

Extraordinary Board Meeting - Tuesday, 11 May 2021 at 20:00
as an online Video Conference for titular Board Members

Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Voting Board Members: Noemie BEIGBEDER (Berkendael, FR), Marek BOBIS (Berkendael, SK), Sara DAGOSTINI (IT Prim), Henning EHRENSTEIN (VP Berkendael, DE), Almudena FUERTES (ES Prim), Brian GRAY (Treasurer, member elected by GA), Marc GUITART (VP Pedagogy, member elected by GA), Karin HUNDEBOLL (DK Sec), Julia MADL (DE Prim), Kathryn MÁTHÉ (President, EN Sec), Pere MOLES PALLEJA (Bureau, member elected by GA), Gundars OSTROVSKIS (LV, Berkendael), Valentina PAPA (Secretary, EN Prim), Sigfrido RAMIREZ PEREZ (ES Sec), Julien REICHSTADT (Dep Sec Information, FR Prim), Emese SAVOIA-KELETI (HU Sec), Malene SCHATHOLM (SCHAT-EPPERS) (DK Prim), Ivan TORRE (IT Sec), Istvan VANYOLOS (HU Prim), Monika VELIKONJA (SWALS).

Voting by Proxy: Patryk MALESA (PL Prim; to Aleksander KEDRA, Dep PL Sec), Diana SENCZSZYN (PL Sec; to Alexander KEDRA, Dep PL Sec), Istvan VANYOLOS (HU Prim; to Emese SAVOIA-KELETI, HU Sec), Sara MARTELLI (Berkendael IT; to Henning EHRENSTEIN, Berkendael DE), Thomas SPOORMANS (FR Sec; to Nathalie KALOGERAS Dep FR Sec)

Voting Members Not in Attendance: Nils BEHRNDT (DE Sec)

Deputy Board Members (non-voting): Alba MARINO ENRIQUEZ (Berkendael, Dep ES)

Board members can find all supporting documents in the shared folder in One Drive (2021-05-11 APEEE Extraordinary Board Meeting/Supporting Documents)

1. Technical check

The meeting started at 20.10. The Chair Henning EHRENSTEIN verified the quorum.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The President asked to add two issues in the AOB: 1. Reimbursement of School trips; 2. a request from the APEEE of Woluwe and Ixelles schools to follow up on the decision of half-days school from 22 June. The agenda was adopted by consensus.

Points for Decision

3. Proposal to send out two letters regarding the EEBI end-of-year calendar/schedule, one letter to the Office of the Secretary-General and one to the Director-General of the Commission's DGHR.

The Chair opened the floor to all section representatives who wished to discuss the issue. Emese SAVOIA-KELETI (HU Sec) explained the reasons that brought the HU section to vote against the

written procedure: even though the school should have involved parents in taking this decision, the Hungarian section thinks that the letter will be counter-productive and would not help in reaching a constructive agreement with the school. In particular they propose to focus the letter only for primary, taking out the secondary. Pushing for long days in June for secondary pupils would also risk a “revolution” in the secondary.

The Chair explained the content of the letters was not changed, because there was large consensus in having both primary and secondary mentioned in the letters.

Noemie BEIGBEDER (Berkendael, FR) explained that the letters are a call on the schools to respect the rules (180 days) and that it is important for the APEEE to make it clear with the school. Several sections (including DA, EN, ES and SWALS) reiterated that the letters are important in order to send a clear message to the school that rules must be respected, but that it was also important to show appreciation for the work teachers have done and sympathy for their plight. It was suggested that the tone of the letters could be softened without changing the basic message. Monika VELIKONJA (SWALS) also reminded members of the board that the APEEE has a clear position on the 180 days and that it is therefore important to be consistent.

It was proposed to add in the letter a sentence to show appropriate appreciation for teachers. The Chair then put the letters to vote, with this addition on teachers, and both letters were adopted with 22 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

After the vote Emese SAVOIA-KELETI (HU Sec) took the floor to ask the Board to reflect on having the letters only mentioning primary, but the Chair concluded the point as the letters had been already approved and their content would not be changed.

AOB.

1. Follow up with the APEEEs of Woluwe and Ixelles on the decision of half days of school: the President informed the board that she received requests from Woluwe and Ixelles schools to bring the issue to a higher level together.
2. Reimbursement of school trips: The President informed the Board that the school is planning to communicate a state-of-play to parents for the school trips that were organised and paid for but never took place (spring 2020). In some cases, the trips have been repaid in full or almost fully, in others in part and some not at all. In some of these cases, the school will continue to fight the claim in others it may not be possible. She informed parents that the school may ask parents who did not pay within the deadline foreseen for those school trips to pay now in order to give some reimbursement to those who paid in time.