

Association des parents d'élèves de l'école européenne de Bruxelles IV
Parents Association of the European School, Brussels IV
Elternvereinigung der Europäischen Schule Brüssel IV
Associazione dei genitori della Scuola Europea di Bruxelles
Oudervereniging van de Europese School Brussel IV

Асоциация на родителите на учениците от Европейско училище Брюксел IV AISBL
Asociația de părinți elevilor de la Școala Europeană de Bruxelles IV AISBL



General Assembly

23 January 2014

19.00 – 24.50

in the Salle Polyvalente

European School of Brussels IV

Drève Sainte-Anne, 86, 1020 Brussels

English version

Minutes of the Meeting



AGENDA

General Assembly 2014-01-23

Part I (19.00 – 20.30): For Members only

1. Election
 - a Appointment of the Electoral Board
 - b Presentation of candidates
 - c Election
2. Report on Activities (a) and Presentation of Accounts 2012-2013 (b)
Questions and Answers
VOTE on discharge of the Board on the Certified Accounts 2012-2013 closed on August 31th 2013.

Part II (20.30 – 21.30): Open to the public

3. Introduction by the President of the Parents Association
4. Discussion with:
 - Mr Marcheggiano, Deputy General Secretary of European Schools
 - Mr Schlabe, Mrs Gallas and Mrs Ivanauskiene, School Director and Deputy Director
 - Mr Michael Stenger, Member of Alumni Europae
 - Questions/Answers

Part III (21.30 – 23.00): For Members only

5. Presentation of the Budget 2013-2014
Questions and Answers
VOTE on the Budget 2013–2014
6. Presentation and discussion on the services
Reply to questions raised by parents (canteen's costs, second bus service)
7. Presentation and discussion on current files
Secondary reform / costs sharing
8. Points/Resolutions submitted by parents
Resolution
Questions and answers
VOTE on the resolution(s)
9. Results of the elections
10. AoB

Attendance at the General Assembly

The GA was held on January 23rd 2014 at the Salle Polyvalente of the European school IV, Drève Sainte Anne, 86, 1020 BRUSSELS.

The meeting was attended by **143** “full members”, some of whom held proxy authorisations for voting by other full members (**44**), resulting in a total of **187** votes present or represented.

Since the APEEE has 312 registered class representatives, the quorum (10% i.e. 31 voters) required by article 9 of the statutes of the APEEE was present. Further, affiliate members and guests were present as well.

Erika Schulze chaired the GA for part 1, Josephine Usher chaired for part 2, Erika Schulze for part 3 items 5, 6 and 7, and Carola Streul for part 3 items 8 and 10. This was to avoid possible conflicts of interest when these persons presented a motion or an amendment.

The meeting started at 19:10 and ended at 24:50.

Minutes of the General Assembly

Joëlle Salmon, Vice-President of APEEE for Administrative Affairs, first introduced the meeting by giving a speech to the GA. She informed the assembly that the President, Steve O'Byrne, who was resigning from the Board with effect from the GA, had sent his apologies and was regrettably unable to attend. Steve was thanked for all that he had done for the APEEE during his presidency.

There were special thanks to Erika Schulze, Carola Streul and Monika Paulus, for their impressive commitment in the APEEE management in the Administrative Board. They all really drove the APEEE from the very beginning.

Carola Streul, who served as the very first president of APEEE, even before the opening of the school, was particularly involved with Inter-parents, the canteen and extra-curricular activities.

Monika Paulus, who was a member of the Administrative Board since October 2008, dealt with the transport service, the Special Education Needs (SEN) and the file of the Central Enrolment Authority (CEA).

Due to the unavailability of the outgoing president, Erika Schulze, member of the APEEE board agreed to chair part of the GA. Erika served as president of the APEEE for more than 2 years.

APEEE is grateful for their strong commitment since the time APEEE was founded. All of them were warmly thanked for their devotion to APEEE.

Joëlle Salmon was also thanked by the attendance for her longstanding contribution to the Administrative Board as vice-president of administrative affairs.

Erika Schulze chaired the GA part 1, Josephine Usher chaired part 2, Erika Schulze chaired part 3 items 5, 6 and 7, and Carola Streul for part 3 items 8 and 10. This was to avoid possible conflicts of interest when these persons presented a motion or an amendment.

