



Administrative Board Meeting/Réunion du Conseil d' Administration

Brussels Thursday, 6th October 2022

Teams Video Meeting: 12:40-14:53

Present: Cerasela Botoroaga, Stephanie Buus, Marianna Cosco, Nicholas Costello, Romina Garbi, Mariana Ghitoi, Angela Guarino, Yannick Hartstein, Nadia Kichaout, Maria Koidu, Dan Nicolae, Josephine Norris, Jane Okafor, Dana Adriana Puia Morel, Adja Awa Sissoko, Pénélope Vlandas, Diane Werhert.

Absent: Victoria Petrova, Iulian Vasile.

Excused: Vladas Kukulskis.

Proxy: Vladas Kukulskis to Diane Werhert, Jane Okafor to Stephanie Buus from 1:24 pm, Josephine Norris to Diane Werhert from 1:47 pm, Nadia Kichaout to Adja Awa Sissoko from 2:19 pm.

Guest: Manuela Pamio, Secretariat of APEEE and, Eric Rega, the Director of the APEEE of Brussels IV.

Minutes 6.10.2022

The quorum is present. Ms Buus chairs the Administrative Board meeting.

1. Adoption of the agenda.

Adopted.

2. Approval of Board Minutes from June 23rd, 2022.

Postponed.

3. How do we want to communicate and work together?

In preparation for a full-day team building, Ms Puia Morel invites all Board members to think about how we can communicate and collaborate in a better way.

The President of the APEEE of Brussels IV is not in favour of holding all Board meetings virtually. She thinks that we should have at least one physical meeting because we need face-to-face interactions and build real connections. According to some Board members, in-person meetings will improve working relationships and encourage more active participation. Ms Okafor thinks that it is important to give a proper welcome to new board members and make clear what it is expected they do. Ms Puia Morel explains that to improve communication among board members, we should create a safe space where people can physically meet and work in small groups of four or five people.

Mr Costello identifies two necessary conditions to get more involvement from Board members:

- To hold physical meetings when possible.
- To ensure that new board members have a clear responsibility and understand that they have to do certain tasks, which will allow them to meet more people, learn more about the issues, and become more involved.

Ms Ghitoi points out that we should make a clear distinction between our communication tools (physical or online meetings or WhatsApp messages) and the tone, the energy we put into our interactions, which is independent of how we communicate. She is grateful to be part of the Board and believes that a lot of positive energy is being put into it. The discussion focuses on extreme communication. Ms Norris thinks that we should all communicate in moderation, and we should start with the assumption that every Board member tries to do something positive for the school community. Ms Puia Morel explains that when extreme communication occurs, we have a common responsibility to find a nice way to moderate it so we can all return to our positive and good selves.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
01 CA 6/10/2022	To schedule a physical Board meeting ideally in November or December.	Stephanie Buus	In the coming weeks

4. How we can offer support to those among us who are experiencing a more intense involvement at times.

Ms Puia Morel provides some concrete examples on how we can give support to another person and work together on projects. She encourages everyone to share ideas, points of view, expertise, information and co-create work together. She explains that even if you have your own tasks, you can benefit from the ideas and support of another colleague, work together, and achieve good results. All Board members are kindly invited to send any ideas on this matter to Ms Puia Morel.

With reference to the access of documents, Ms Guarino points out that it is not easier to find documents on a common platform, for example, the Working Group documents, but she will explore solutions and will bring some ideas to the Board.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
02 CA 6/10/2022	To send any ideas and suggestions on how to communicate and work together to Ms Puia Morel.	ALL	In the coming weeks

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
03 CA 6/10/2022	To collect all ideas and suggestions into one single document from which we can create an internal code of conduct.	Dana Puia Morel	In the coming weeks

5. Follow-up Administrative Board.

Ms Cosco and Mr Nicolae give a brief follow-up on the School's Administrative Board meeting held last week. Their feedback is positive. All agenda items were discussed, and our points were taken into account by the school. Mr Nicolae explains that the school's directors pay particular attention to the needs of all pupils, including the Ukrainian pupils who are facing language barriers in the European School system. He refers that there are some classes with five SEN pupils, and the school is trying to find a solution to give them adequate Educational Support.

