

January Board Meeting

Date: Monday 16th January 2023 from 19h to 22h25

Location: Teachers' Canteen & Online (ZOOM)

Present in situ: Monika BARABASZ-LOPES – Alexander CORNFORD – Catarina DUARTE GOMES – Pim GESQUIERE – Andrea GRGIĆ – Nicolas LACROIX – Roberta MAGGIO – Wolfgang MÜNCH – Giacomo SOMMA – Ulrike STOROST – Monika SZULYOVSKY – David ZELINGER

ZOOM: Bengt DAVIDSSON – Sebastian GUERRERO – Ursula HÖNICH – Maija KNUTTI – Bruno LARANJEIRA

Absent: Eleonora APPONI-BATTINI – Christian BONDESON-EGGERT – Mario MARINIELLO – Gaspar MOLNAR – Johanna SCHULYOK

Others: Anja GALLE – Ferhan PELISTER – Clémence EUGENE

Meeting is convened to discuss the following agenda points. Mentioned documents have been sent prior to the meeting.

Agenda Points

1. Approval of the agenda

The Board unanimously approves the reviewed agenda.

2. Approval of the Board meeting report of the 8/12/2022

The Board approves the Board meeting report of the 8th December 2022 at 75%.

9 votes for yes (Pim Gesquiere, Bengt Davidsson, Sebastian Guerrero, Maija Knutti, Catarina Duarte Gomes, Wolfgang Münch, David Zelinger, Monika Barabasz, Monika Szulyovszky) = 75% and 3 votes for abstain (Andrea Grgić, Roberta Maggio, Giacomo Somma) = 25%

Decision: The Board approves with a 75% majority the Board meeting report.

Discussion Points

1. Annual General meeting 31/1/2023

The PowerPoint presentation to be presented at the AGM will be shared with the Board for comments and feedback by the end of the week (22/01). The chair recommends keeping the input concise.

The Board also discusses the need to encourage Lithuanian section parents to stand for the Board.

Action Point: draft a letter and send it to the parents of the Lithuanian section.

a. Number of vacant mandates.

The number of vacant mandates is 19.

b. Date of informative meeting for new Board on 7/2/2023.

The Board discusses the organisation of the introduction meeting. The Board agrees to schedule an informative meeting on 7/2/2023. A first Board meeting would then be organised shortly after on 16/2/2023 to elect the bureau members.

c. Minutes of the AGM

P. Gesquiere states that during the last two years, the APEEE has not produced minutes of the AGM, which will be signed by the President and Secretary of the Bureau. A. Grgić adds that an organisation is legally required to have minutes of the AGM, as stated in the article 10.7.1 in the Belgian Companies Code. It is mentioned for the previous AGMs, the outcome of the resolutions was communicated, but that this does not equal to a *procès verbal*. The chair asks A. Galle and C. Eugene to take note of the development of the minutes.

Action Point: A. Galle and C. Eugene to take notes of the AGM and produce a short and concise *procès verbal*.

d. PowerPoint candidacy publication

The Board discusses if candidates should step forward, to the *pupitre* to present their candidacy or stay seated. Board agrees to ask the candidates to present their candidacy at the *pupitre*.

Action Point: inform the candidates.

The Board discusses the publication of the AGM PowerPoint including the candidacies on the website. The Board agrees to publish the candidacies on the website. The board also agrees to ask from the candidates written consent on publishing the candidacies, and to ask candidates if they consent to publication of the entire slide, or consent to publication of the slide without picture.

Action Point: PowerPoints will be published, and candidates will be asked for their consent when completing the slide.

e. Consultative votes

The Board agrees to organise, in line with the Statutes, the consultative votes to the parents who are not full members, and hence do not have voting rights, during the AGM. Parents will be invited to cast their vote by email. The casted votes will be recorded in the minutes.

C. Duarte mentions the possibility of showing a video of the overcrowding situation during the AGM to parents. The video of overcrowding has not yet been sent to the APEEE, C. Duarte Gomes to ask the school again and depending on the content requesting the authorisation to share and show the AGM.

Action Point: C. Duarte Gomes to ask the school for the video (done).

Post meeting note: C. Duarte Gomes asked for the video at the CEES meeting held on 17/01/2023, but it will not be available in time for the AGM because it is still being edited and some additional filming may be needed before it can be finalised.

f. Website

Suggestion to organise an information session and show the new website or send a video of how the website can be managed and how information can be found. Board members agree that the AGM is not the ideal forum to provide parents information on the new website.

Action Point: S. Guerrero and team to think through how the new website can be presented to the parents.

2. Preparation for school CA meeting 23/1/2023 & overcrowding and options proposed.

a. Brief on the SAC meeting.

The SAC meeting was organised in Evere. The letter of the CDE to be sent to the President of the BoG was discussed during the meeting, the parents' association requested to change one sentence from "some suggestions were discussed" to "some suggestions arose". The possibility of classes to be merged into one classroom was mentioned.

