

**Association des parents d'élèves de l'école 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  
Oudervereniging van de Europese School Brussel IV Aisbl  
Асоциация на родителите на учениците от Европейско училище Брюксел IV AISBL



**Administrative Board Meeting / Réunion du Conseil d'Administration**

**Brussels Tuesday, 15 October 2013**

**13:00-14:30**

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

**Present:** Steve O'Byrne, Martina Sindelar, Daniella Terruso, Joëlle Salmon, Sarah Conyers Barber, Carola Streul, Josephine Usher, Iseult Lennon Hudson, Erika Schulze, Marc Henriques de Granada, Benoît Vandergeeten, Ralph Wischermann, Jacopo Lombardi, Nigel Freake, Christian Drantmann, Max Strotmann and Eric Piettre, Director of the APEEE.

**Excused:** Kunka Ilieva (proxy to Steve), Pascal Manzano, Serge Lebel, Anja Mangels, 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.

**2. Adoption of minutes of meeting of 15 September 2013**

As some members offered clarifications, all comments should go to Serge until next meeting.

On the issue of maternelle children in particular, it was re-confirmed that the board decided not to agree with an earlier timing for getting on the bus but to maintain 13.15.

**3. General Assembly minutes**

Adopted. Big thanks to all contributing, in particular Serge for drafting and to Joëlle for heroic finalisation!!!

**Association des parents d'élèves de l'école européenne de Bruxelles IV aisbl**

APEEE BRU IV AISBL, drève Sainte-Anne 86, B- 1020 Bruxelles

Tél : 02/340 14 96 - Fax: 02/340 14 93 - <http://www.bru4.eu>

Comptes bancaires	Général, cotisations	132-5315455-90	Banque Delta Lloyd
	Transport scolaire	132-5315447-82	
	Service cantine	132-5315452-87	
	Activités périscolaire	132-5315454-89	

## **Points for decision**

### **4. Huis clos on staff issues**

Eric, Joëlle and Josie report on various staff issues. Recruitment for one assistant is under way. One staff member left. Anne is nominated as transport manager. A student should join the périscolaire team at 20% to reach full capacity for the team. The contract runs until end of June 2014, fully covered by budget provisions. Main responsibility will be ensuring correct room handover in accordance with the agreement with school on using school premises; detailed job description to follow.

Decision 2013-10-15\_01: Huis clos decisions on staff issues are unanimously endorsed.

### **5. Date of next General Assembly**

Joelle proposes Thursday 5 December, to be held in the salle polyvalente.

Decision 2013-10-15\_02: The board unanimously decides to hold the next GA on 5 December, at the school's sale polyvalente.

## **Points for information / discussion**

### **6. Research project on expats**

Steve presents a request received from a research group interested in the European schools and Expat life. The board agrees to his forwarding the information to parents, as done on past such occasions.

### **7. School administrative board**

Sarah reports for Steve and Iseult, in addition to a written report. She stresses a few particular points:

- Discussions on the 5th school continue with BE. Discussion of the next enrolment policy is nearing finalisation. The debate on cost sharing remains difficult, although there are some hopes for more funding for local teachers - while at same time unhelpfully eliminating unfilled posts. Secondary reform is pushed ahead on S1-3, contrary to other sources suggesting that also S4/5 are covered.
- Allegedly the school has a capacity of some 3 000 students, parents voiced doubts about rooms and equipment for such a number. While there is general content about the RO and BG sections, there was some debate about balance between sections as well as about teachers' balance in secondary and primary. Ms Gallas is expected to stay acting head of Secondary until end of the year.
- The school was praised by the ES secretary General about its well established "middle management" in primary, compared to secondary, where there is a perceived lack of coordinators' functions. This, however, should be seen in context of complaints by parents about absence of teachers from class and unplanned loss of teaching hours.
- A number of safety and security issues were discussed, with the Commune critical, eg parents not using pedestrian crossings. Mr Kivinen was not convinced

about the usefulness and practicalities of magnetic parents' access cards for parents.

- On the playground, there was a strong commitment from Mr Kivinen to improve things, but without further detail following so far.
- As to plans for a cafeteria, Mr Kivinen warned that these are usually loss making. Hereferred to the Régie des Batiments refusing renting out sports grounds to users other than parents or Commission users (non-profit). The issue of a large number of kids entering from BE schools and not up to level on L2 was noted.

Beyond discussing these specific points, Board members refer to better preparing the next school Administrative Board, in particular also to ensure fair financial treatment. Steve will again take up the Board's offer to Mr Schlabe of regular meetings to develop closer operational ties and be able to defend more effectively the common interest.

Many thanks all three for well defending our case(s) and detailed reporting!

## **8. Central Enrolment Authority**

Steve reports. It took the form of a brainstorming meeting with 2 scenarios on the table and Mr Kivinen speaking about a third, not on the table ...

It is accepted that Laeken has reached its limits for maternelle and primaire. Berkendael is only available until mid-2015 (to be noted that work has not yet started in Uccle on renovation). The Woluwe prefabs are not fit for purpose, particular fire hazard. BE insists that as long as space is available in Berkendael and Laeken, no more buildings will be provided. It appears that Mr Kivinen is against ideas for more "centralised" secondary campus(es), with no clear reasons given though.

In the discussion some members very strongly express their disappointment about insufficient consideration of parents' input and viewpoints and advocate withdrawal from the CEA.

Many thanks Steve – and Monika! – for never giving up defending Laeken and broader parents' interests despite disillusioning meetings,.

## **9. AOB**

Steve received an invitation to the upcoming school hygiene and safety committee. Christian will attend for the Board.

Note taking by max.