Erika formally opened the meeting at 19:10. She welcomed the attendees in the premises of the school in Laeken, to the 7th regular General Assembly.

All documents for the GA are available in French and English.

Part I (19.00 – 20.30): For Members only

1. Election

Erika Schulze asked the attendees to volunteer for the Electoral Board.

a. Appointment of the Electoral Board

Decision 2014-01-23_1: *The General Assembly APPROVED the four volunteers, Mrs Katrin Mahrenholz (DE), Camilla Gaudina (IT), Carine Hanssens (NL), and Holger Plumhoff (DE) as the Electoral Board. (unanimity, no abstentions or objections raised).*

b. Presentation of candidates

The following candidates briefly presented themselves:

1	Rachid AHAJJMAN	FR
2	Salima ATIAOUI	NL
3	Horst NICKELS	DE
4	Jane OKAFOR	EN
5	Alessandro ROGGI	IT
6	Carla SABEVA	EN
7	Tobias STRICKER	DE
8	Patrick TEN BRINK	EN/FR
9	Nathalie VANDENBERGHE	FR
10	Catherine MAHAUX	NL
11	Kristin DIJKSTRA	NL

The following candidate was not present:

12	Cristina VANBERGHEN	EN
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The chair asked for other candidates from the floor. No further candidates came forward.

c. Election

As the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies in the board, the chair proposed to vote for all candidates en bloc. The plenum was asked to approve this approach. No objections were raised by the floor.

The vote took place and the electoral board provided the results as follows:

Decision 2014-01-23_2: *The General Assembly DECIDES to appoint the 12 candidates as Board members (Unanimous vote, no abstentions, no negative votes).*

The chair welcomed the new Board members.

2. Report on Activities (a) and Presentation of Accounts 2012-2013 (b)

The chair reminded the Assembly that the audit report of Ernst and Young certified the APEEE's accounts for the school year 2012-2013.

Marc Henriques de Granada, treasurer of the APEEE, gave a comprehensive presentation on the accounts as comprised in detail in the Report of Activities and tables in Annex 2 provided with the official invitation to the GA.

He mentioned a number of particular points in the context of last year, notably:

- the move to the new premises from Berkendael to Laeken,
- a significant turnover of the personnel in the past years, which motivated the set up of a working group on defining an improved package for the personnel, to motivate them to stay with the APEEE,
- setting up a new bus network,
- a number of start-up problems related to the unavailability of some canteen facilities.
- the lack of a financial reserve.

Furthermore, Marc gave the main elements related to the services provided by APEEE:

The total revenue amounted to 3.292.588,69 euros. The gap to the planned budget is -1%. Among the services, all of them but the transport service, had revenue higher than what was planned.

Total costs are € 2.978.200,20, all main costs were lower to what had been budgeted.

The most significant elements for the budget were:

- The number of registrations were higher than what had been forecast (except for transport); The online registration put in place for enrolment in 2013/2014 was more efficient regarding the use of human resources than the traditional system in use before.
- Decisions related to human resources were not implemented due to obstacles with the Belgian legislation;
- IT project cost lower than expected;
- The time schedule of the subcontractor was revised and an interim was not needed (canteen);
- The planned budget for maintenance and fixing was not used (canteen);
- The impact of the redesign of the bus routes was limited (Transport).

Marc informed the audience that consequently the costs were 9% below the budget (instead of 7% as given in the financial results 2012-2013).

In relation to the surplus, Marc reminded the audience that the APEEE has to execute the reimbursement plan agreed with the 3 other APEEEs in 2007/2008, who provided a loan (135.000 €) to enable the APEEE to start running the services. Today, the APEEE has already reimbursed 36.375 €. Marc also informed the GA that the APEEE of Ixelles asked whether it was possible to fully reimburse their part of the loan this school year which would be faster than originally foreseen.

