

Brussels, 29 March 2022

MINUTES OF APEEE BOARD MEETING 13 January 2022

ATTENDEES

Voting Board Members:

Sylvie BAREL (FR Prim), Noémie BEIGBEDER (FR Sec), Talia BOATI (IT Prim), Sara DAGOSTINI (IT Sec), Marek DVORSKY (Berkendael, SK), Almudena FUERTES FERNANDEZ (ES Prim), Marc GUITART (member elected by GA), Viktor HAUK (HU Sec), Delphine HEBERT (Berkendael), Eva HEIDER (DE Sec), Andreas KEIDEL (Berkendael, DE), Julia MADL (DE Prim), Sara MARTELLI (Berkendael, IT), Kathryn MÁTHÉ (EN Sec), Pere MOLES PALLEJA (member elected by GA), Gundars OSTROVSKIS (Berkendael, LV), Valentina PAPA (EN Prim), Malene SCHATHOLM (DK Prim), Julia TYMOWSKA (PL Sec), Jan TYMOWSKI (PL Prim), Istvan VANYOLOS (HU Prim), Monika VELIKONJA (SWALS), Alex WILSON (member elected by GA).

Board Members Voting by Proxy:

Karin HUNDEBØLL (DK Sec) proxy to Malene SCHATHOLM (DK Prim), Noémie BEIGBEDER (FR Sec) proxy to Thomas SPOORMANS (Deputy FR Sec).

Deputy Board Members (non-voting):

Ioanna ANAGNOSTOPOULOU (Berkendael, EL), Santiago CALVO RAMOS (ES Prim), Bartosz HACKBART (Berkendael, FR), Alba MARINO (Berkendael, ES), Lucia MARTINEZ (FR Sec), Stefan PAGEL (Berkendael, FR), Emese SAVOIA-KELETI (HU Sec), Thomas SPOORMANS (FR Sec), Agota VOLSZKY (HU Sec).

Other Participants:

Magali BARRAL (Deputy CA FR Sec), Caroline CAMBAS (CE EN Sec), Deirdre CLARKE LYSTER (Deputy CA EN Primary), Carlos GONZÁLEZ-FINAT (CE ES Prim), Charlotte JAGOT (Berkendael, Deputy CE FR), Magdalena KUPCZYK (Deputy CE PL Prim), Sara MILANO (Deputy CA IT Prim), Kremena MILEVA (Deputy CA EN Primary), Veronica ORTIZ (Deputy CE FR Sec), Ioana SANDU (Deputy CE FR Sec), Inga TCHORZEWSKA (Deputy CA PL Prim).

APEEE Secretariat:

Guendalina COMINOTTI

Board members can find all supporting documents in the shared folders on One Drive
(2022-01-13 APEEE Board Meeting/Supporting Documents)



1. Adoption of the agenda

President Valentina PAPA presented the agenda and suggested to consider point 6 after point 10 and to deal with point 11 as a discussion point as the document was not yet available. The item can be submitted for decision later by written procedure or at a subsequent meeting, once the document is available. The agenda was approved with the suggested changes by consensus.

2. Approval of the minutes of 16 December and follow-up of action points

President Valentina PAPA informed that the minutes will be presented for adoption at the following meeting. Action points from previous meetings were in any case reviewed as follows:

REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS Board Meeting 13 January 2022		
Point on Agenda	Action Point	Status
(Board 19/11/20) Pt. 13	Handover of class rep info to services/ medium term: The Bureau, Legal Working Group and Secretariat working on updating the APEEE Data Sharing Agreement, Representative Charter & Vademecum: Charter and Vademecum updated and circulated for upcoming class representative meetings. The Secretariat and Legal WG still have to revisit the Data sharing agreement. Currently finalising GDPR Streams. No change.	Ongoing
27/5/21 Pt. 13	Monika VELIKONJA & Isabel VICENTE CARBAJOSA voted as new delegates to WG on CE Rules of Procedure: status of Berkendael in Brussels Steering Group: Henning EHRENSTEIN to ask if a Berkendael delegate can attend SCB as Observer. Alba MARINO to discuss with Henning EHRENSTEIN. No change.	Ongoing
24/6/21 Pt. 5 & 16/12/2021 Pt. 16	Administrative Meetings and Reports: 24 June, EEB1 S&H Committee Meeting: Structure of the S&H Committee to be discussed within the Bureau. APEEE Bureau to discuss and make proposal to Board and discuss with the school before the next S&H Committee (including whether to have 1 or 2 committees for the 2 sites). Julia MADL to follow up and to contact Jonathan GUYOT to find out when the meeting is and discuss with Bureau structure/scope of the meeting. Julia MADL wrote to GUYOT on 20 October expressing concerns; reply received which did not address concerns; Kathryn MATHE wrote follow up 12 November. No response yet. No S&H has been called this year. APEEE President to bring this matter up at the Mini-SAC of 18 January 2022.	Ongoing
24/6/21 Pt. 6	22 June, Berkendael Meeting: Berkendael to discuss their call for a more balanced approach to gender within Pedagogical WG. Raised in Berkendael CE Meeting in June and school response was that topic was too sensitive. Berkendael WG to discuss with VP Pedagogy and Pedagogical WG. Sara MARTELLI (Berk) to coordinate with Marc GUITART, forward the letter she sent to Berkendael management and to keep us updated on the situation. Sara MARTELLI to forward proposal to new pedagogical leadership. The proposal has been welcomed by the Uccle primary school management and a meeting is foreseen.	Ongoing
7/9/2021 Pt. 2	Agenda Points: APEEE President/Secretariat to include Tour de table on communication methods in different sections for December Board Agenda This is proposed for January 2022 Board meeting. This will be treated later in the agenda under point 15.	Ongoing



