

Results of Written Procedures since 29 November 2018 Board Meeting

Please find below the result of the written procedures of 14 January 2019:

1. Four APEEE letter to European Parliamentary Committee - CULT

The result: 18 votes in favour, 4 abstentions and 2 against.

The letter was sent on 15 January. You may find it in annex below.

2. Anne Marie Hammer as EEBI APEEE Vice President of Administration

The result: 14 votes in favour.

Anne Marie Hammer has been elected the new VP of Admin.

3. Appointment of APEEE delegates to EEBI working groups and committees and external bodies

The result: 14 votes in favour.

The following delegates have been appointed:

- Secondary CE Rules of Procedure (linked to Bureau and Legal WG):
 - Karin Hundebøll
 - Pere Moles-Palleja
- Secondary CE Science Fair WG (linked to PedGroup STEM):
 - Kathryn Máthé
 - Line-Fredslund Volkers (DK Secondary CE Rep)
- Secondary CE Green School/Recycling WG (linked to Community Building/Solidarity):
 - Dominique Nils (FR Secondary CE Rep)
 - Dietrich Rometsch (DE Secondary CE Rep)
- Primary Francis Pirotta Creative Arts Prize Committee/Jury (linked to Community Building):
 - Eduardo Lanza Saiz
 - Samantha Chaitkin (IT Primary CE Rep; Community Building Coordinator)
- Security & Hygiene Committee (linked to Bureau, Bien Etre WG and Community Building WG):
 - Stefan Obermaier (*current member*)
 - André de Woot
- Central Enrolment Board
 - Kathryn Máthé(*current member*)
 - primary deputy: Henning Ehrenstein (*current deputy*)
 - second deputy: Pere Moles-Palleja (*current deputy*)
- INTERPARENTS (linked to PedGroup)
 - Pere Moles-Palleja (*current member*)
 - María Victoria de Yturriaga Saldanha (ES Secondary CA deputy)
 - Dossier Pedagogy: Kathryn Máthé (*current advisor*)
 - Dossier Educational Support: Sven Matzke (*current advisor*)

From: Kathryn Mathe president@uccleparents.org
Subject: European Schools in Brussels – two worrying issues for the urgent attention of the EP CULT Committee
Date: 2019. January 15. 18:32



To: petra.kammerevert@europarl.europa.eu
Cc: sabine.verheyen@europarl.europa.eu, silvia.costa@europarl.europa.eu, angel.dzhambazki@europarl.europa.eu,
yana.toom@europarl.europa.eu, curzio.maltese@europarl.europa.eu, helga.truepel@europarl.europa.eu,
isabella.adinolfi@europarl.europa.eu, dominique.bilde@europarl.europa.eu, nils.danklefsen@europarl.europa.eu,
Francesca.TUDINI@ec.europa.eu, PAPADOPOULOS Anastassios anastassios.papadopoulos@consilium.europa.eu,
APEEE LAEKEN President Apee president@bru4.eu

Dear Petra Kammerevert, Chair of the EP Committee on Culture and Education (CULT),

With reference to the European Parliament's supervisory responsibilities and adopted positions expressing repeated concern about managerial, financial, organizational and pedagogical issues in the European Schools, the Parents' Associations (APEEEs) of the four European Schools in Brussels (EEBs) would like to bring two worrying issues to the urgent attention of the CULT Committee.

Firstly, parents have acute concerns about **the unsuitable office building in the Arts-Loi area designated by the Belgian Federal government as a temporary site for some of the EEBs upper secondary pupils**. The Parents Associations have expressed strong reservations about this proposal, which is not accompanied by any serious impact assessment (mobility, security, health, educational quality) or infrastructure-related analysis of pupils' and teachers needs. The office building has no sports hall nor internal courtyard, and transportation will be dependent on public transport with all its associated risks during highly-congested hours. The location of the building also raises serious health concerns as high NO2 concentrations and exposure to noise will negatively affect the well-being of the pupils. On 10 January 2019, parents proposed to Commissioner Oettinger and to the Secretary-General of the European Schools an alternative solution based on the setting up of a modular school building in Evere, at the location (former NATO HQ) destined to host a 5th permanent European School as of September 2024. The flexibility of this solution in conjunction with an intelligent enrollment policy could contribute to avoiding the negative and irreparable consequences of a temporary Arts-Loi location. The Parents' Associations remain also open to any other solution, which, as required by the Convention defining the Statute of the European Schools, establishes a suitable school premise, in line with the standards applied to schools of the Belgian linguistic communities. We would appreciate the CULT Committee's position as a leverage for convincing the Belgian authorities, the European Commission and EU Member States to assess carefully all alternative temporary solutions until the host country fulfills its commitment for a 5th permanent European School in Brussels.

Secondly, parents are concerned about **the EEBs continuing non-compliance with the 180-days rule** stipulated in the General Rules of the European Schools (Annex 1) stating that **"the school year must consist of 180 working days for the pupils (181 in leap years)"**. Primary pupils are systematically offered 178 working days and secondary pupils (S1-S6 levels) are in three of the four Brussels schools systematically offered between 169 and 172 working days. The parents worry about the lost teaching hours associated with the missing days of school for the pupils, which questions not only the schools ability to deliver the expected quality education, but also the credibility of the European Schools' system. Parents have unsuccessfully raised the issue at local school level as well as brought it to the attention of the Secretary-General of the European Schools and the European Commission. The lack of follow-up by the Secretary-General and the European Commission - who are formal members of the schools' Administrative Boards - has been particularly disappointing. Each school must be assured sufficient resources to offer 180 working days for the pupils, which include normal lessons as well as pedagogical projects/excursions/trips. As the 2019-2020 school calendars are expected to be on the agendas of the EEBs Administrative Boards at the end of this month, we would be very grateful if the CULT Committee could urgently encourage the European Commission and the Secretary-General of the European Schools to vote against calendars and local implementation practices, which are not compliant with the 180-days rule.

On behalf of the parents of the +13.000 pupils in the four European Schools in Brussels, we thank you and the Committee members in advance for your support and help aimed at addressing the above-mentioned issues. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or doubts on the issues raised.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn MATHE, EEB1 APEEE President
Francesca TUDINI, EEB2 APEEE President
Tassos PAPADOPOULOS, EEB3 APEEE President
Kristin DIJKSTRA, EEB4 APEEE President

