that will be visible for all of South Africa to see. A pride and ethos that has already taken roots it seems, considering the rate at which our enrolment figures have grown.

Let us instill a sense of pride in our children, to firstly respect themselves, and then to respect each other as scholars, to be ambassadors' of Wembley College when away, or when on the sports field. Teach them to respect their uniforms, a symbol of where they come from and what they stand for. (Make sure they are wearing the correct ones)

Along the way, we plan to make our school look as beautiful as possible, but it cannot be done all at once. It therefore goes without saying, that fundraising is an integral part of an emerging school such as ours. There are plans for the addition of more class rooms, re-arranging of roads and parking spaces, and even paving of all roads. We are toying with the idea of each scholar buying one paver every month, or even more if they want to, until we have enough pavers to pave all roads. Sounds like an exciting project!

To all the teachers that have left us, or will be leaving us shortly, thank you for the time you spent with us, and we wish you well in the future. To the teachers that have just joined us, welcome!

To the three PA committee members that resigned in the last year:

Charles Haden (Vice Chairman)

Lourens Erasmus (Member)

Marlo Nel (Member)

We extend our thanks to these gentlemen for their efforts and wish them well in their future. There will be new members that will be nominated today and we will communicate these names to you via the Wembley News.

And to all moms and dads that run the gauntlet every morning, to those that do pick-ups and drop offs, play time, cricket practice, soccer practice, hockey practice, tennis practice, ballet, music, swimming, sporting trips to PMB, sporting trips to Wartburg, hours of home work, and to those out of town parents, I say thank you and well done. You make the "Days of Our Wembley College," possible.

Thank You!