

February Board Meeting

Date: Thursday 16th February 2023 from 19h to 23h00

Location: Teachers' Canteen Woluwe & Online (ZOOM)

Present in situ: Célia ALVES RODRIGUES – Eleonora APPONI-BATTINI – Monika BARABASZ-LOPES – Catarina DUARTE GOMES – Peter EDLIND – Andrew Janis FOLKMANIS – Pim GESQUIERE – Andrea GRGIC – Ursula HÖNICH – Maija KNUTTI – Nicolas LACROIX – Wolfgang MÜNCH – Elita PETRAITIENĖ – Albert RÄDLER – Bettina SCHMIDBAUER-MOGENSEN – Johanna SCHULYOK - Ulrike STOROST – Monika SZULYOVSKY – Francesca TUDINI – Christian VISANI – David ZELINGER

ZOOM: Vincent CATOT – Alberto TOSO

Absent: Alexander CORNFORD – Giacomo Marco SOMMA

Others: Anja GALLE – Ferhan PELISTER – Clémence EUGENE

All related documents were sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Interactive / participatory exercise

U. Storost suggests this exercise to get the voice of everyone, have a starting point for the working groups, and to create an overview at a glance of where most attention of Board members lies.

Action Point: C. Eugene to publish pictures of the posters on APEEE SharePoint for Board's information.

Agenda Points

1. Approval of the agenda

Board members discuss the agenda and agree on electing the president of the 2023 Board prior to opening the discussion on **point II. 2.** of the draft agenda "Working Groups – proposed 2023 structure".

Wolfgang MÜNCH stands for the position of President of the Board for the year 2023.

Wolfgang MÜNCH is elected president with a 91% majority (9% abstain).

2. Working group structure proposed for 2023

D. Zelinger takes the floor to present the proposed structure. Board members discuss splitting of groups and creating new ones, such as splitting Health, Wellbeing, Safety & Security WG, while establishing a new working group focused solely on Wellbeing. It was discussed that the Well Being Advisory Board would have one representative of the CEES WG and one representative of the newly created Wellbeing WG; The creation of a taskforce on overcrowding is agreed upon by the participants.

C. Rodrigues asks if volunteer parents, lacking the status of Board members, can participate to working groups. The Board confirms, specifying however that, according to the Statutes, volunteer parents cannot be appointed WG coordinator nor vote in the WGs.

The working groups shall draft their mandate, objectives, deliverables and timelines, some shall also establish the need of a budget, and submit such draft mandates to the Board for approval. The Board discusses the subject matter of working groups; the President asks Board members to think about the working groups they might be interested to join and communicate their relevant conclusions to C.

Eugene.

Action Point: C. Eugene to circulate a first draft of the working groups structure to Board members in the next days, so that they can register as per the above.

- a) Transport**
- b) Canteen**
- c) Extracurricular Activities**
- d) Communication, Welcoming & Community Building**
- e) Budget**
- f) IT**
- g) Health, Safety & Security**
- h) Nursery & Primary Cycle / CEP&M**
- i) Secondary Cycle / CEES**
- j) Wellbeing**
- k) Statutes Update**
- l) Taskforce on Overcrowding**

The Board unanimously approves the preceding list on the working groups to be established in the 2023 Board.

Elections

1. Election of the VPs, Bureau members

a) Vice President Administrative Affairs

Eleonora Apponi-Battini stands for the position of VP Administrative Affairs.
Eleonora Apponi-Battini is elected with an 86% majority (14% abstain).

b) Vice President Pedagogical Affairs

David Zelinger stands for the position of VP Pedagogical Affairs.
David Zelinger is elected with an 87% majority (4% no and 9% abstain).

The President presents the work of the Bureau.

c) Secretary of the Bureau

Francesca Tudini and Pim Gesquiere stand for the position of Secretary. Some members discuss previous actions of Board members, and new members ask the candidates to reply to the allegations / remarks being made.

