



2011-2012 - EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR NURSERY & PRIMARY 1

Date: 20.10.2011

Time: 16h00

Room: Staff room, Main building (A220)

For Management Wulf SCHLABE, Chair
Vaiva IVANAUSKEINE

For the teachers Nursery Atsje WIERSMA
DE Tamara NECKERMANN
EN Finbarr HURLEY (CdP)
FR Daniel PALUMBIERI
IT Rosa GIULIANO
NE Greet LANCKMANS

For the teachers APEEE Martina SINDELAR
APEEE Adela Raluca POPA
DE Katrin MAHRENHOLZ
EN Iseult LENNON HUDSON, Neophytos NEOPHYTOU
FR
IT
NE

1. Designation of minute taker

The teachers (Finbarr HURLEY, EN).

2. Apologies for absence

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda is approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous ECNP

The minutes are approved.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

Speech Therapist: It is viewed as a tripartite contract between the school, parents and therapist. But until there is clarification on some remaining issues on the decision permitting the speech therapist to be in school, the situation will

remain as it is at present.

6. Management

6.1. Communication from the Director

- The Director (Mr. Wulf SCHLABE) explained clearly the role of the Education Council of Nursery and Primary. He explained that the Education Council looks at the general pedagogical and the day to day issues that pertain to school life e.g. Anti bullying policy, school trips etc.
- The School Advisory Council (S.A.C.); the body which advises the director; can then look at the documents from the Education Council and either accepts the proposals put forth or sends them back to the Education Council for further dialogue.
- The invitation to the Education Council is mailed two weeks in advance and that is the opportunity for members to add to the agenda bearing in mind that the points should be general points that apply to the whole school. Mrs. SINDELAR agreed and explained that the APPEE's pedagogical committee discuss which precise issues they are bringing before putting them on the agenda.
- The Director also informed the Education Council that it is envisaged that the Bulgarian Minister for Education along with the Bulgarian ambassador will be in school on the 4th and 5th of December. Bulgarian parents will be invited to a meeting with him to discuss the situation vis a vis a Bulgarian Section. SWALS parents from both the Romanian and Bulgarian sections will also be invited to a general meeting to discuss the current situation at sometime in the near future.

6.2. Communication from the Deputy Director

- The Deputy Head of Maternelle and Primary (Mrs. Vaiva IVANAUSKIENE) informed the Council that there were almost 890 children in Maternelle and Primary this school year.
- The DE maternelle class will be split after mid-term break. The FR section is the biggest section in the school.

6.3. Christmas Concert

- The Director expressed his wish that the Christmas Concerts continue this school year despite the difficult conditions with regards to space. Mrs IVANAUSKIENE, put forward two models of Christmas Concerts. The advantages and disadvantages of both were discussed. Parents expressed their preference (for this school year) being that of having concerts by sections - otherwise several parents would have to attend several concerts. A proposal was put forward that the concerts would be as follows: the DE and NE sections, the FR and IT sections, and the EN section. The school staff will discuss the issue at their next staff meeting and the next Education Council will be informed of the final decision. The dates for the concerts the 16th and 19th of December remain the same.

6.4. Preparation for Laeken

- The Deputy Head informed that the work on Laeken is progressing well and so far everything is on schedule. The Laeken Working Group, led by Mr. HURLEY explained that work has already begun with the children on preparing them for Laeken. He explained that the works of art produced during this school week - ART week, will also be displayed in Laeken next year.

- Ms. NECKERMANN explained about an art competition that will begin in the second half of this school year where the winning entry will be the front cover of the school agenda for next year. More details about the competition and a competition information brochure will follow soon.
- Mr. HURLEY informed that each year group has organised a trip to the Laeken area- mostly in the final two weeks of the school year. It is envisaged that each year group will have a picnic in the park and then walk around the perimeter of the school. If the works are advanced there may be a possibility to visit inside the grounds but this cannot be confirmed until much later in the year.

6.5. New Programmes

- The Council was informed that three new pedagogical programmes are being implemented this year; NE mother tongue, EN mothers tongue and a complete new Early Years Programme.
- As the Early Years Programme is a completely new syllabus the school has two years to implement it fully. Ms. WIERSMA from the NE maternelle section explained that the programme was following a holistic approach integrating all areas under the themes of 'Me and my Body', 'Me as a Person', 'Me and Others' and 'Me and the World'. Mr NEOPHYTOU referring to the Early Education Curriculum noted that for each of the themes the parents can follow the progress of their children since outcomes are described. He also highlighted the role of the parents as described in the curriculum as being the *prime educators of their children*. In the new curriculum, there is a lot of emphasis on the sharing of information and feedback from the teachers to the parents. Mr NEOPHYTOU concluded that for the new curriculum to be a success, teachers and parents need to cooperate very closely for the interest of the children.

6.6. Communication from the Deputy Director

- The Deputy Head referred to the school fees and explained the costs of the fees with regards to the educational, cultural and sports activities that will take place this year. She explained that all activities are in constant review and are evaluated after each one is completed. Planning towards the activities for the next school year is already underway.
- There will be parent information evenings later in the year regarding the residential visits for P3, P4 and P5.

7. Teachers

7.1. Bus and canteen

- The CdP rep requested that the APPEE consider having a teacher representative on the transport and canteen committee as the teachers see on a daily basis the practical side of all decisions made at transport and canteen level.

8. Parents

8.1. Use of the Agenda

- The parents asked that the teachers check the agenda on a daily basis. They also requested that more personalised information be put into the agenda on a weekly basis. The Deputy Head explained that with big classes such a request would be difficult to accede to. Lots of classes use class websites and newsletters to inform parents of what has been done. The

requests will be passed on to teachers during the next staff meeting.

8.2. Stealing

- There is no evidence from school that there is any stealing going on in school. Parents are asked to ensure that all valuables are left at home and that all items of clothing, lunch boxes etc are clearly labelled.
- There are many items already in lost and found and parents are asked to pass by the lost and found area downstairs by Maternelle on the day of the Parent Teacher Conferences to see if they find any of their lost or missing items.

8.3. L2 meetings

- This year, L2 P1 teachers will meet with the parents of the class that they are going to teach. They will explain the programme, its objectives and how they are going to teach it. There will be lists at the entrance of the school so parents will know to which classroom they are to go.
- It is not possible, at present, to offer meetings with all L2 class teachers and parents in the other year groups. Unlike in the other schools in Brussels, we do not have a dedicated L2 unit who only teach L2. All of our L2 teachers are also class teachers. It is possible to make an appointment to meet with your child's L2 teacher through the agenda.

9. Miscellaneous

There are no miscellaneous.

10. Miscellaneous

10.1. Videos on the bus

- The APPEE informed the meeting that no movies would be shown on the buses to or from school.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 24.11.2011 at 16h00.