


From: UCC DIRECTOR UCC-DIRECTOR@eursc.eu 
Subject: RE: Request to Include Parents in the Proclamation Ceremony
Date: 2021. June 24. 15:14
To: president president@ucclparents.org
Cc: UCC DEPUTY DIRECTOR SECONDARY CYCLE UCC-DEPUTY-DIRECTOR-SECONDARY-CYCLE@eursc.eu,
UCC ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR SECONDARY CYCLE
UCC-ASSISTANT-DEPUTY-DIRECTOR-SECONDARY-CYCLE@eursc.eu, DE GREEF Marie-Christine (UCC)
marie-christine.de-greef@eursc.eu, Marc Guitart vp_pedagogy@ucclparents.org

D

Dear Ms Mathe,

Thank you for the mail. I am not sure if there was a cross over in the communication from the school yesterday and your mail of last night. In any case, I have added the communication below. We have, as mentioned looked into it and consulted with our Safety and Security Officer who has consulted with outside agencies. Unfortunately, even though we can understand that parents are disappointed, it is not possible to change the planning at this point as with the time that would be required, to put everything necessary in place and get the permissions required, is simply not available.

We have ask CdE to consult with S7 and they have told us that the majority of students wished to be all together, which was also the request of last year's group but unfortunately we could not honour it at that time. We arranging a video link so that , like last year, parents and family members can join remotely.

We sincerely hope that next year's ceremony will not be impacted and that we can return to our normal event.



This message was sent by Mme Carine TAILLIE. Use carine.taille@eursc.eu to reply to this email.

Chers Bacheliers et parents de Bacheliers,

Nous avons reçu des courriers d'un certain nombre de parents nous demandant, à la lumière de la nouvelle réglementation entrant en vigueur en Belgique à partir du 27 juin, de revoir notre décision d'organiser une proclamation réservée exclusivement aux élèves. Nous avons donc examiné les changements et regrettons de devoir confirmer qu'il ne sera malheureusement pas possible d'adapter le planning actuel.

Pour inviter les parents à assister à cet événement, nous devrions suivre le protocole pour les événements, ce qui imposerait des charges supplémentaires que nous ne pourrions pas réaliser à ce stade :

- Nous aurions besoin de mettre en place une arrivée échelonnée de plus de 800 personnes (bacheliers et 2 invités, personnel). Ce qui nécessiterait plus d'une heure pour permettre à chacun d'arriver en respectant la distanciation. Il en serait de même pour le dépar ;
- Nous aurions besoin d'un plan de table pour toutes les personnes présentes et il faudrait le respecter. Il faudrait également prévoir une distance de 1,5 mètre entre les sieges ;
- Nous aurions besoin de créer un plan d'hygiène détaillé pour la commune ;
- Nous avons besoin d'un plan de mobilité pour l'arrivée de grands groupes de personnes sur le campus de la commune ;
- Nous aurions besoin d'avoir une zone de quarantaine et du personnel medical ;
- Nous devrions éviter les interactions entre les parents pendant la cérémonie ;

- La distance sociale devrait être respectée même à l'extérieur et nous ne disposons pas d'un espace suffisamment grand pour accueillir +800 personnes à l'extérieur.

Plus important encore, nous aurions besoin de l'autorisation de la commune, ce qui implique un dossier complexe à préparer et à envoyer officiellement pour demander l'autorisation. Toutes les exigences devraient être validées par la commune avant qu'elle puisse prendre une décision sur l'autorisation ou non de l'événement et la proclamation est dans un peu plus d'une semaine. Avec toutes ces limitations, nous espérons que vous pouvez comprendre pourquoi il n'est pas possible de changer la proclamation à ce stade.

Un événement à l'intérieur ne serait pas possible car nous n'avons pas de salle assez grande et bien que le règlement permette des rassemblements plus importants à l'intérieur, il y a encore une fois des protocoles stricts qui doivent être suivis dans de tels cas et que nous ne serions pas en mesure de respecter.

Avant toute prise de décision, nous avons consulté aux élèves de S7 s'ils préféraient :

1. un certain nombre de petits événements courts, qui pourraient impliquer les parents ou
2. un événement où tout le groupe d'élèves serait réuni mais où les parents ne pourraient pas participer.

