

Association des parents d'élèves de l'école européenne de Bruxelles IV AISBL

Parents Association of the European School, Brussels IV Aisbl
Elternvereinigung der Europäischen Schule Brüssel IV Aisbl
Associazione dei genitori della Scuola Europea di Bruxelles IV Aisbl
Oudervereniging van de Europese School Brussel IV Aisbl
Асоциация на родителите на учениците от Европейско училище Брюксел IV AISBL
Asociația de părinți ai elevilor de la Școala Europeană Bruxelles IV AISBL



**Admin Board Meeting/Réunion du Conseil d'Administration
Brussels Monday, 28th September 2015
CCAB, rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels, room AB 0/20, 12:45-14:40**

Present: Bogdan Ambrozie, Sarah Conyers Barber, Catherine Daguet, Kristin Dijkstra, Christian Drantmann, Martina Sindelar, Tobias Stricker, Josephine Usher.

Absent: Marc Henriques de Granada.

Excused: Michela Beati, Nóra Edit Kárpáti, Patrick Ten Brink.

Proxies : Michela Beati to Catherine Daguet, Nóra Edit Kárpáti to Josephine Usher, Patrick Ten Brink to Sarah Conyers Barber.

Guest: Manuela Pamio, secretariat of APEEE, Eric Piettre, the Director of the APEEE of Brussels IV.

Minutes 28.09.2015

The President chairs the meeting.

1 Adoption of the agenda 28.09.2015

The agenda is adopted. Some items are anticipated and not follow the chronological order.

2 Adoption of Minutes 15.09.2015.

Amendments on points: 6, 10, 11, 13.

Action: Manuela will send the amended Minutes to the President of the APEEE.

3 Resignation/Appointment

The Board takes note that Ms Karina Suleimanova has resigned from her position as deputy vice-president pedagogical affairs and from the Board. The Boards thanks Ms Suleimanova for her work.

Appointment: Ms Sarah Conyers Barber accepts to fill the vacant position of Secretary of the Board. All members thank Ms Conyers Barber for her involvement.

4 Follow-up Group/ 'Groupe de Suivi' (28/09/15 15h00) and subsequent CEA/ACI meetings: Preparation

Ms Conyers Barber provides an oral report on the meeting between the four PAs of the EEBs which was called to prepare for the imminent 'Groupe de Suivi' meeting. At this prep meeting, SCB replaced Mr ten Brink who was unavailable to attend due to a work commitment (Tuesday 22nd September 2015). Important issues were discussed such as: the setting up of the Estonian section in EEB4 in 2016, the overcrowding of the European schools and the impact of the increase of the number of SWALS students in the European School of Brussels II.

Discussion:

Recent discussions with the Belgian authorities show promising options for a fifth European School. One working scenario is that Berkendael will be fully available for 2016-2017 and a full fifth school will be ready for 2019-2010. It is emphasized the importance of learning the lesson of how our school was opened.

One Board member points out that the Nursery building at EEBIV is at maximum capacity. The setting up of a new language section should be evaluated carefully. The overcrowding could provoke negative consequences: the splitting up of classes and lack of teachers and classes. It is important to defend a line not only for services but also for pedagogical interests.

The board agrees that it is important to:

- remind the GdS of the Bru4 position (established by GA motion) that a new school should never again be started in the way that EEB4 has been - building up from the bottom (entailing new challenges and new solutions every year, even after the school has been running for several years. EEB4 community still lives with the consequences of this decision daily.)
- underline the importance of not merely transferring problems from one school to another
- pay careful attention to the likely direct (*and* indirect) impact of the new Estonian section from September 2016 on class populations and enrolment policy.

Action: President will notify these points during the next Groupe de Suivi des Ecoles Européennes or ACI Meeting.

5 Community Fund: Reports on annual activities and accounts.

Ms Usher refers to the Board the source of funds and the projects funded. The Community Fund received money from community events: Halloween party 2013 and 2014, Somerfest 2014, performing Arts day and donations from the APEEE of Bxl IV, S1 EN b and P5 EN classes and a private gift related to the sweatshirt project. Several initiatives were funded such as a mural project, a recycle art project and an Irish Ceilidh Project etc.

It is clarified that the Community fund is not a social fund but contribute to projects and events that enhance school leaving. All language sections are encouraged to participate actively.

6 School Admin Board preparation and agreement of APEEE CA interventions (29/09/2015).

Ms Conyers Barber provides an oral report on the meeting between the four PAs of the EEBs which was called to prepare collaboratively for the upcoming Admin Board meetings by sharing issues and thoughts particular to each school association (18/09/15 - SCB replacing CDB and KD who were unable to attend) SCB provides:

- details of the issues important to the other EEB PAs, notably Woluwe
- a brief overview of a detailed written backgrounder prepared for CDB and KD based on current issues and previous Admin Board agenda topics.

Several topics are picked out for CA discussion which need to be clarified/prioritised with the School direction such as:

- school calendar 2016-17. The board agrees that it is important that these align as much as possible with the BE school holidays (see Carnaval) to facilitate family life including those of locally hired teachers, of which EEB4 has a particularly high proportion and whose children are often in the BE school system because of the precarious short-term nature of their contracts even if they have sufficient hours to qualify for an ES place.
- the lack of adequate rooms for 'tartinistes',
- the insufficient number of bike racks
- especially that communication with the school needs to be improved. The Board appreciates it when the school provides early communication and information, and this is essential in terms of security.

Action: The President of the APEEE will send the agenda and the annexes to the Board members concerning the School Board meeting.

7 Preparation Points AGM

Postponed. It is decided that there will be a special board meeting on 12th October on this topic. Each board member has to prepare a draft of the activity report.

Another Board meeting will be held on 15th October.

8 Cafeteria

No board member is against the proposal to reopen the file regarding cafeteria.

9 Publication Minutes

Action : Manuela will send to Ms Atiaoui and Ms Beati the Minutes approved from the Board without any remarks for publication (Minutes 18.05.2015, Minutes 26.05.2015).

10 State of play

Postponed

11 Communication with members and parents.

The President kindly requests that communication be polite and straight with parents as well as between APEEE staff and others members of the Board.

12 Any Other Business - IP & JTC Meetings (05-09/10/15)

Ms Conyers Barber provides an oral report on recent Interparents (IP) activity explaining that the concerns and needs of the Bru4 pedagogical team are informing the Bru4 position on agenda points coming up for the JTC and the preparatory IP meeting. SCB reiterates and extends the invitation, already made to the Bru4 pedagogical group, for Bru4 to send an observer to the upcoming IP meeting (05-06/10/15) Feedback is also

provided on the IP meeting held on 8th September 2015. This was convened to decide on a 'line to take' for IP as a participant in the Working Group mandated by the Board of Governors to follow the external evaluation of proposals to reorganise Secondary Studies. There had been agreement on the key points to insist upon:

- a new group is needed to now refine the fuller reform proposed by the external 'IoE' evaluators including the development of a language policy
- to avoid cherry-picking items pending this reform but to identify areas which could be improved in the interim for the benefit of pupils in the system now
- to take fullest notice of the call made by the IoE for an investment in teaching staff who would affect the change management necessary.

The board meeting ends at 2:40 pm.