



Minutes of COVID WG - April 19th, 2021

Participating

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

A teachers' representative, Mr Tom Boiy, is participating in the meeting.

The Comité des élèves is also interested in receiving information from the school.

They will receive all info, unless it's a sensitive matter.

Today is the start of in situ teaching.

No major incident to report from last week, which was in distance learning (DL).

Update on COVID cases

Eva Puttkamer: 8 students positive between last Monday and yesterday... based on the second test after travelling. We don't know which variants though.

Proves to show the second test is necessary.

We might have more positive cases as parents have kept their child home because they fear they have been in contact with a positive person.

Parents are asking if DL is guaranteed for these students who have to stay home until the 1st of May.



Update on tracking/tracing rules due to new virus variants

Rules in school: not necessary to close any class for the moment from the buffer week.

Tracing by seating plan is still going on.

Two positive cases (cluster): the class will be closed. One positive case is not sufficient to close a class. And tests are to be done for high risk contact students

Proposal for ensuring proper tracing in APEEE services

Kristin Dijkstra would like to propose that in the event of a positive case, the school informs the APEEE of the bus number used or after-school activity attended by the student. The APEEE can then inform the families of the bus or class about the positive case, extending the information due to new variants.

Manuel Bordoy agrees to this.

Eric Piettre will provide updated lists to the school nurses.

It is reminded that parents have the responsibility to contact APEEE services directly as well. This extra step is intended to add an additional layer of protection.

Questions about quarantine & absences

Students who are in quarantine linked to family members tested positive.

Dina Dragomirescu: Covid Center rules that if one family member is tested positive, the whole family should quarantine.

Parents' certificate is enough to justify the absence of the student.

Manuel Bordoy agrees to that.

Mrs Verwilghen informs parents that all justified absences are marked in SMS and teachers will then turn on the camera in their classroom so that students in quarantine can follow the lesson.

Masks in indoor sports lessons & access to changing rooms

Nursery and Primary: wearing of masks indoors is mandatory for P4/P5 and sport lessons should be done outside mainly, but if it's indoors, the students need to wear a mask.



The changing rooms will be sanitized between usages.

Isabelle Verwilghen states that it's exactly the same for Secondary students.

Manuel Bordoy reminds the parents that EE schools take the minimum standard regulations and are allowed to make the regulations stricter for their schools. The European Schools have a different structure than national schools, resulting in larger "bubbles".

These measures will be revised after the May holidays.

In Laeken, the number of cases has been pretty low... which means that our school is doing something right!

Masks wearing and the measures taken so far are still very important and it proves to show that we need to continue like this.

Judith Ecker is asking if there a necessity to do sports indoor. Keeping masks while being in a changing room is not easy.

Manuel Bordoy confirms that the priority will be outdoor sports.

Use of changing rooms is necessary especially when students will be doing sports outdoors in order to be able to change from sweaty clothes to regular ones.

Kristin Dijkstra is asking whether it's currently possible for sports classes to be going to the Royal Park?

Manuel Bordoy is stating that it's a possibility but the teachers need two supervisors to be able to take the class outside of school grounds.

Ambar Liétar is asking whether the school would allow a pool of parents who would be willing to help supervise the sports classes outside of school grounds.

Manuel Bordoy and Isabelle Verwilghen are pleased with the proposal.

APEEE will ask parents to volunteer.

Manuel Bordoy and Isabelle Verwilghen will prepare a protocol for risk-assessment.



CO2 measuring

Peter Segers states that results are below the 900PPM, and this is due to ventilation of windows and opening of the doors.

Kristin Dijkstra: measuring device is mobile and teachers can request it?

Peter Seghers informs the parents that he puts the devices in some classes in the morning and picks them up in the evening.

Questions about lunchtime

1. Some P4-P5 students could eat outside? Vulnerable families have asked for this.
Each case needs to be studied. Parents should send an email to Mr McGrath.
2. Can parents who live nearby school pick their children up so they can eat at home?
Manuel Bordoy will discuss this in their Management meeting on Wednesday and come back to us.
3. Can more seating be provided outside?
Mr Segers have made sure there are more picnic tables are placed outside: 20 extra tables have been delivered and installed outside.

Update on planning for rest of school year, as far as is known at the moment

Manuel Bordoy states that school has planned until May but nothing after that.

Secondary will probably continue in rotation until the rest of the school year but it's not for sure.

S7 pupils are also requesting to be in DL, on a particular week.

Exams: in situ exams will be replaced? Manuel Bordoy says no.

Harmonized B-tests and BAC exams will be in situ.

Teachers are asked to reflect what have been taught for harmonized B-tests.

Two scenarii

1. all come back in situ
2. part-time in DL which might impact the duration of the B-tests (from 2 weeks to 3 weeks)

Association des Parents d'Elèves de l'Ecole 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
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Euroopa Kool Brüssel IV Vanematekogu Aisbl



Before the May break, the first week of May, a decision will be taken on the timetable of the tests.

Marianna Cosco: lettre en préparation de la section IT concernant une semaine à distance après la semaine de l'Ascension.

Manuel Bordoy informe les parents que leurs décisions sont prises pour le bien de la communauté scolaire, pas seulement pour une classe ou section.

Rumors from S2 FR classes that state one teacher has informed the students that in June, the students will be half days at school and then at home.

Isabelle Verwilghen states that this is correct, for the end of June, for the class councils.

Starting the 23rd of June, S1-S3 students will be coming in from 8:15 to 12:35.

Contact has been taken with APEEE concerning the bus service.

Manuel Bordoy is asking about the canteen being closed until the end of the year.

Kristin Dijkstra: if we are able to go back to 100% in situ, we might reconsider the closure but the canteen is not financially viable for the moment.

A separate meeting could be scheduled to set up the timetable of the canteen space.

Next meeting

Meeting to be held on Monday 26th of April, 2021 at 9:00.