Francesca Tudini is elected with a 59% majority, while Pim Gesquiere receives 31% of the votes (10% abstain).

d) Treasurer

Albert Rädler stands for the position of Treasurer.
Albert Rädler is elected with an 82% majority (9% no and 9% abstain).

e) Secretary of Information

Johanna Schulyok stands for the position Secretary of Information.
Johanna Schulyok is elected with a 90% majority (5% no and 5% abstain).

f) **Member without a portfolio**

Ursula Hönich stands for the position member without a portfolio.

Ursula Hönich is elected with a 72% majority (14% no and 14% abstain).

2. Election of the working group coordinators

a) **Transport WG Coordinator**

Monika Szulyovszky stands for the position.

Monika Szulyovszky is elected with a 96% majority (4% abstain).

b) **Cantine WG Coordinator**

Peter Edlind stands for the position.

Peter Edlind is elected unanimously.

c) **Extracurricular WG Coordinator**

Francesca Tudini stands for the position.

Francesca Tudini is elected with a 73% majority (18% no and 9% abstain).

d) **Communications, Welcoming & Community Building WG Coordinator**

Johanna Schulyok stands for the position.

Johanna Schulyok is elected with a 95% majority (5% no).

e) **Budget WG Coordinator**

It is usual practice the Treasurer to coordinate the Budget Working Group.

Albert Rädler stands for the position.

Albert Rädler is elected with an 81% majority (14% no and 5% abstain).

f) **IT WG Coordinator**

Catarina Duarte Gomes stands for the position.

Catarina Duarte Gomes is elected with a 77% majority (14% no and 9% abstain).

g) **Health, Safety & Security WG Coordinator**

Alberto Toso stands for the position.

Alberto Toso is elected with a 91% majority (9% abstain).

h) **Nursery & Primary Cycle / CEPM WG Coordinator**

The Board discusses and agrees that a Nursery & Primary Cycle / CEP&M WG coordinator for each school site shall be elected. Maija Knutti declares to be interested. At the same time M. Knutti confirms that she currently works as replacement teacher in the primary cycle. A brief discussion follows about this dual role.

Maija Knutti stands for the WOLUWE position.

Maija Knutti is elected with a 77% majority (18% no and 5% abstain).

Nicolas Lacroix stands for the EVERE position.

Nicolas Lacroix is elected with a 95% majority (5% no).

i) **Secondary Cycle / CEES WG Coordinator**

Catarina Duarte Gomes stands for the position.

Catarina Duarte Gomes is elected with an 82% majority (18% no).

j) **Wellbeing WG Coordinator**

Célia Alves Rodrigues stands for the position.

Célia Alves Rodrigues is elected with a 61% majority (22% no, and 17% abstain).

The Board members agree that educational support falls under the remit of this wg. A. Grgić explains to the Board that all cases of educational support have to be treated with utmost respect for privacy of families involved. Notwithstanding the signing of the confidentiality agreement, the Board members are asked not to forward emails with personal data to the wg / the Board but to describe the question in general terms and only after a Board member accepted to reply to the family, share contact with that particular board member. A. Grgić also explains that out of respect for families we cannot discuss particular cases of educational support with the Board nor mention them in our annual report.

k) **Statutes Update WG Coordinator**

Pim Gesquiere stands for the position.

Pim Gesquiere is elected with a 78% majority (13% no and 9% abstain)

l) **Taskforce Overcrowding WG Coordinator**

Andrew Janis Folkmanis stands for the position.

Andrew Janis Folkmanis is elected unanimously.

3. Election of a representative & back up on Central Enrolment Authority

David Zelinger stands for the position of APEEE's representative to CEA.

David Zelinger is elected with a 95% majority (5% no).

Andrew Janis Folkmanis stands for the position of back up.

Andrew Janis Folkmanis is elected unanimously.

A.Grgić and P. Gesquiere provided positive feedback to D. Zelinger for the way the mandate in the Central Enrolment Authority was filled during the previous board year through transparent and well-structured feedback.

4. Election of 2 delegates and up to 2 observers to Interparents

Ulrike Storost and David Zelinger stand for the position Interparents delegates.

Ulrike Storost and David Zelinger are elected.

Célia Alves Rodrigues, Maija Knutti and Andrew Janis Folkmanis stand for the position of back up.

