

2015 ADMIN REPORT

REPORT COMPILED FOR THE PARTIAL FULLFILLMENT OF THE ANNUAL SUBMISSION TO THE OFFICE
OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

A summary of the salient activities and initiatives taken by the Maltese Association of Parents of State School Students during 2015 is the following:

- MAPSSS met with Education Minister Hon. Evarist Bartolo. We discussed MAPSSS Position Documents on Inclusive Education and Role of School Councils. We discussed various issues including School Cleanliness and Education Targets.
- MAPSSS met with Mr. George Said Zammit, Director of Student Services to discuss the school councils
- MAPSSS met the President of MUT, Kevin Bonello. Various issues discussed and we presented our proposals for the Collective Agreement between MUT and MEDE. We also presented our Position Documents on Inclusive Education and Role of School Councils.
- MAPSSS Admin Secretary attended a Training Seminar for Voluntary Organisations on Managing VO Meetings.
- MAPSSS met with Hon. George Pullicino at the new Parliament building. Various subjects discussed and he committed himself to meet us as MAPSSS to create a two way communication between the two entities.
- MAPSSS attended the Learning Outcome Framework Seminar for Parents in Malta. The aim of the Seminar was for parents to gain familiarity with the Learning Outcomes Approach.
- MAPSSS attended the Learning Outcome Framework Seminar for Parents in Gozo. The aim of the Seminar was for parents to gain familiarity with the Learning Outcomes Approach.
- MAPSSS provided feedback to the Work Group Members regarding the draft White Paper related to the School Opening Hours and Traffic Congestion.
- MAPSSS issued a Press Statement with feedback on the White Paper regarding School Opening Hours and Traffic Congestion
- MAPSSS issued a Press Statement on LGBTI Books Controversy.
- MAPSSS representatives met Ms. Dolores Gauci from MEDE to discuss the concerns expressed by some parents regarding the distribution of the books donated by MGRM
- MAPSSS sent an email to College Principles requesting better co-ordination between the teachers in the respective colleges to ensure that the half-yearly exam papers of the respective subjects reflect the content covered in the various schools by the time of the exam.
- MAPSSS issued a Press Statement condemning attack on educators at Zejtun Primary.
- MAPSSS sent an email to MEDE with regards to parents concerns about the school uniform in the middle and senior schools.

- MAPSSS sent an email to MEDE requesting contact details of Parents / Presidents in the school councils. The more parents we can reach and network with, the further together we go for the benefit of the children.
- During Xarabank of Friday 30th October regarding the controversy related to the books donation by MGRM, MAPSSS was represented by its PRO who highlighted the importance of better communication that would lead to an informed discussion and understanding. His input in the programme was based on MAPSSS press release on the matter. MAPSSS PRO referred also to the fact that as far as MAPSSS is informed these books have not been distributed in schools.
- MAPSSS representatives met Officials from the Ministry for Education and Employment including College Principals, a General Director and Directors during a meeting on Friday 30th October. During this meeting MAPSSS outlined its work in the past 9 months since the elected committee was set up. MAPSSS pointed out the logistic issues it encounters as a young organisation. The main emphasis of the meeting was that the key to informed discussion between parents and the officials at the Ministry for Education and Employment is communication.

MAPSSS committee members are currently participating in the following committees:

| Committee/Councils/ Board | MAPSSS Representative |
|---|-----------------------|
| National Curriculum Framework Board | Simon Scicluna |
| Council for the teaching profession | Glorianne Borg Axisa |
| Pedagogy Advisory Group | Josianne Grech |
| Stakeholders Dialogue with regards to Education For All | Marica Saliba |
| Faculty of Education Consultative Committee | Glorianne Borg Axisa |

Endorsed by:

Glorianne Borg Axisa,
MAPSSS President

Simon Scicluna
MAPSSS General Secretary