



Minutes of COVID WG - May 3rd, 2021

Participating

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| Manuel Bordoy MB | Kristin Dijkstra KD |
| Isabelle Verwilghen IV | Karim Kettani K2 |
| Martin McGrath MMG | Dina Dragomirescu DD |
| Niina Viima NV | Judith Ecker JE |
| Caroline Hulsen CH | Diane Werhert DW |
| Justine Dauchot JD | Stephanie Buus SB |
| Laure Nossent LN | Ambar Lietar AL |
| Eva Puttkamer EP | Dan Nicolae DN |
| Peter Segers PS | Marianna Cosco MC |
| Gilberto Castorini GC | |

Manuel Bordoy apologizes for last week's meeting that didn't take place due to technical issues.

More info will be given shortly after the meeting between all 4 directors.

Timetable for B-tests will also be sent out after the meeting.

Update on COVID cases

Two cases: 3 new cases (2 in Secondary due to family contact).

9 S6 in quarantine until tomorrow. First tests were negative. Second tests due today.

No more case during the WE.



Update on sports lessons: update on indoor sport, parent volunteers, masks

Sports indoors and overcrowded changing rooms, children forced into the changing rooms even if they don't need to change.

Martin McGrath states that N/P prioritize lessons outside as much as possible. Sanitizing gel are handed out before entering the changing rooms.

Isabelle Verwilghen confirms the same application of the rules as for N/P.

Changing rooms: rotation of supervisors to make sure they wash their hands, etc.

Dina Dragomirescu: apparently, in Secondary changing rooms there are more than one levels in the same room.

Also, students cannot stay unsupervised but they don't need to be forced into the changing rooms if they are excused from Sports class.

Please inform Isabelle Verwilghen on these matters with dates and times.

A list of parents will be sent to Isabelle Verwilghen.

Parents are asking which info the school: available periods, number of weeks and email addresses.

Excursions possible in P4 & P5?

Manuel Bordoy states that it's a decision that needs to be made between the 4 directors of the EE schools.

Currently, the decision is that there won't be any excursions this year but it might be modified.

A meeting between all 4 directors is scheduled for today.

S1-S3 parents from EN & FR sections

S1-S3 parents from EN & FR sections wish to alert the school of the comparative amount of in situ days and the growing number of students who can't cope anymore.

These students are not mature enough to understand it all.

Parents have informed the school that the number of days for S1-S3 is considerably lower than other levels when it comes to in situ days.



Learn How To Learn is a priority for next year for S1-S3 students to make sure they are not falling behind.

For this year, nothing can be changed due to the rotation system already in place as exams are scheduled already.

Some decisions had to be made when the school created the rotation system. And the S7 were brought forward as it's their last year.

The trend now is to bring back all students back in situ... probably more than 50% of students back in situ.

Also, the FWB stated that school should resume in situ starting the 10th of May.

What will the 4 directors of the EE schools will decide later today?

Meeting will take place today!

Dina Dragomirescu: option of half days?

1800 students in secondary. The school cannot have flexible system in order to keep track of the students.

Diane Werherth: some S2 classes are really suffering from in situ continuous testing, presentations, etc... even the best students are about to break! As a section Rep, she sent an email to 17 teachers, two of whom have replied.

She will forward this email to Isabelle Verwilghen.

Gilberto Castorini, teacher rep, internal discussion with colleagues concerning the well-being of students.

Delicate situation because of in situ assessment and understanding of multiple tests a day.

Consider in relation with the class what are the feedback from the students.

Not all the tests are the same, some of them are smaller ones. And on bigger tests, teachers need to be understanding and they could reconsider the agenda concerning their tests.

Difficult for smaller classes when teachers see their students one every three weeks.

No easy solution.



IT tool for teachers to see the workload of students? What's the update on that?

Isabelle Verwilghen sent through the weekly letter how teachers can figure out how to see the workload of their students.