7/9/2021 Pt. 7	BYOD: Device rental framework with the Rent Company: APEEE Secretariat and PedGroup EdTech Team to write communication end of the week (Mr HAZAN to frame the message) + put on website. Negotiations moving ahead. Will be on-line by beginning November. Negotiations were completed and information was put online by both school and APEEE. School sent communication. Questions about how to proceed from APEEE's side without taking too much burden. Bureau to discuss how to proceed with proposal to take it to the Educational Technology and DL Group.	Ongoing
18/11/2021 Pt. 12	Confirmation of CE Representatives 2021-2022: Secretariat to facilitate the selection of three remaining CE representatives and to run the list for written procedure to the Board. MAT CE Rep and team and FR Prim CE Rep selected and presented for ratification later under Agenda point 11. PL Prim CE Rep not yet selected. Awaiting PL CE Rep; to be proposed by PL section.	Ongoing
18/11/2021 Pt. 16 & 16/12/2021 Pt. 15	COVID Outlook and Measures: Position paper to be presented in December Board meeting. Position paper to be shared in January meeting. Santiago CALVO RAMOS will present a position at the next Board meeting as well as proposed questions for a survey on repeated quick testing. The position paper will be treated later in the agenda under point 6.	Ongoing
16/12/2021 Pt. 4	Election of the President and Bureau: The Secretariat to update the website and other documentation to reflect the result and to inform the APEEE membership, EEBI management and other stakeholders. The Secretariat to officially inform the EEBI Administrative Board of the new APEEE delegates: Valentina PAPA and Talia BOATI. Done	Closed
16/12/2021 Pt. 11	Confirmation of Uccle CE MAT, Prim PL and Prim FR Representatives 2021-2022: The Secretariat will update the list of names on the website and send the new names to the Uccle Primary Management. Done.	Closed
16/12/2021 Pt. 12	Autumn 2021 Call for Projects: projects proposed for funding by the Award Panel: The Secretariat will inform those who have applied of the result and will update the webpage. Done.	Closed
16/12/2021 Pt. 13	Proposal for the launch of the "Task Force on the Reflections on the Future of Brussels European Schools" to be coordinated by Pere MOLES PALLEJA: Board members are asked to contact Pere MOLES PALLEJA with Secretariat in copy if they would like to join the Task Force. Done.	Closed
16/12/2021 AOB	Security Issue on the Buses: Valentina PAPA proposes to speak with Alba MARINO and Sara MARTELLI to determine how to proceed. It was clarified during the January Board meeting that the incident did not concern the EE1, but another European school. Done.	Closed

3. Communications

President Valentina PAPA recalled that the next meeting of the Educational Council for Secondary would take place on 7 February 2022 and asked Board members to send their inputs to VP Monika VELIKONJA. She also informed that the next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8 February instead of Thursday, 10 February 2022.

Deputy Secretary Jan TYMOWSKI announced that he would be requesting certain personal data from the current Board Members in order to formally register it at the Moniteur Belge.

Action: Section representatives should send input for CE Secondary (7 February) to Monika VELIKONJA. Jan TYMOWSKI to collect data from Board Members for Moniteur Belge.



POINTS FOR INFORMATION

4. Secretariat update: staff situation

President Valentina PAPA informed the Board that Selena GRAY is on leave until the end February and asked for patience in dealings with the APEEE Secretariat. She also informed that the Bureau is discussing possibilities to find a solution to address this issue.

5. Update on the launch of enrolment 2022-2023

CEA delegate Bartosz HACKBART informed the Board that the 2022-2023 enrolment process started on 10 January and would last until 4 February. A new on-line system was put in place. An information session for interested parents was held by Future Parents on 7 January. The APEEE sent out a letter in December reminding interested Berkendael P5 parents and families with siblings to submit applications in the first phase. He also recalled that a minimum threshold of 12 students was set to ensure that class groups at the existing sites remained viable. The next school year will start on 5 September.

