



Board Meeting/Réunion du Conseil d'Administration

Brussels Thursday, 21 March 2013 - 12.30-14.30

J-79 2/03 (Spa Building)

Meeting minutes (approved on 11 April 2013)

Present: Joëlle Salmon, Daniella Terruso, Ralph Wischermann, Jacopo Lombardi, Sarah Conyers Barber, Nigel Freake, Iseult Lennon Hudson, Kunka Ilieva, Steve O'Byrne, Monika Paulus, Pascal Manzano, Anja Mangels, Max Strotmann and Eric Piettre, Director of the APEEE.

Excused: Josephine Usher (proxy to Sarah); Serge Lebel, Erika Schulze (proxy to Monika), Marc Henriques de Granada (proxy to Monika); Martina Sindelar (proxy to Joëlle), Carola Streul, Christian Drantmann, and Benoît Vandergeeten

Some Board members only attend part of the meeting. The sequence of points minuted is not necessarily as discussed.

Daniella Terruso chairs the meeting.

1. Adoption of Draft Agenda

Agenda adopted.

2. Adoption of minutes of meetings : 24/01 and 28/02

Minutes of 28 February 2013 adopted with some clarifications.

Points for decision

3. Timetable

Please see report from meeting with the school and email of Mr Schlabe.

Ralph reports. Three basic options were presented, with a general feeling of preference for the Tuesday / Thursday solution. Some members wonder whether the APEEE has any margin of choice others propose that the new lines should be opened to Non secondary kids as well. The two additional lines will lead to a price increase overall of some EUR 40 per person.

Decision 2013-03-21_01: The Board unanimously decides to have a second bus service on Tuesdays and Thursdays at around 16.00 for S3 and S4 and possibly other interested pupils. The exact departure times of the 1st and 2nd service will be fixed in agreement with the school.

Many thanks and good luck Ralph and transport team!

4. Community and Social Fund

Steve presents his background paper (circulated in advance), referring to issues such as financing, control and funding agreements. There is general agreement among members about the usefulness of such an instrument, focusing in the beginning on the community aspect and possibly developing the social aspect for later. Nursery should be represented as well.

Decision 2013-03-21_02: The CA unanimously decides to set up a community fund, initially based on donations and fundraising. A CA working group will develop draft rules before the end of April. In parallel, the same WG will start working on a structural solution to be presented and discussed at the next GA, as appropriate.

Big thanks Steve for the good preparation! – And for more work to come ...

5. Adoption of 2013/2014 Rules for the 3 services

Joelle and Ralph present. Monika reports Marc's budgetary hesitations on canteen and périscolaire in particular and his demand to take a decision on that at a later stage. The influence for the budget needs to be clear.

Ralph needs an early decision on transport in order to be able to start enrolments by May. Main point is opening the service to occasional use but against a fee covering related administrative cost. Monika is concerned about the possible impact of “occasional” use and different from other schools. Jacopo and others are worried whether public transport ...

The decision on périscolaire and canteen is postponed to the next board meeting.

Decision 2013-03-21_03: The CA decides with 11 votes in favour and 5 abstentions to adopt the transport regulation as proposed by the working group.

Many thanks to the transport team, good luck!

Points for information

6. Presentation of the new IT tool for enrolments

Ralph and Eric report, the system being almost final. Members comment and appreciate new functionalities, increasing user friendliness and flexibility of the tool.

Congratulations and big thanks to all involved, very promising!

7. Report from the last pedagogical committee meeting and the Educational Councils

Nigel and Sarah report from the secondary council (concerns about negative and encouraging positive behaviour, drugs, working groups, Mr Schlabe's policy to prevent children leaving over lunchtime or take public transport, périscolaire and related ideas).

There is a general feeling among members that, while respecting Mr Schlabe's concerns, the school community should remain open to its environment and indeed actively prepare kids for life "outside". A working group on behavioural and related aspects could be helpful. In this context reward schemes and encouragement activities are discussed, including British "house" systems, starting with APEEE's own activities to mark an example, eg in buses or the canteen. Members discuss APEEE / parents information about the disciplinary council.

Financial support for school activities from official Chinese sources is seen as problematic and any possible link to APEEE activities should be avoided or at least evaluated very carefully.

Iseult reports from the primary education council. Parents were invited to join the sexual education and playground working groups. Parents are now also part of behavioural working group (although after some discussion only). 10 iPads have been provided as part of an ICT education pilot project. There are still some issues with a lack of or late delivery/installation of equipment

Thanks to all for keeping up common sense and defending interest!

8. Report from the information evening in Brussels II on the Reform of the Secondary

Sarah and Iseult report (many thanks also for email reports!). Important issues discussed included the possibility of introducing intermediate certificates; small L2 groups; earlier start of L3; less religion/ethics classes. They appreciated a welcome positive spirit of cooperation among parents from different schools (need more of that!). Sarah's letter indeed went to all Laeken parents. Kunka and Daniella raise the issue of failure rates.

9. Report from IP meeting in Laeken and lessons to be learnt for the future cooperation with IP

Postponed for lack of time.

10. Report from the ACI meetings of 15 and 21 March

Monika reports (in addition to her advance information by mail) from two ACI meetings following the first enrolment phase. 5 out of 6 transfers to Laeken are accepted. There was some follow-up discussion to last year's court rulings (eg language tests).

Class structures are not feasible as planned. BRUIV has to take supplementary 1 or 2 DE maternelle classes and a fifth S1 FR. BRUI has to take one additional FR Mat. Ceilings had to be raised but with some good balancing including BRUII and III.

NL mat inscriptions exceeded the ceilings for BRUIV and some enrolments had to be rejected. Monika also refers to difficult Groupe de Suivi discussions on the fifth school, with complex political manoeuvrings. A first meeting of an additional group that was forced by the Belgian government will take place on 21.03.2013 in the afternoon. Hopefully news will be circulated soon.

Monika, many thanks for courageously (and successfully!) keeping up the BRUIV flag in tough discussions!

11. Report from CLP meeting (Daniella)

Postponed for lack of time.

12. Report from the secondary disco evening (Steve)

Postponed for lack of time.

13. Report of Eric on services. Q+A

Postponed for lack of time but many thanks for the written report and appreciation to all colleagues!

14. AoB
NOB!