

## Minutes of the APEEE Board Meeting 16 January 2025 (hosted at Berkendael)

**Board Members CA (voting):** Agnes BOROS (HU Prim Uccle), Elena CHATZI (EL Berkendael), Jure ČUŠ (SWALS Prim Uccle, CE SWALS Prim Uccle), Hjordis DALSGAARD (DA Sec), Gladys EVANGELISTA (Deputy IT Prim Uccle, member elected by GA), Francesca GILIJ (EN Berkendael), Marc GUITART (member elected by GA), Delphine HEBERT (VP of Berkendael, FR Berkendael), Nathalie KALOGERAS (VP of Secondary, FR Sec), Alba MARIÑO ENRÍQUEZ (ES Berkendael), Sara MILANO (Secretary, IT Sec), Miklos NAGY (Treasurer, HU Sec), Gundars OSTROVSKIS (LV Sec), Valentina PAPA (EN Sec), Sandrine PIERLOZ (Deputy Secretary, FR Prim Uccle, member elected by GA, deputy CE FR Prim Uccle), Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ (President, ES Sec), Raphael SAUTER (DE Prim Uccle), Tanja TROJOK (SL Prim Uccle, CE SL Prim Uccle), Jan TYMOWSKI (PL Sec)

**Proxies:** Blanca BALLESTER MARTÍNEZ (ES Prim Uccle) to Gladys EVANGELISTA, Maria GERHARDT (DE Sec) to Raphael SAUTER, Nadia ROSINI (VP of Primary, IT Prim Uccle, Deputy CE IT Sec,) to Sara MILANO

**Deputy Board Members CA (non-voting):** Bartosz HACKBART (FR Berkendael, Deputy CE FR Sec), Maria Isabel IZQUIERDO (ES Sec), Ruben MARTINEZ (ES Sec), Emese SAVOIA-KELETI (HU Sec),

**Other participants:** Santiago CALVO RAMOS (ES Prim Uccle), Sara DAGOSTINI (Deputy CE IT Sec), Klara ENGEL-PERENYI Noemie BEIGBEDER (CE FR Sec), (CE HU Sec), Carole ESCLAPEZ (Deputy CE FR Berkendael), Charlotte JAGOT (CE FR Berkendael), Louiza PAPAMIKROULI (CE – EL Berkendael), Gorazd PETERNEL (Deputy CE SWALS Prim Uccle), Laura SERRAO (Deputy CE IT Berkendael), Luisa MEYTRE (Deputy CE IT Berkendael)

**APEEE Secretariat:** Guendalina COMINOTTI, Selena GRAY

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus with the following points added under AOB: Safety & security Policy; L4 survey.

### 2. Approval of Board minutes 12 December 2024

The Minutes of the 12 December board meeting were adopted by consensus.

## POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION

### 3. Vote on the appointment by co-optation of new member of the Board based on candidatures received

4 class representatives put forward candidatures for the position of new member of the board: Elisabeth KAVALIERAKIS (S4 FR), Magdolna SOMOS (S6 HU/B), Evangelia SYLLELIADOU (MAT EL/B), Emese TOLGYES-BUSZ, JD (HU Uccle). As the latter was not able to be present, the board decided not to vote on an absent candidate. The same decision had been made during the General Assembly 2023, as the consensus is they could not consider and vote on the application of someone who was not there to introduce themselves and potentially answer questions. The 3 candidates present introduced themselves, their background and their experience. Board members voted by secret ballot, monitored by Legal Working Group Representative Jan TYMOWSKI. President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ announced the results (24 votes; 1 abstention) and the new member elected to the board, Elisabeth KAVALIERAKIS, with 13 votes (the other 2 candidates received 5 votes each).



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#### **4. APEEE delegates to official bodies and working groups: clarification and reminder vacant roles to be filled; discuss renewal of mandates for APEEE working groups and soliciting volunteers; second-hand book sales: update and soliciting volunteers**

President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ referred board members to the list uploaded on One Drive, reminding them of vacant positions to fill. Elisabeth KAVALIERAKIS had expressed interest in the Legal Working Group and her participation was welcomed. Working Group coordinators presented the work of their WGs, soliciting volunteers from the new members and their sections: Coordinator of the Well Being WG Sara DAGOSTINI presented, reminding that WB had played a big part of discussions in school in December. She confirmed she would continue as Coordinator and confirm active members of the group. A meeting with the Director is foreseen in February in relation to Child Protection and the Well Being framework. Coordinator Sandrine PIERLOZ presented the Community Building WG appealing to board members to mobilise parents to revive the group. The Idea behind the WG is to create a sense of community, for example through Teacher Appreciation Day, activities across sections, sites and levels; hoodies, engagement with students through CdE; Fete and projects. Members were referred to the Website for further information on the mandates for the Working Groups. A parent from the Hungarian section parent Ms Zsuzsa Blasko was invited to introduce herself to the board and her candidature was accepted by consensus to contribute to the work of the CE WG on Child Protection as second member, supporting Sara DAGOSTINI. President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ added that her nomination was also interesting to contribute at the level of INTERPARENTS.

#### **5. Science Symposium 6-9 April 2025, soliciting coordinator, volunteers from each Section and jury members**

President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ informed that the Science Symposium of European schools, hosted this year in Brussels I, was still searching for volunteers as very few candidates came forward following the appeal at the last board and the mailing sent out by APEEE.