Maija Knutti and Andrew Janis Folkmanis are elected.

A.Grgić and P. Gesquiere commented that Interparents lacks currently transparency. It was stated that the Interparents Confidentiality agreements stands between the Interparents representatives and the parents they are representing. At the same time, the Interparents Confidentiality Agreement was not shared with the Board prior to its adoption. It was stated that there was in the previous years no information flow between the Interparents representatives. Praise was given for sharing the

Interparents JTC interventions. Although technical in nature, the documents were informative, and provided a good overview of the work done by Interparents and the issues being discussed. This was given as a good example on how information could be shared in the future. D. Zelinger was recommended to follow, to the same extent possible, the excellent track record he has established as a representative at the Central Enrolment Authority.

Discussion points & votes

1. Proposed dates for Board meetings 2023

A.Galle has sent to the Board the tentative dates for the monthly Board meetings, taking into account the school holidays and EP session weeks in Strasbourg.

The Board agrees to meet for the next Board meeting, on the 20th March 2023 and approves the subsequent meeting dates.

2. Footfest 2023 Woluwe – Tombola

In November 2022, the EEB2 Footfest coordinator reached out to A. Galle for details regarding the organisation and preparation of the tombola at the next Footfest in Woluwe (5th May 2023). In the past, F. Tudini was the reference point and was in charge of buying and providing the prizes for the winners of the tombola.

Action Point: A. Galle to ask for Evere, next time she is contacted.

The President asks whether there are two Board members willing to volunteer. Elita Petraitienė and Célia Alves Rodrigues declare their availability.

3. Social Fund: Turkey and Syria Relief & Bike Pump

a. Turkey and Syria Relief

A.Grgić takes the floor and proposes a 200€ donation out of the Social Fund to the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, suggesting 100€ for Turkey and 100€ for Syria. The Board discusses the use of the Social Fund for the donation and whether a donation out of the Social Fund falls under the objectives and scope of the same: those not in favour recall Chap I., article 1. of the Social Fund regulations. A. Grgić explains that, in her view, the eligibility of a project for funding is regulated in Article 10 of the Social Fund regulations, points (3 and 4). The purpose of the project is to express solidarity with the impacted communities which is in the core of the European Union spirit and reflects the spirit of our school.

In this regard some Board members recommend to link this donation to a wider solidarity project drawn up by students, parents or teachers (for example: topping up a Waffles sale or tombola, creating a solidarity group, holding an information session,...). Those board members state a stand-alone donation to a non-school related good cause did not seem to fall into the remit of the [APEEE's Social Fund](#) ("Subsidize projects and events that enhance school life").

Some board members also state that this interpretation of the Social Fund rules was not made in the past and refer to the support to the spaghetti sauce project under the previous board. Other state that the length of the discussion does not correlate with the level of the tragedy and the level of the amount to be donated. Some members also state that the amount is too little.

As the Board is split on the decision to use the Social Fund for the donation, the President suggests splitting the voting as follows 1) the use of the social fund to donate; 2) the amount to be donated. The Board agrees.

Vote: The Board votes on the proposal to donate via the Social Fund to earthquake victims Turkey and Syria.

(12 vote for yes (Célia Alves Rodrigues – Monika Barabasz Lopes – Andrea Grgić – Pim Gesquiere – Elita Petraitienė – Johanna Schulyok – Wolfgang Münch – Maija Knutti – Eleonora Apponi Battini – David Zelinger – Monika Szulyovszky – Peter Edlind) = 55% and 10 vote for no (Francesca Tudini – Ulrike Storost – Christian Visani – Vincent Catot – Catarina Duarte Gomes – Nicolas Lacroix – Ursula Hönich – Alberto Toso – Bettina Schmidbauer Mogensen – Andrew Folkmanis) = 45%).

Decision: The Board approves with a 55% majority that the donation should come from the Social Fund.