One Board member enquired about a technical bug in the enrolment system, and it was explained by another member that the problem was already fixed.

POINTS FOR DECISION

6. Proposed APEEE position paper on COVID prevention measures

Deputy CE member Santiago CALVO RAMOS made a brief presentation of the proposed document, including points on ventilation (with CO2 meters in each class to be used properly and in line with the thresholds specified by Belgian authorities), vaccination (voluntary in Belgium now also for kids aged 5-11, and aimed at increasing the general population safety), pedagogical continuity (especially for students absent due to quarantine) and testing&tracing (especially with regard to voluntary rapid testing already used in some other schools). He also referred to the school management adopting minimum measures as obliged by Belgian law, but not necessarily all the recommendations or best practices, as well as to the fact that lack of prevention could lead to subsequent closing periods, especially with the new Omicron variant of the COVID virus.

In the long discussion that followed, many Board members expressed their personal opinions, as well as various feedback received from their sections.

With regard to ventilation, a general consensus was supporting the measures taken by the school, and the APEEE position proposed in the document.

The request for the school to inform all parents about the possibility to vaccinate younger kids and arrange - in cooperation with Belgian authorities - an on-site vaccination possibility as it was done previously for those aged 12-18, was supported by some Board members (stressing the voluntary aspect, public health recommendations, and advantages of awareness-raising) and opposed by others (underlining the personal aspect of each decision concerning vaccination, the necessity of APEEE maintaining a neutral position, and the publicly available information about the possibilities offered in Brussels). A number of voices suggested that in view of parents' divergent views, APEEE should not be attempting to formulate a single position on vaccination against COVID.

Continuous efforts to require the School to improve measures concerning hybrid teaching (to allow those students who are not able to be present at school to follow the classes on-line) were broadly supported, with some Board members requesting more details to be formulated in the APEEE position, underlining the importance of remote participation in classes of those kids who are under quarantine, and noting the resistance of the School to make any improvements to the current situation. Efforts of the APEEE bodies with regard to managing hybrid teaching over the last almost two years



were also mentioned.

The discussion on rapid-testing included a variety of opinions and concerns, from the methods used, costs involved, efficiency and reliability, limiting the risks of COVID outbreaks thanks to the quicker identification of positive cases, the willingness (or lack thereof) of parents to regularly test kids at home, high number of teacher absences resulting in temporary closure of the school, to a proposal of asking all parents to respond to a survey that would facilitate adopting a coherent position.

ACTION: The draft position paper will be further revised and sent to section representatives for consultation with parents in advance of the next Board meeting with the view to adopt it at that meeting.

7. Presentation and approval of annual mandates for APEEE Working Groups: Pedagogical (PedGroup), Well-Being, Community Building, Legal and Communication Working Groups; solicitation of new members.

The Working Groups' Coordinators (or other members) each presented the proposed mandates for 2022, as described in the documents made available in advance of the Board meeting. All Board members were invited to direct other parents who show interest in various issues related to education and school life to the relevant Coordinators, and the descriptions of Working Groups to be shown on the APEEE website.

The five mandates, including the membership of all Working Groups, were adopted by consensus.

ACTION: The Secretariat will publish the newly adopted mandates, including information on memberships, on the APEEE website.

8. Review, replacement and approval of APEEE delegates to official bodies and school working groups; information on the selection of the new Financial Advisor

The importance for the APEEE to be represented in all the appropriate bodies, in order to participate in the relevant discussions, decision-taking, and reporting, was recalled and underlined.

The following new delegates were approved by consensus:

- Santiago CALVO-RAMOS - as a member of the Uccle Safety & Hygiene Committee
- Marc GUITART - as APEEE member of the Uccle Primary Educational Council (CE)
- Kathryn MATHE - as APEEE member of the Uccle Secondary Educational Council (CE)
- Piotr RAPACZ and Kevin O'CONNOR - as members of the CE Green School WG
- Alex WILSON as member of the CE Internal Procedures Working Group
- Talia BOATI as member of the CE Mobile Phone Policy Working Group
- Claudia PRUY as member of the CE Homework Policy / Distance Learning Working Group
- Marialuisa TAMBORRA and Monika VELIKONJA - as members of the CE Working Group "Trips, Projects & Project Weeks"

Additionally, the following positions remain vacant:

- 1 member from Berkendael in INTERPARENTS
- 1 member of the Central Enrolment Authority (Kathryn MATHE serves in interim)
- 1 member of the Uccle Fete Committee
- 1 deputy of Berkendael Education Council



- 2 members of the Solidarity Fund Committee

Last but not least, as Gundars OSTROVSKI became APEEE Vice-President - he would continue in interim to serve as APEEE Project Call Financial Advisor while being ready to train someone else to take over this role.