Furthermore, Marc proposed that the APEEE set up a financial reserve (roughly estimated at 400.000€). This financial reserve should be large enough to cover at least the social liabilities (allowance for leave notice or redundancy for instance) which the APEEE could incur. The reason for setting up such a reserve (which is also best practice in financial management) is to enable the APEEE to deal with unforeseen events having high costs. By way of comparison, he indicated that all the other APEEEs in Brussels have such a financial reserve commensurate to the financial commitments they have towards their personnel. In the future, the definitive amount of financial reserve will still have to be more precisely evaluated.

Marc also reminded the assembly that the APEEE had been on the verge of bankruptcy in the recent past, and that each member of the Administrative Board had a personal legal and financial responsibility (in accordance with the Belgian law on AISBL). He then strongly advocated for creation such a financial reserve.

During the question and answer session, Marc clarified some technicalities. For instance, he reminded the assembly that the APEEE deals only with services to children whereas the school provides everything related to teaching and education. In that respect, APEEE was only in charge of the costs of the move to Laeken for its own services only. In the same vein, since the Somerfesto was not managed by the APEEE, APEEE cannot provide information about its financial result and their commitment.

The vote on the discharge of the Board on the Certified Accounts 2012-2013 closed on August 31th 2013, took place.

Decision 2014-01-23_3: *The General Assembly DECIDES to discharge the Administrative Board on the certified accounts 2012-2013 closed on August 31th 2013. (121 votes in favour, 1 abstention, no negative votes).*

As for the usage of the result, a discussion followed.

Decision 2014-01-23_4: *The GA DECIDES to allocate the result of 2013 to the clearance of debts with other APEEEs (expedite/accelerate the provisions) and to keep the remaining balance in a financial reserve. (Nota: The FR version will be the official version due to technical wording) (Pros 123, 7 cons, 3 abstentions).*

Decision 2014-01-23_5: *The GA DECIDES to reimburse before the anticipated deadline, the complete remainder (36.000€) of the loan provided by APEEE of Ixelles (110 votes in favour, 13 abstentions, 11 negative votes).*

Part II (20.30 – 21.30): Open to the public

3. Introduction by the chairperson of the GA

Josephine Usher chaired this part. She welcomed our invitees.

4. Discussion with our invitees

Mr Michael Stenger, Member of Alumni Europae, made a presentation about his rather new association. It is an ASBL that was founded at the end of 2011, the purpose of which is to create a network of former students of the 14 European Schools in Europe on a social and professional level. For instance, the association may provide or relay information and contacts about traineeships both in private companies or public institutions, job advertisement, career opportunities and guidance, academic research programs, or simply logistic support to young members living far away from their families.

Michael mentioned that there are today 50000 alumni of European schools in the world, but very few statistics are available. Today, within just 2 years of being created, Alumni Europae already has 865 members. He expected this number to grow up to 2000 in the near future. A website <http://www.alumnieuropae.org/> has now been set up.

He strongly advocated for the APEEE supporting his association, especially on a financial level since Alumni Europae needs approximately 15.000€ a year. Per school, a yearly contribution of 2500 € a year would be expected, which is equivalent to less than 2 € a year per pupil. He also asked parents to volunteer for 2 to 3 hours a month.

There were some questions on the way the parents could participate and contribute. Worries were expressed related to an over-representation of older schools compared to a new school like EEB4 that has no alumni yet.

Mr Schlabe, and **Mrs Ivanauskiene**, School Director and the Deputy Director for the primary school.

Mr Schlabe presented the apologies of Mrs Gallas who had to attend a meeting of the Secondary School Council. He gave an overview of the present situation of EEB4. He first presented important figures and facts about the school (students, teachers, the opening of a Romanian section). He mentioned also the main priorities, which include safety (in-house Telecom system with external servers, access control, risks related to buildings, lock down procedure), quality assurance (recruitment of teachers, integration of pupils with low or no L2), cafeteria, adaptation of schoolyard, and recreation space inside.

As for the pedagogical projects, he mentioned among others, the 100 years of first world war, the promotion of the Romanian section, e-twinning under the Comenius project, the extension of the Europe Opera project, setting up the e-learning platform Moodle, using tablets in classrooms, debating in English, projects in astronomy and physics, gardening, raising awareness for China, and the Uganda project.

