

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE MANAGING COMMITTEES

Minimum educational qualification for members recommended

Staff Correspondent

TEACHERS and educationists at a roundtable on Tuesday recommended that only those who have passed the Secondary School Certificate examinations should be made members of the school, and only graduates of the college, management committees.

The parliamentary standing committee on the education ministry organised the roundtable on Managing Committee of Non-Government Schools: Experience and What to Do, in Hotel Purbani.

Education minister Nurul Islam Nahid was the chief guest at the roundtable which was moderated by Rashed Khan Menon, chairman of the concerned parliamentary standing committee.

Lawmakers Shah Alam,

Ziaur Rahman and Faruk Kader, education secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education's chairman Fahima Khatun, Vigarundisah Noon School and College's principal Manju Ara Begum, Ideal School and College's principal Shahan Ara, Monipur School and College's principal Farhad Hossain and teachers' leaders Quazi Faruk Ahmed and Azizul Ahmed spoke at the roundtable, along with others.

Naimul Azam Khan, attached officer to the parliamentary standing committee on the education ministry, presented the keynote paper at the roundtable.

In his presentation Naimul recommended the fixing a minimum educational experience for a

school managing committee's chairman and members.

'As many schools' managing committee members lack knowledge of technical matters and practical knowledge of education, it becomes hard for them to take practical decisions,' the presentation read.

Fahima Khatun and Farhad Hossain recommended that at least persons who had passed the Secondary School Certificate examination should be made members of the school managing committees and only graduates of the college management committees.

Teachers said that problems are caused when monitoring by school managing committees turns into interference. They added that they had seen irregularities

and distribution of money by some members of the school management committees.

Nurul Islam Nahid said that school management committees should be free of party bias. 'Many of the school managing committee members consider membership a way of making money through exorbitant admission fees and illegal admission trade,' he said.

Nahid said retired teachers, service men and persons who are enthusiastic about education should get priority as members of school managing committees.

Menon emphasized the need for community participation in the smooth running of schools. He also said that elected representatives should play a vital role in ensuring the smooth running of schools.