Les bacheliers ont majoritairement marqué leur préférence pour une cérémonie unique où ils pouvaient être ensemble en tant que groupe. Nous avons essayé de respecter leurs souhaits car il s'agit de leur événement et ils ont déjà manqué beaucoup de choses. Nous avons également organisé une fête pour eux il y a deux semaines, en répondant autant que possible à leur demande.

Nous comprenons que ce n'est pas la façon dont les parents, les élèves et l'école voulaient que cette annéescolaire se termine et nous avons dû faire de notre mieux dans les circonstances que nous connaissons.

Nous espérons que tout le monde pourra comprendre que nous avons fait de notre mieux pour célébrer et honorer les souhaits des élèves comme ils l'ont demandé.

Bien cordialement.

Dear Bacheliers and parents of Bacheliers,

We have received mails from a number of parents asking us to review the decision to have a student only proclamation in light of the new regulations that come into effect in Belgium from the 27 June. We have looked into the changes and unfortunately it will not be possible for us to adapt the current planning.

To invite parents to attend this event we would need to follow the protocol for events which would place extra burdens which we would not be able to achieve at this point.

We would need to put in place staggered arrival of more than 800 people (Bacheliers and 2 guests, staff). This would require more than an hour to allow everyone to arrive respecting the distancing and the same would need to apply for departure.

- We would need a seating plan for all those who would attend and this would need to be adhered to. There would also need to be 1.5 meters of distance between the seats
- We would need to create a detailed Hygiene plan for the commune
- We need a mobility plan for the arrival of large groups of people to the campus for the commune.
- We would need to have a quarantine zone and medical staff
- We have to avoid interactions between parents during the ceremony
- Social distance would need to be observed even outdoors and we do not have a space large enough to accommodate +800 persons outdoors.

Most significantly, we would also require permission from the commune, which involves a complex dossier to be prepared and officially sent requesting permission. All the requirements would need to be validated by the Commune before they could take a decision on the event being allowed or not and the proclamation is just over a week away. With all of these limitations on us, we hope that you can understand why it is not possible to change the proclamation at this point.

An indoor event would not be possible as we do not have a room big enough and while the regulations allow for larger indoor gatherings, there are again strict protocols that must be followed in such cases which we would not be in a position to meet.

We asked students of S7 before any decision was made if they would have preference for either

1. a number of smaller shorted events , which could involve parents or
2. An event where the whole group of student would be together but this would mean that parents could not attend.

The majority decision was that they want to be together as a group. We have tried to respect their wishes in the organisation as it is their event and they have already missed out on so much. We have arranged a celebration for them two weeks ago again following their request as much as was possible.

We understand that this is not how any of us, parents, students and the school wanted this year to end but we have had to do our very best in the circumstances that we find ourselves. I hope that everyone can understand that we have tried our best to celebrate and honour the wishes of the students as they have asked.

Kind regards / Sincères salutations / Met vriendelijke groeten / Mit freundlichem Gruß /
Mise le meas
Brian Goggins
Directeur/Director

Kind regards / Sincères salutations / Met vriendelijke groeten / Mit freundlichem Gruß / Mise le meas

Brian

Brian GOGGINS

Directeur

Ecole européenne Bruxelles I (Uccle- Berkendael)
46, Avenue du Vert Chasseur
1180 Bruxelles

Email : UCC-director@eursc.eu

Tel : +32 (02) 373 86 11



From: Kathryn Mathe [<mailto:president@uccleparents.org>]
Sent: 23 June 2021 22:09

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: UCC DIRECTOR

Cc: UCC DEPUTY DIRECTOR SECONDARY CYCLE; UCC ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR SECONDARY CYCLE;
DE GREEF Marie-Christine (UCC); Marc Guitart

Subject: Request to Include Parents in the Proclamation Ceremony

Dear Mr Goggins,

Please find attached a letter from the Danish, German, English, Spanish, French, Hungarian, Italian, and Polish S7 Class Representatives on behalf of the parents in their classes, regarding the possibility to have parents at the Proclamation Ceremony of the S7 students.

Parents ask if the school can reconsider its stance and organise something to include them in this important day for their children in compliance with the Belgian rules currently in force. They understand that there are organisational complexities involved, but it is noted that schools with a similar profile have managed to put arrangements in place, and S7 parents would be more than happy to support the school management in the planning or implementation as needed. We cannot overstate how important it would be for parents to celebrate this rite of passage together with their children after a difficult few years.

Regarding students' wishes in this matter, apparently there is some concern that the consultation process may have been incomplete.

Kind regards,
Katie Mathe

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.