Mr Marcheggiano, Deputy General Secretary of European Schools, reported on 3 main items:

- Project of the future European School Brussels 5. Mr Marcheggiano told that the premises in Berkendael will be available as from 2015, once the renovation of the EEB1 in Uccle and the temporary relocation of some parts of EEB1 to the Berkendael site will be finished. According to current projections of numbers of pupils from 2018 onwards, larger premises elsewhere will have to be provided by the host country (i.e. Belgium). The Belgian authorities are aware of that, and further discussions are ongoing. Nevertheless, little is expected in short term since federal elections will take place in Belgium this year in May. Moreover, the Belgian state (communities) is also under pressure to create new schools for Belgian pupils.
- Cost sharing: There are ongoing problems with the lack of secondment of teachers by some Member States. So far the costs are shared according to the nationality of pupils. However, this is not reality. Some sections have lots of pupils of other nationalities, other countries have little or no sections. An agreement on the principles of revised cost sharing has been reached. The budgetary committee has been asked to elaborate a detailed proposal for its implementation. Of course, already now the Member States could go beyond their obligations. As a result, EEB4 has 62 seconded teachers (compared to 120 in the other schools), the remainder is contracted local staff.
- Recruiting local teachers. Mr Marcheggiano told that this issue was critical at EEB4 due to its need of a higher rate of local teachers than in the other schools in Brussels. Currently, the conditions to recruit non-local teachers are not attractive compared to most Member States' domestic conditions and other schools types in Brussels, like the international school. To improve this situation, a new statute including a salary scale had been drafted for the locally recruited teachers which would make working in European Schools more attractive for them. Currently this new statute has broad support but is blocked by Belgium.

Following the three speeches, a number of questions were raised, which are summarised in the following:

Q: There are less seconded teachers at EEB4 than in the other schools. Why is it so difficult to recruit teachers? Why is Belgium blocking the new statute for teachers?

A: According to Belgium law, temporary employment contracts become permanent after the second year of prolongation. Recruitment of qualified staff is needed. Mr Schlabe pointed out, that, contrary to the years before, this year recruitment will be possible well before September. Specific advertising in the UK will be done. Mr Schlabe confirmed that all local hire staff in this school is offered a permanent contract after two years.

The blocking issue for Belgium is about the wages of teachers and their social fees. If this blockage will persist, a temporary solution could be elaborated. There is no clear time-scale as to when this will be resolved.

Q: Are there plans to cope with the anticipated overcrowding of the schools before the 5th school will open?

A: Solutions for this will be elaborated by the Groupe de suivi when the problem materialises. Certainly, the Berkendael site will be amongst the possible measures looked at.

Q: Considering the discussion about the secondary reform, how is it ensured that the European baccalaureate will continue to be recognised by the universities abroad?

A: So far only S1-S3 have been reorganised. For S4-S7, changes have been proposed, but an external audit will be conducted to assess the potential impact of this proposal before any decision will be taken. This is done to avoid any unexpected negative result of the reform.

Q: How is it ensured that the locally recruited teachers are aware of both the school's curriculum and the national curricula?

A: Just like the seconded teachers, the local staff has to follow the curriculum and could be subject to the school inspections.

Q: The pupils bringing packed lunches need more space to take their meals?

A: Mr Schlabe said that this issue is known and the situation has been improved.

Q: What is the status of anti-bullying measures?

A: There is a standing working group on this topic. There is a set of rules in place, which foresee a set of escalating measure to be taken.

Q: Next school year, the timetable for the secondary will be even longer on four days?

A: This is a consequence of the longer lunch break. Indeed all activities during lunch break will have to be adapted. Some of those may be not possible any more. This will affect both the activities organised by the school (including some of the projects Mr Schlabe presented) and extra-curricular activities currently run in lunchtimes by the APEEE. There will be two departures of bus lines as of next year on four days a week. However, a pupil will not have four times a week a long school day.

Q: The opening hours of the library should be extended. The sports offer should be improved.

A: The large court is more often used now. There will be a playground and table tennis. Further, the school may participate in Eurosports. However, this is difficult to organise.

Q: The safe access to the school would be improved by opening the entrance of rue Medori.