The best way is for teachers to speak to their students!

Few tests could mean low marks and that would be reflected on the term report.

This would not allow students to bring their mark up.

Ambar is asking if it would be an option that S1-S3 students don't have marks until the end of the year.

Isabelle Verwilghen: some parents have that point of view but others would be totally against it. The school cannot please ALL parents.

Class councils will be lenient.

Gilberto Castorini: it would be unfair to decide of this local arrangement in EEB4.

Manuel Bordoy: assessment needs to be adapted.

Clarification on half-days for S1-S3

Afternoons free from assignments/dedicated to artistic or physical activities, or afternoons with structured autonomous activities organized by school? Or full days and earlier holiday?

EEB Woluwe will be organizing afterschool day-care on the school site and parents must have equal treatment in the 4 Brussels schools, i.e. parents in 1 school must not be forced to pay for after-school care while it is offered in others.

Kristin Dijkstra is asking that this is discussed during the meeting between all 4 schools.

Organization of busses might also be an issue for us because of the return to 100% in situ in Belgian schools, with associated trips/activities during the school day.

Manuel Bordoy is willing to take into consideration should parents have issues with afterschool day-care.

Dina Dragomirescu states that half days classes for students is a positive thing for students and teachers who are also on the verge of a burnout.



P4/P5 petition against face masks from parents

Parents have sent an email to Manuel Bordoy complaining that the school doesn't follow the FWB regulations.

Manuel Bordoy explains that the EEB system is different. Already from P1 there is L2 teaching and thus additional bubbles. Therefore, masks seem to be the mean to reduce cases. Before Easter, most cases were in P4/P5. Since they wear masks, there are no more cases in our school in those years. Thus from the evidence in our school, the masks seem to help reduce cases.

A meeting between all 4 directors is scheduled for today. Maybe this decision might be modified today from imposing it to strongly recommending it.

Possibility for EEB4 to set up a dedicated Covid 19-related page by psychologists similar to EEB1

This page could be updated almost every week with tips, recommendations and address list - the EEB1 psychologists mention on their page that they are regularly in touch with other ESS' teams - link EEB1: <https://www.eeb1.com/en/eeb1-psychologists/>

Manuel Bordoy states that the psychologists are working on it for EEB4.

Judith Ecker wanted to point out that there is no psychologist that speaks DE in the team. For future employment, could you please think of DE students as well?

COVID absences

COVID quarantines (including those not coming from school) are counted into the 18 days?

These are justified absences and school is always flexible for those absences.

COVID measures over the summer

Prepare our school for a possible continuation of the pandemic in September (CO2 meters, filters in class, repairing the windows that don't open, etc).

Dina Dragomirescu: parents are wondering if the school will take measures over the summer to prepare for a return back to school in September.



Could the Community Fund be used to buy these CO2 meters or HEPA filters?

Some parents would be willing to help financially.

Peter Segers: windows that can't be opened have been opened manually by the school workers.

Régie des Bâtiments: still needs to approve automation of these windows electronically.

Offer has been received already and the costs are high.

CO2 meters should be a common to all EEB schools. OSGES should launch a call for tender for all schools.

Kristin Dijkstra suggests that InterParents could be supportive of this.

Karim Kettani agrees that the Central Office should be the one bearing the costs and not the parents.

Peter Segers adds that parents should encourage others to get vaccinated.

Saliva tests like in BE schools

Three different types of tests on the market.

Teachers are already receiving these if they have been in contact with a contaminated person (contact tracing).

30 to 40% that the tests are negative but in reality a part might not be detected... so it's not 100% sure.

Well-being of teachers, vaccination pace for teachers

Dina Dragomirescu asked if the school knows of teachers who have been vaccinated but it's a matter of data protection. Teachers can choose to be vaccinated in Belgium or in their national system.

Waiting lists from BruVax work really well.

Next meeting

Meeting to be held on Monday 17th of May, 2021 at 9:00.