With reference to the APEEE 's request for a derogation of the Estonian section, the school has not yet taken a formal decision about it.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
04 CA 6/10/2022	To send the notes of the school's Administrative Board meeting to Ms Buus. Once analysed, Ms Buus will share the notes with Board members.	Dan Nicolae and Marianna Cosco Stephanie Buus	In the coming weeks

6. APEEE services: Info point on the Services' State of play:

- a) Transport
- b) Brief update on the transport Working Group.

Mr Rega gives an update on the transport situation. The Director of the APEEE of Brussels IV and the transport service are working in close collaboration with bus companies to reopen some bus lines. He is pleased to announce that in January 2023, a new bus company will probably collaborate with our parents' association. With reference to the organisation of the transport service, Mr Rega would like to have at least one employee as back-up who can manage the key tasks when the person in charge is absent. He explains that the transport manager is now the only person with access to the bus routes and billing information. Ms Sissoko gives a quick update on the first Transport Working meeting held yesterday morning. At the meeting, they identified as first priority the need for a new IT tool: a school bus routing software to create and optimize bus routes and to track students and school buses. This application should track a school bus in real-time and show whether or not the pupils have been picked-up or dropped off at the bus stops.

Ms Sissoko explains that the meeting was fruitful, and it was decided today to have a meeting with the transport staff on operational issues, especially on short-term issues.

She invites all Board members to send any ideas to improve the transport service in the long term to the Transport Working Group.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
05 CA 6/10/2022	To send any ideas to improve the transport service over the long term to the Transport Working Group.	ALL	In the coming weeks

8. Axado – Sexual awareness.

This year, the school invited Ms Puia Morel and Ms Buus, members of the Well-being Working Group, to attend a meeting with Axado, an association which has been conducting interventions in our school on sexual awareness for S3 and S4 students for several years.

This was an excellent opportunity for our parents' association to present a parent perspective, as well as for those students, members of the Students' Committee, who were invited to attend the meeting to voice their opinions.

Ms Puia Morel explains that for religious or cultural reasons, some parents are reluctant or against sending their children to Axado workshops focused on emotional and sexual relationships.

She believes it would be beneficial if we could organise a virtual information session for parents where Axado representatives could explain what they teach or do not teach, what their approach is, what issues they discuss with students, and how they will discuss these sensitive topics with pupils. Ms Ghitoi supports this event because the only way to solve problems is to discuss them openly and transparently.

Vote: *Is the APEEE of Bruxelles IV willing to organize an information session with Axado depending on the quote?*

- 11 in favour
- 0 against
- 1 abstention

The APEEE Board is in favour of organizing an information session with Axado depending on the quote.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
07 CA 6/10/2022	To check the feasibility of this event: availability of Axado representatives, and cost of their interventions.	Dana Puia Morel	In the coming weeks

9. Pedagogy: Election of Section Representatives on Monday night.

Ms Werhert announces that the Apeee Board and the Pedagogical team will hold a virtual meeting with parents on Monday, October 10th, 2022, at 8:00 pm. It will be a short meeting focused on the presentation of the Pedagogical Working Group and their activities, followed by the election of the section representatives for the 2022-2023 academic year. Ms Werhert informs the Board that the school will invite the newly elected nursery and primary section representatives to the Nursery and Primary Education Council meeting scheduled on October 13th, 2022.

#	Action	Owner	Deadline
08 CA 6/10/2022	To provide the list of the new section representatives to the APEEE Board as well as to the secretariat of the nursery and primary school.	Diane Werhert	11/10/2022

With reference to the class representatives' election, Ms Werhert informs the Board that the APEEE secretariat has not yet received the election results for two classes: S6 BG and S4 NL a.

10. Agenda items for the next Administrative Board meeting.

The President of the APEEE of Brussels IV will give an update on Framework agreement (FA) negotiations between the four Brussels APEEE Presidents and the Secretary-General of the European Schools at the next Administrative Board meeting.

The Board meeting ends at 2:53 pm.