- A: The costs are estimated at 26.000 € p.a. and are prohibitive. However, there will be measures by the city to reorganise the traffic around the school. The need for opening rue Medori should be looked at in this context.
- Q: Are there plans to build links to industry in order to offer traineeships for the pupils?
- A: This is an important issue. First contacts are ongoing. These links have to be strengthened, in particular abroad.

Part III (21.30 – 23.00): For Members only

Erika Schulze chaired this part of the GA.

5. Presentation of the Budget 2013-2014

The treasurer, Marc Henriques de Granada, presented the proposal for the budget 2013-14 (Cf.: Annex 3) and gave key figures together with explanations and comments.

He first reminded the key rules to be kept in mind for the budget proposal:

- The general common interest is our main driver,
- The budget must be balanced,
- Each service has its own budget, no transfer is allowed between services and there are no subsidies,
- The budget proposal is based on the expected number of subscriptions,
- General Affairs is a service supporting all the other services, and its budget (management fee) is in relation to their turnovers.

He then gave details for each service.

- General Affairs:
 - ✓ the management fee is stable as compared to last year. A misprint occurred in the document provided with the invitation to the GA (Chapter 2: it should read 4.180€ instead of 8.180€, yielding a 4000€ positive result.
 - ✓ The account audit takes more time now and increased from 2 days to 3 days (4 days in 2014/2015)
 - ✓ The development of IT infrastructure is running with the Belgian company point.be and a new accountability application is implemented.
- Transport: Marc pointed out that the revenue increased by 21%, but costs also increased by more than 24,6%, mainly as a consequence of the second bus service. As a result, the budget shows a 69000€ deficit.

Nevertheless, the budget is expected to be in balance if the current situation is maintained.

- Periscolaire: It is in strong growth: revenue increased by 37.9 %, cost increased by 32.4 %. The Chinese language courses are not yet included in the periscolaire budget because they fell under school's responsibility at the time the budget proposal was made. A lump sum of 5.000€ are assigned to future initiatives (events / special offers).
- Canteen: Marc mentioned he would deal with the motion on the canteen later in detail (part 3, item 8). Nevertheless, he provided information about the price structure. He explained that the price per meal corresponds to prices charged in the other APEEEs of Brussels, and is not of 9.10€ amount claimed by the above mentioned motion which turned out to be based on an error do not correspond to what is charged by the APEEE. Moreover, he reminded that the canteen service is also based on an annual subscription.

He said that the observed differences to other APEEEs may partly be related to the fact APEEE Bxl4 was still quite young as compared to the long standing other APEEEs, which have a much more important population, and accordingly a better scale effect on their costs. For instance, the bus routes had to be entirely redesigned for this school year. This will continue in the near future because EEB4 is being populated gradually and at a fast pace, whereas the other school have a stable population. Accordingly, our fairly low secondary population impacts the organisation of periscolaire activities.

The global cost structure for the canteen is the following: +/-33% for the fixed costs, +/-28% for the running costs, +/-24% for personnel costs, +/-5% other costs, +/-5% for investments and 5% for surplus.

Following the presentation, a number of questions were raised:

Q: The information presented on the canteen budget is insufficient and incorrect. The answers provided do not reply to the questions. We will not vote for this budget.

A: The chair warned that without a valid budget for this school year the APEEE cannot operate and an extra-ordinary GA would have to hold to adopt a new budget. Marc presented detailed explanations and a power point presentation to address the specific points raised on the canteen budget. For example: the discount is included in income (chap2), chapter 3 concerns subcontracting for service in the restaurant, the staff costs increased due to board's decisions to review description of responsibilities within the team and additional staff; necessary investments of +/- 55,000€ (25,000€ for a stock management system, 25,000€ for control and cash collecting system).

He emphasised the need to compare like with like.

Q: The fee for a second bus line needed for children of divorced parent should be abolished.

A: The fees are covering the extra costs incurred by the APEEE. The principle of this budget is that there are no hidden subsidies.

- Q: The costs for individual music lessons are prohibitive for some parents.
- A: The fees for these lessons are determined by the costs incurred. The APEEE does not make profit from the price charged to parents.