The CDE letter asks the President of the BoG to allow EEB2, through the Administrative Board, to consider the problem internally with an immediate internal solution to the overcrowding crisis. D. Zelinger confirms he will share the new version with the Board. The CDE requested a reply from the APEEE if they wish to sign with the CDE by Wednesday 18/1/2023.

Action Point: D. Zelinger to share the new version.

Amongst the options brought up: Wednesday afternoon schooling for all, Saturday schooling, hybrid teaching, 10th period (16h15 to 16h50), 0th period (from 7h40 to 8h25).

The Board discusses that the proposal is not in line with the enrolment policy whereby pupils are allocated to particular school sites and that the repercussions of the proposal are not clear and therefore do not offer predictability to the families. Moreover, the school does not yet know next year's enrolment numbers; therefore, a rational debate cannot yet take place. Some Board members suggest signing the letter with the names of the Board members who wish to endorse the CDE's request.

Following a discussion, W. Münch, informs he will reply to the students' representatives stating the APEEE Board cannot support the letter and provide the input discussed during the meeting. However, stating a solution needs to be found and there should be a debate, the options need to be discussed by the parents (school community) and that the Board supports of the process.

Some Board members propose to address as soon as possible the Central Enrolment Authority with a plea to take account of overcrowding in the secondary and direct new secondary school enrolments in multiple language sections to other Brussels schools. This would concern only enrolment of pupils in multiple language sections who do not have siblings in EEB2.

During the preparation for the SAC meeting, the present members discussed the projects promised by Régie des bâtiments, recycling bins for classes, 5-year project plan for refurbishment, budget impact of local teachers, timetable.

Mrs Malik and the CDE formulated a request that they would like to attend one Board meeting a year. This decision is left to the next APEEE Board that will be elected at the AGM on 31/1/2023.

3. Report from the CEES & CEP M

The agenda will be shared with the CEES representatives as it is organised Tuesday 17th January 2023.

The absences of teachers' issue has been mentioned by C. Duarte Gomes whom has requested a meeting with Ms Verwilghen to address the matter.

a. **Gift policy**

As it is custom in classes, at Christmas and/or at the end of the school year, parents offer a gift to teachers. There is no formal gift policy. Each section has its customs on what to give to the teachers.

The Board discusses the possibility to add a question for information only, in the FAQ regarding the gift giving to teachers, as well as what the class fund is usually used for. There was no clear conclusion, since practices and opinions between sections differ.

AOB

1. **Get-together dinner Board 2023**

Option to organise the dinner in the schoolteachers' canteen, for Board members.

2. **Induction programme for the new Board members**

The induction programme will be launched at the first meeting of the new Board, which will be an introductory and informative meeting.

Action Point: A. Galle to share the information presentation to A. Cornford for feedback.

Action Point: A. Galle to set a date to approve the Board meeting minutes of 16th January 2023.

3. **Workshop on DYS**

A. Grgić and M. Knutti report on the workshop that was organised by the APEEE, the ADHD, ASC and LD Belgium with dyspraxia.lu on Friday 13th January 2023, in collaboration with the school who allowed the APEEE to use the salle polyvalente. More than 100 parents from five European schools in Belgium attended the workshop. Ms Verwilghen, the Secondary Deputy Director, greeted the parents on behalf of the School.

The speaker presented how tablets can help pupils with dys compensate for the disability and help in dealing with work assignments. Following the new procedural document on educational support, pupils with dys have the right to use the different technologies during exams, including BAC. The school filmed the event to show it to their staff. In dialogue with parents, the Secondary Deputy Director was very open to the use of tablets for pupils and invited parents to set a meeting to discuss the needs of their child.

Comment was made that this was a successful workshop, enabling APEEE to engage with parents and school management, and facilitating a dialogue between parents and school management.

4. **Guidelines for class representatives**

Members discuss whether there should be guidelines for class representatives stipulating how to communicate in an appropriate manner with the school and teachers. Each class is responsible for electing their class representatives and for their mandate. In case a class representative is acting inappropriately or is not respectful, this should be discussed among the four class representatives or in the class in order to establish respectful communication with the school and teachers.

5. **Interparents Confidentiality Agreement**

P. Gesquiere has sent messages requesting to receive the Confidentiality Agreement. B. Davidsson states he has requested the document, multiple times with no reply. Therefore, B. Davidsson will inform P. Gesquiere when he receives confirmation.

The following agenda points were not discussed due to lack of time. *Safety & Security: general rules, fire safety and Member feedback from the past Board 2022.*

Meeting ended at 22h25.

Next Board meeting is scheduled in January 2023.

The information Board meeting for the Board 2023, scheduled on 7th February 2023.

The Board approves, on the 24th January 2023, with a 80% majority the Board meeting report of the 16th January 2023 (12 votes for yes = 80% and 3 votes for abstain = 20%)