ACTIONS: The Secretariat will update the names of delegates on the relevant web pages. The Secretariat or Bureau will write to school management and secretaries to announce new delegates to working groups and bodies. Board Members should send the secretariat and coordinators the names of any volunteers for the positions that are still vacant.

9. Proposed 2022 list of observers to the Board

It was recalled that the APEEE currently has 26 voting Board members in accordance with the Statutes, but about 100 so-called “Board attendees” - CE reps or deputies to CA or CE reps who were on the communications list and had the right to attend Board meetings as “observers”. The observer status allowed them to participate without the right to vote, and thus be informed and involved in APEEE activities.

The following 11 persons were approved by consensus as Board observers for 2022: Nils BEHRNDT, Dimitri DE BOURNONVILLE, Henning EHRENSTEIN, Brian GRAY, Cristina MORTE, Piotr RAPACZ, Eszter SAVOVA-PEYREBRUNE, Mariona SERO, Jarkko SIREN and Krisztina SZABO.

ACTION: Observers to be listed on website and mailing list to be updated, also removing former observers.

10. Proposal to re-allocate part of the “Project support” budget line to the “Recurrent activities” budget line in order to be able to co-fund the Addiction Prevention Programme already agreed with the School

Treasurer Victor HAUK recalled that the APEEE Board decided in November 2019 to support the co-funding of the Addiction Prevention Programme (APP) as a recurrent activity, but that due to COVID restrictions that programme was not implemented in the 2020/2021 school-year and as a result the 2021/2022 APEEE budget did not foresee any spending in the specific budget line (“Actions récurrentes”). He also informed the Board that in December 2021 the Well-Being WG succeeded to agree with the school to launch the aforementioned programme in Spring 2022, and that the APEEE was asked to co-fund it with a contribution of EUR 1800 for 2021/2022 (complemented by a contribution from the school of EUR 1900).

In order to cover this funding, while remaining in line with the Statutes of the APEEE, the Bureau proposed to move EUR 1800 from the budget line of supporting school projects (“Participation projets école”), where EUR 3602 was available from the EUR 7852 allocated by the General Assembly. It was underlined that this proposal did not change the total amount of spending nor the planned budget deficit.

After a short discussion the proposal was adopted by 22 votes in favour, 1 against, and 2 abstentions.

ACTION: President and the Well Being WG to follow up with school on APEEE’s financial commitment.

11. Proposal to hold sweatshirt sale for primary students and parents to raise funds for APEEE projects

This point was postponed to future meeting.



POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

12. Follow-up on school mobile phone policy (Secondary)

Caroline CAMBAS explained the background of the document, recalling how the APEEE consulted with parents, drew up a position paper in January 2019 for the School's Educational Council, prepared a specific proposal within a working group, and further consulted with teachers and students. She stressed that the implementation of this policy by the school would have to be closely followed.

Nota bene: the new policy introduces a general rule of no smartphone use in class (unless requested by the teacher), a "bus to bell" principle for S1-S3 students, and possible use of smartphones in designated areas only for S4-S7.

One Board member suggested that the school should actively communicate the new policy to all parents and students, and not just put it on the website, while another person underlined the importance of informing teachers and ensuring a coherent enforcement of the rules.

Nota bene: The School communicated the Policy by e-mail to all parents, teachers and Secondary students on 20 January.

ACTION: Well-Being working group will contact the school to follow up on next steps.

13. Review and solicitation of agenda points for 3 February EEBI Administrative Board and preparatory SAC meetings

President Valentina PAPA referred to the points raised on previous occasions and indicated the possible matters to be considered in up-coming meetings, including COVID prevention, hybrid teaching, child protection and well-being (e.g. home-work policy, addiction prevention programme, KiVa, the new mobile phone policy), BYOD project and GeoGebra, the school communication policy and school trips and projects.

A few Board and Bureau members contributed with additional issues, including the question of teacher absences, new rules for reimbursement of cancelled school trips, the facilities of the temporary school in Evere.

ACTION: Bureau will draft the agenda points based on the discussion.

14. Review and solicitation of points for introductory meeting between new APEEE Bureau and APEEE Services Bureau

President Valentina PAPA asked the Board members for points to raise during the up-coming meeting of the APEEE Bureau with APEEE Services and underlined the need to discuss blocking access to services for those parents who did not pay the APEEE fee.

One member suggested to wait for the APEEE Services' General Assembly which should elect its Board.

ACTION: President to organise meeting with APEEE Services Bureau and bring forward the points presented during the Board meeting.

15. Sharing experiences and best practices for internal communication within sections

Monika VELIKONJA presented possible questions that could be asked on communication of section representatives with other parents, indicating the most popular tools used, and with special attention to the procedures used for adopting a common position on any given matter.

ACTION: Bureau will send out a table with the questions presented during the meeting to Board members asking for feedback.



AOB

There were none.