Decision 2014-01-23_6: *The General Assembly DECIDES to approve the budget 2013-2014 as proposed in the documents provided to the attendees of the GA. (116 in favour, 12 abstentions, 2 negative votes).*

6. Presentation on the services

Attendees were reminded that there was a written report included in the documentation circulated prior to the GA. In terms of extra-curricular activities, Josephine Usher explained that the priorities for the year ahead are to focus on consolidating and quality checking the existing programme. The extension of lunchtime activities will depend on school timetables. There are two planned events – A performing arts afternoon on 2 April 2014 and an International Fencing Competition in May 2014. Parents were invited to volunteer to assist with the organisation of these events.

7. Presentation and discussion on current files

Secondary reform / costs sharing

This point was already covered by a presentation before. Parents were invited to raise any questions. None were raised.

8. Points/Resolutions submitted by parents

This part was chaired by Carola Streul.

She explained that the order of motions on the agenda corresponded to their entry time at the association's office.

- Transport costs for children of divorced parents (Annex 4.1)

The motion was read out to the assembly by Carola Streul. Carine Hanssen explained the motion along the lines of the written reasons in the explanatory statement:

- ✓ Divorced/separated parents with "garde alternée" reglementation are treated unequal to not divorced/separated parents.
- ✓ This unequal treatment is not justified by any reason, all other APEEEs in Brussels are charging for one single line without extra-costs for the second line.
- ✓ Busses are often not full and it would not matter to add another child. This treatment is not in-line with the institution's allowances rules.

Other parents expressed support for the motion.

Erika Schulze read a statement made by Ralph Wischermann, the APEEE's administrator in charge of transport who was unfortunately unable to attend the GA. Erika explained the rationale behind the additional costs which are currently charged at 65%. The bus company provides entire bus-lines which are identical each week throughout the entire school year. Following Belgian legislation each child enrolled in a bus service must have a guaranteed seat in the bus they are enrolled to. Therefore a child enrolled in two bus-lines has 2 seats reserved, one in each of the two bus-lines. Not all children enrolled to one or more bus-lines are always taking the bus for different reasons. However, that does not mean that places which are not occupied can be allocated to another child because the APEEE has to keep the seats reserved for those enrolled to the line (no over or double booking) to comply with legal requirements set out above. The additional line provided to such pupils generates consequently costs for the APEEE, that to date are charged in full to the individual parents. The other APEEEs in Brussels have decided to distribute these costs among all parents. Erika explained that the GA could overrule the decision of the Administrative Board and decide to distribute the extra costs on all parents (i.e. divorced or not). She underlined that this would increase the yearly transport costs also for those parents who have to pay the bus transport out of their own pocket, like parents of maternelle children or parents working in (some) permanent representations. More generally speaking, she said that the motion also raised the question of how the APEEE could support parents for whom individual costs become too high, for example after a divorce. For such cases, the APEEE could set up a social fund which is a project that had already been started by the Administrative Board in 2012-2013. Other parents reiterated the concerns that if this motion were implemented, the burden would fall on parents of children in the maternelle who are not reimbursed for the costs of bus transport.

A vote on the motion took place.

Decision 2014-01-23_7: *The General Assembly REJECTS the motion to consider the use of the school bus by children of divorced parents as one single line and not as an additional line. (43 votes in favour, 27 abstentions, 54 negative votes).*

- Pedestrian and cyclist safety on the rue Médori (Annex 4.2).

Carola Streul read the motion to the assembly. The parent presenting the motion (Pierre Deussy) explained that this motion was simply seeking the support of the APEEE to continue the dialogue with the school to improve access for all children who come to the school on foot or on bike or by public transport.

A vote on that motion took place.

Decision 2014-01-23_8: *The General Assembly DECIDES to pursue the issue of providing a safe pedestrian / cyclist access to the school site from the rue Médori with the school and the Board of Governors. It will pursue this issue in all appropriate forums including the Health and Safety Working Group and the pedagogical groups. (vast majority of votes in favour, 2 abstentions, no negative votes).*

- Establishment of a sectional representation. (Annex 4.4)

There were two versions of this motion. First, the original motion and explanatory text submitted by parents in accordance with the procedures foreseen and which had been distributed to the Assembly in advance of the meeting. Second, an amended version of the motion which was presented by Erika Schulze during the General Assembly.

