



2011-2012 - EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR SECONDARY 2

Date: 15.12.2011

Time: 16h00

Room: Meeting room (B66 - 2nd floor)

For Management Pär Arvidson FÄLDT, Chair

For the teachers Nicole LEROY
Denise BAINES

For the parents Martina SINDELAR, APEEE
Sylvia KREUZBERGER
Nigel FREAKE
Yves SUSANNE

1. Designation of minute taker

Mrs. BAINES is designated as minute taker.

2. Apologies for absence

Mr. SCHLABE (Director) is excused.

3. Approval of the agenda

The agenda is approved.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous ECS

Mr FALDT summarized the minutes of the last meeting which took place on 27th October 2011. Mrs KREUZBERGER was thanked for producing the minutes, which were approved by the group present.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

5. General discussion on Laeken and the discussion from the Board of Governors.

6. Management

6.1. Evaluation

- Integration is an element within our school plan that we are focusing on. We have a survey in place for parents, students and teachers to evaluate the community's feelings about the extent and importance of integration within the school.

6.2. Social education

- Mr FALDT outlined the programme of social education to be used in secondary. The EU programme 'unplugged' has been chosen. It focuses on attitudes which are essential for avoiding drug abuse, giving in to sexual pressures, and other peer-pressure issues. It involves 12 lessons for the students and 3 evenings for parents. S2 will follow it in the Spring, and the present S1 classes will do it next year. A group of interested teachers will be trained in February. Parents are invited to send 2 representatives to join the working group, headed by Andrea HEERING.
- Internet safety will be managed partly within this context and partly through the ICT programme, and will include a visit from an expert to talk to the students.

6.3. Christmas concert and other activities

- A Christmas show of 1 hour will take place from 11-12:30 on Wednesday 21st. This will be a variety show from the students for the students. Parents are welcome. We expect only a few - probably just whose children are performing.
- The French section will separately put on an evening for the parents, involving some drama and refreshments.
- The German parents are very interested in the idea of visits and support for the refugee centre in Alseberg. This and some fund raising for a project in Kenya will introduce the social responsibility aspect of the school. Mr FREAKE offered to investigate refugee centres closer to Laeken, so that ongoing contact is easier in the future.
- Brussels IV will host the European Science Symposium in 2013. A group from Brussels IV will go to Alicante to present their projects in March 2012.

7. Parents

7.1. SEN committee

- Parents who attended the first SEN committee meeting of the year felt as if many of the decisions had already been taken. They would like to know the purpose of the SEN working group now, and what is its modus operandi. The parents and the secondary representative would both appreciate some clarity.

7.2. Parents' evening

- Many parents were concerned that they did not get to see the teachers as there wasn't enough time. The timing and arrangement for future meetings will be discussed by the school. Information about teachers' availability, email addresses etc. should go on the website.

7.3. Human Science programme

- The parents asked about the Human Science programme and the way the mix of History and Geography was divided. Mme Leroy explained the programme is harmonized across the whole year group as follows: In S1 2 months was spent doing a History topic, and now 2 months is being given to a topic in Geography. In S2 History is being studied in the first semester and Geography in the second. This was felt by the teaching team to be the least confusing and the most constructive approach for the students

7.4. Teacher absences for meetings

- Parents asked about teacher absences for meetings. No specific names were mentioned, but the only teachers who have been absent for meetings are Mrs BAINES (2 half days for the Bac working party and all-school education committee), and Mrs HEERING who has been on the working party for the reform of the Biology syllabus since before she came to Brussels IV, and the SEN committee. She is sometimes required to attend meetings in other European Schools. Mr FALDT reported that as Director he is obliged to send teachers to serve on committee and working partys when asked to do so by the inspectors or the central office. The teachers prepare work and a replacement teacher is found from the seconded teachers in the school. As we are a small school it is not always possible to replace an absent teacher with a teacher qualified in the same subject area.

7.5. Outings

- Our policy on school trips is as follows: Overnight trips will normally be planned for S2, S4 and S6 (except this year, as S2 had their trip to Eurospace in S1). For the other years 3 days are set aside for trips, harmonized across a year group where possible, in order to minimize disruption to classes by having half a group missing at a time. Mrs KREUZBERGER suggested an outing to the Parliament.

8. Teachers

There are no points from the teachers

9. Miscellaneous

There are no miscellaneous.

10. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 16.02.2012 at 16h00.