

Report on the 20th November 2018, II Info-evening on Educational Support :

Around **70 people came from the 156 registered.**

The representatives from the APEEE of EEBI (Uccle) and EEBIV (Laeken) came and Laeken is willing to organise her own info-evening.

Mr Schmelz and his coordinators came and were very accessible to parents.

Mr Arnedo came with the Primary Psychologist (the coordinator is on sick-leave) and they were also very accessible.

After the **introduction of both teams** (our WG and the Secondary and Primary school teams), **Miguel França (volunteer parent member of our WG) presented the audience with the “practicalities of educational support”**, essentially explaining our FAQ’s (what is Ed Sup, who can apply, how, to whom, the legal texts, etc). **Mrs Santos made a very detailed presentation on the organizational structure of the Ed Sup secondary team and how the support is implemented to students in need.** She presented some numbers on Ed Sup to show how our school is the one who accords more support to students (from 2016 Luxembourg II is almost ex aequo with us). She was a bit too long, but there was a lot of important explanations to parents. After a small “stretching exercise”, **Jeroen made the audience reflect “if the highly gifted kids need educational support?”** At the end I think we were all convinced by the positive answer, of course it depends on the implementation methods. We finalised by a quite emotive speech of **Mrs Musumeci, a specialized teacher, about Dyslexia** and how students must be encouraged to overcome this learning difficulty by accepting it, because being born with dyslexia is something for life. The importance of an early diagnostic is essential.

During the **debate**, the retention letters came as a factor of stress and anxiety to parents. We should continue to work it out with the direction at the CEP&M and Ed Sup levels. Parents complained about Mr Arnedo lack of transparency and communication. However, myself, and my the WG colleagues, we have been assisting almost 30 families along this almost 2 years, only a few ended asking for our presence at the advisory support group meeting, but every time I participate I never left a meeting without a satisfactory solution to the parents.

Only one parent came to me and express is disappointment because he felt the school administration monopolize the evening. I honestly do not think it was the case. The idea was to present the parents with the details of Ed Sup, the practical aspects, and for that no one better than the administration to

explain it. Of course, there are always things to improve. And we, as APEEE, are here to help with it.

Since we had speakers in EN and in FR there was a good **language balance**, that is also important to reinforce.

Budget: we had an allowance of 1500€, we only spend 600€ (buffet). But we are planning other activities ;)

*Now, allow me to stress, this was a result of a **team effort** and I would like to express my thanks to all my colleagues from the WG who supported my ideas and ways of work.*

*I also would like to express my gratitude to **Ferhan Pellister**, who is always available to resolve the smallest detail with goodwill and sympathy and to whom I sent a thousand emails with requests during the last weeks.*

*A special thank you to **Anja** and her precious efficiency and to **the canteen team** who prepared such a nice buffet.*

Kind regards
Manuela Caramujo
WG ED SUP Coordinator