Carola Streul proposed to the assembly to directly vote on the amended version of the motion tabled by Erika Schulze and which was displayed on screen to the assembly. Members rejected the option and therefore the vote took place on both versions separately starting with the original motion.

The text of the original motion was read to the assembly. The two Board members who had introduced the motion were given the floor.

Iseult Lennon and Josephine Usher explained that in all of the other European Schools in Brussels, section representatives are nominated by each language section in addition to class representatives and the Administrative Board of the APEEE. As our school is growing, coordination and communication between the association, the school and the other European Schools would be improved by having an equivalent system. As was set out in the explanatory statement, the principle would be that each language section should nominate one representative for nursery, primary and secondary.

In the debate that followed, the usefulness of section representatives was not called in to question but concerns were expressed about their precise position within the APEEE, their tasks and the relationship with the Administrative Board elected by the General Assembly. Parents suggested that a new motion should be tabled once a clearer picture of how the representatives system should work existed.

Erika Schulze said that her proposed amendments would clarify the role of the language section representatives within the structure of the parents association.

Decision 2014-01-23_9: *The General Assembly REJECTS the motion to establish a section representative system to improve coordination and communication between the school, the APEEE and parents. (44 votes in favour, 8 abstentions, 73 negative votes.*

Following this decision, there was a vote on the amended version as proposed by Erika Schulze

Decision 2014-01-23_9bis: *The General Assembly REJECTS the motion to establish a section representative system to improve coordination and communication between the school, the APEEE and parents. The section representatives structure will be chaired by the vice-president for pedagogical affairs. The Administrative Board can consult the Section Representatives. This structure is without prejudice to the decision-making powers of the Administrative Board as the only decision-making body of the APEEE between the GAs as laid down by the statute. (41 vote in favour, 18 abstentions, 46 negative votes).*

- Establishment of a health and safety group. (Annex 4.3)

There were two versions of this motion. First, the original motion and explanatory text submitted by parents in accordance with the procedures foreseen and which had been distributed to the Assembly in advance of the meeting. Second, an amended version of the motion which was presented by Erika Schulze during the General Assembly.

Carola Streul proposed to the assembly to directly vote on the amended version of the motion tabled by Erika Schulze and displayed on screen to the assembly. Members rejected the option and therefore the vote took place on both versions separately starting with the original motion.

The text was read to the assembly. The two Board members who had introduced the motion were given the floor.

The motion was presented on the basis that there are already working groups for a number of specific topics (sexuality education / behaviour) and that the purpose of this motion was to establish a similar working group on health and safety issues to better coordinate parental input into the APEEE's representation in the School Hygiene and Safety Committee. The group should help to avoid duplication and inconsistencies with decisions of the educational council and other existing working groups.

For this resolution an amended version was proposed by Erika Schulze. As in the previous item on the agenda, there was a vote on the original version first.

In the debate that followed the position of such working group in relation to the elected representative body of the parents association was discussed.

Decision 2014-01-23_10: *The General Assembly REJECTS the motion to establish a transparent and representative health and safety working group to support and coordinate input from the parent body to the school on all health and safety issues. (47 votes in favour, 2 abstentions, 56 negative votes).*

A vote on the amended version as proposed by Erika Schulze followed.

Decision 2014-01-23_10bis: *The General Assembly DECIDES to encourage the CA to establish in the school year 2013/2014 a health and safety working group chaired by one of the CA members to facilitate and to coordinate the active participation of parents and their input on health and safety issues, notably in the Working Group of the school. (91 votes in favour, 13 abstentions, 5 negative votes).*

- Proposal to refuse approval of the canteen budget subject to clarifications received. (Annex 4.5)

Nobody from the assembly supported this resolution. As a consequence, the decision on this resolution was dropped, since these aspects had been discussed before and the budget had been already approved (see Decision 2014-01-23_6).

9. Results of the elections of the Members of the Board

This was done in Part 1 section1 (Refer to Decision_2014-01-23_2).

10. AoB

None

The General Assembly was closed at 24:50.

Joëlle Salmon
President

Minutes approved during the
Administrative board of
04.03.2014.