



Administrative Board Meeting / Réunion du Conseil d'Administration

Brussels Tuesday, 14 November 2013

13:00-14:30

Room: J-79 02/03, Rue Joseph Deux, 79

Present: Steve O'Byrne, Martina Sindelar, Daniella Terruso, Anja Mangels, Joëlle Salmon, Sarah Conyers Barber, Kunka Ilieva Josephine Usher, Iseult Lennon Hudson, Erika Schulze, Marc Henriques de Granada, Benoît Vandergeeten, Jacopo Lombardi, Nigel Freake, Max Strotmann and Eric Piettre, Director of the APEEE.

Excused: Pascal Manzano, Christian Drantmann, Serge Lebel, Carola Streul, Ralph Wischermann, Monika Paulus (proxy to Erika).

Some Board members only attend part of the meeting. The sequence of points minuted is not necessarily as discussed.

Steve O'Brien chairs the meeting.

Minutes

1 Adoption of draft agenda

Adopted with minor changes in sequence and one AOB point on the outcome of the Central Enrolment Authority's draft policy for next school year added (but point not further discussed because of lack of time). Members are deeply worried that Laeken continues to be put at a disadvantage compared to other Brussels schools, by not allowing transfer requests from Laeken to other Brussels schools (in the margins of the possible). Given that Laeken in principle has reached full capacity, not different from the other schools, there is no valid reason for continuing this unequal treatment. Members suggest writing to the Secretary General stressing the Board's disagreement with the current draft enrolment policy.

2 Adoption of minutes of meeting of 15 October 2013

Adopted with minor changes.

Points for decision

3 **APEEE employment rules for parents**

Board members recall the context that led to the current rules. During the discussion it is acknowledged that the current rules are not publicly known. The APEEE probably does not make full use of the talents available among parents. It should be clarified which posts are possible to be taken by parents while avoiding any conflicts of interests. The basis is always an employment contract that may need to be strengthened and / or clarified.

Decision 2013-11-14_01: The Board decides by 12 to 7 votes to ask Josie, together with other members, to review the current rules and draw up possible principles for employment of parents, with the appropriate safeguards. These principles will be the basis for a discussion of the Board and eventually a decision on updated rules.

4 **Contract with Chinese teacher**

Board members stress the particular circumstances of the present case and agree that, exceptionally, regarding the current rules, the teacher should be employed, if this was still possible for operational and budgetary reasons.

Decision 2013-11-14_02: The board decides by 12 votes in favour, 3 against and 4 abstentions to exceptionally reverse the principle of non-employment of parents and, in the present case, to employ the teacher, if still feasible.

5 **Appointment of VP pedagogical affairs**

To ensure continuity following Martina's stepping down, Nigel agrees to take over as VP Pedagogical Affairs.

Decision 2013-11-14_03: The Board appoints Nigel as VP Pedagogical Affairs by 14 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

Thanks and all good luck to Nigel - and a big warm THANK YOU to Martina!

6 **Martina to co-ordinate for the APEEE parents participation in school working groups**

Martina sets out the context of the new parents groups. Members discuss how to best ensure parents participation in school groups but also to consider the developing nature of parent involvement.

Decision 2013-11-14_04: The Board decides with one vote against to entrust Martina with the tasks of co-ordinating parents' involvement in the new working groups and of ensuring a proper communication between the various groups.

Wishing good luck & successful unbroken communication to Martina and the wider pedagogical community, so positively contributing to a better school life!

7 **Financial report 2012/2013 and Budget 2013/2014**

Marc presents a budget overview, with an expected net benefit for the present year, and plan for next year's budget. He explains his cautious budget approach, highlighting the particular situation with the change of site and the school's continued growth. He

stresses the importance of covering today already for further changes in 2014 and challenges beyond (canteen, transport in particular).

Eric adds further detail on management needs and improvements planned (material flows, user identification for canteen and possibly transport in the future).

Decision 2013-11-14_5: The Board unanimously agrees with Marc's proposal except regarding the transport part where the Board decides not to use the surplus of the school year 2012/2013 to cover the potential deficit of 2013/2014 but insists that the income of 2013/2014 in transport has to cover the actual costs.

Warm thanks to Marc for vigilance and ever solid preparation, remarkable!

Points for information / discussion

7 GA preparation

Joelle stresses the urgency of a timely preparation (incl. translation!) and circulation of all necessary documents. Everything will need to be sent by next Thursday. Erika and Steve will co-ordinate the reporting needs for their respective terms of presidency.

Many thanks to Joëlle for ringing the alarm on what is necessary and for putting all and everybody so energetically on track! Thanks as well, in advance, to all for contributing! Short factual reports, one page ideally :-)

Other points not taken for lack of time.

Note taking by max.