Vote: The Board votes on the amount of 200€ donation to the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

(12 votes for yes (Vincent Catot – Johanna Schulyok – Célia Alves Rodrigues – Monika Barabasz Lopes – Elita Petraitienė – Nicolas Lacroix – Pim Gesquiere – Andrea Grgić – Maija Knutti – Monika Szulyovszky – Wolfgang Münch – Eleonora Apponi-Battini) =55% and 8 votes for no (Francesca Tudini – Ulrike Storost – Christian Visani – Bettina Schmidbauer-Mogensen – Ursula Hönich – Catarina Duarte Gomes – Andrew Janis Folkmanis – Albert Rädler) = 36% and 2 votes for abstain (Peter Edlind – Alberto Toso) = 9%.

Decision: The Board approves with a 55% majority the donation of 200€ to the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

b. Bike Pumps

A. Grgić proposes a budget of 150€ for 2 solid bike pumps and 2 simple toolkits (for Evere and Woluwe) to be used by the school community in case of need. D. Zelinger proposes not to buy the items in a store still operating in Russia but rather in a specialised Belgian local shop.

Vote: The Board votes on the 150€ budget to purchase bike pumps and toolkits.

18 votes for yes (Nicolas Lacroix – Monika Szulyovszky – Andrea Grgić – Monika Barabasz Lopes – Ulrike Storost – Alberto Toso – Bettina Schmidbauer Mogensen – Elita Petraitienė – Célia Alves Rodrigues – Pim Gesquiere – Johanna Schulyok – Peter Edlind – Francesca Tudini – Albert Rädler – Maija Knutti – Ursula Hönich – Wolfgang Münch – Vincent Catot) = 86% and 1 vote for no (Catarina Duarte Gomes) = 5% and 2 votes for abstain (Christian Visani – Eleonora Apponi-Battini) = 9%.

Decision: The Board approves with an 86% majority the purchase of bike pumps and toolkits and suggests buying them from a local bike shop.

4. MAT, P1 & P2 Friday timetable for 2023-2024

N. Lacroix represents the surprise of some parents at the communication by Ms Malik in her weekly newsletter of 14th February 2023, announcing that, starting from September 2023, MAT, P1 & P2 pupils would end school earlier on Fridays. It was clarified with primary school management in the meantime that this would not mean a reduction of learning hours, but a reduction of breaks throughout the week.

A.Galle adds the APEEE services are considering this issue, and states that the APEEE will do what it can to support families, such as providing supervision and buses to the external OIB centres. For the organisation, it will be important to have the full cooperation of the school.

The service working groups once formed are asked to investigate what the above change entails for

the APEEE.

Action Point: W. Münch to contact Ms Malik and ask for a closer collaboration with the APEEE when communicating information on changes to the parents.

Some members also discuss whether to write a letter to the management to ask clarifications on the timetable of the works by RdB to replace the window frames and repair the roof in the Primary building at the Woluwe site, as such work are scheduled to start at the end of August. Other members do not support the letter but would rather suggest providing help where feasible and work on the APEEE-EEB2 management relationship.

5. Board Meetings: Food Ordering Service

F. Tudini sent a message on 14th February to Board members suggesting ordering in advance via a forms what each member wishes to eat during the Board meetings, so to reduce food waste and costs. While agreeing with the proposal in principle, some board members state that it is difficult for them to know one week in advance if they will be able to attend in situ and instead propose to cut the current order in half.

The Board decides to vote on testing such procedure for the next four Board meetings, so to assess savings and efficiency.

11 votes for yes (Francesca Tudini – Vincent Catot – Eleonora Apponi-Battini – Catarina Duarte Gomes – Elita Petraitienė – Monika Barabasz Lopes – David Zelinger – Johanna Schulyok – Ulrike Storost – Bettina Schmidbauer-Mogensen – Ursula Hönich) = 55% and 5 votes for no (Peter Edlind – Andrea Grgić -Andrew Janis Folkmanis – Wolfgang Münch – Pim Gesquiere) = 25% and 4 votes for abstain (Célia Alves Rodrigues – Monika Szulyovszky – Christian Visani – Alberto Toso) = 20%

Decision: The Board approves the trial period of ordering food to reduce wastes with a 55% majority.

Meeting ended at 23h00

Next Board meeting is scheduled on Monday 20th March 2023.