He gave the floor to Klara ENGEL-PERENYI (CE HU Sec) who clarified that volunteer parents are required for the organisation of coffee breaks, goodies for conference bags, an international dinner (soliciting an embassy to host) and to act as members of the jury (requiring knowledge in science). The Symposium is different to the Science Festival held this week. The students are mainly from the English, Polish, French, Spanish and Hungarian sections mainly and good for their University applications and investment in their future. The main work is done by teachers but needs the support from parents as it brings together some 170-180 participants.

#### **6. Fête 17 May 2025: programme Fête 2025; debrief Fête 2023 (outcomes and lessons learnt); soliciting volunteers (list uploaded)**

Fete Coordinator Valentina PAPA (EN Sec CA) took board members through PowerPoint uploaded on One Drive. She presented the challenges and successes from the last Fete which took place in May 2023, exploring what could be improved. The board discussed these elements including the different food and drink stands, activities, sports, access and methods of payment, Valentina PAPA took note of the different ideas and suggestions put forward. The following steps were agreed to:

President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ would have a discussion with the school regarding access and safety for which the school needs to take responsibility and for this issue not to fall on APEEE last minute as it did previously. The APEEE Secretariat will work with the Fete Coordinator on payments methods, contacting Payconiq and Digiteal to ensure card payments go smoothly on the day, taking into account issues which arose previously. Fete Coordinator Valentine PAPA will contact all who organized a stand at the last Fete to see if they want to do it again and discuss with the school and the Cde (student committee) the options for sports activities. Proposals for sports activities should involve PE teachers and a Sports Coordinator should be appointed. Hoodies should be decided on, potentially pre-ordering 300 for sale at the Fete, but to be discussed further with the committee. A new logo should be decided for the Fete, working with the same team who worked on design as last time. A Foor Coordinator should be appointed and explore the possibility to use the canteen (APEEE propose to pay for the cleaning) and consider sustainability (i.e use of plastic cups).

The Fete will be held at Uccle site for both sites but Alba MARIÑO ENRÍQUEZ (ES Berkendael) reported that the school had convoked a meeting to discuss a Berkendael activity/party potentially to be held on 9 May, considered a positive outcome.



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## 7. BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Policy

Noemie BEIGBEDER (CE FR Sec appointed to the school Working Group on BYOD) announced that the first WG meeting will take place on 6 February 2025 and gave an insight into the history of the issue, the state of play in other European schools and the WG of the CE Secondary on BYOD, and proposed questions to consider by the board and CE members (questions uploaded to OneDrive)..

She summarized that in 2021 it was decided at central level that all students would use GeoGebra (math software) for the bac cycle, subsequently abandoned 18 months later as the software was not stable. As a result of this software being only available on a computer or tablet, the BYOD Policy was quickly put together so that all S5 pupils would be equipped by families. During the mobile phone Policy discussions last year, some teachers asked school to find solutions for the pedagogical uses in class previously based on the personal devices of pupils now forbidden (smartphones, tablets). Director TRAN confirmed he was open have a discussion on the topic. The student representative also raised that S6 and S7 want to be able to use devices for studying during free periods and would thus need WIFI in the areas where the use of mobile devices is permitted for them (S4-S7 cafeteria and its immediate surroundings, S4-S7 library). In the 5 November Secondary CE, the Secondary Deputy Director Emilia MAKARSKA expressed the wish to set up a BYOD WG.

During the 9 January Secondary CE meeting, Ms MAKARSKA presented briefly on the draft policy and additional elements:

- It would be applicable from S4 for laptops and tablets.
- The school to assess if WIFI can be reinforced.
- Student representatives requested to be able to listen to music and have wireless headphones
- Teachers supported the request for better WIFI for pedagogical reasons

Noémie BEIGBEDER presented the questions to sections, prepared with Talia BOATI (deputy Sec CE IT appointed to the school WG on BYOD):

- A BYOD: Yes, or no? (are we going to be listened to if we oppose from scratch?)
- For which objectives? (the issues currently put forward by teachers are wide – “digital competences” but not specific, so important to reflect on why we would like a policy in Secondary)
- For which level? (From S4 or S5? For S6 and S7 only? From S1?)
- Which devices? (e.g. should we accept tablets which can be easily used for gaming? Are laptops a better alternative? In any case, mobile phones are not proper devices for pedagogical use).
- Which uses?
  - Compulsory or voluntary? Compulsory would mean all teachers MUST use devices that to be bought by students in class, if voluntary it means up to teachers to ask students to bring a device.
  - Should it be voluntary for pupils? If there is no device, then teachers should provide them (laptops from school? Reminder of additional 5 EUR per student charged this year to secondary parents)
  - Constraints – dealing with WIFI at school. School constraint. Seek parent constraints.
  - In other European schools it is very diverse. There are no central level rules. Schools are encouraged with some technical elements for devices but there are no common rules. For example, in some there are none (Ixelles, Luxembourg). In some they exist but not much implemented (Woluwe). In Laeken and Karlsruhe it is well implemented. Laptops or tablets, sometimes smart phones. In EEB4, BYOD policy says that it is compulsory that work must be offline most of the time (i.e. that laptops must be used with no WIFI, subject to specific requests, in which case the teacher provides password).

Several board members and President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ took the floor to ask clarifications and make comments. Noémie BEIGBEDER and Talia BOATI took note that the board members

- would like to understand what purchases were done by the school with the additional 5 EUR/secondary student charged to families this year. They were justified as accompanying measures which might include buying school devices for pedagogic use. If the school requires additional material it should be included in its annual budget, in which case the personal devices would not be necessary.
- would like to avoid the BYOD circumvents the mobile phone policy.

Follow up will be made at next board meeting on 20 February.



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## POINTS FOR INFORMATION

### 8. APEEE website revamp (10 mins)

As time had run out the point was postponed to the next board meeting.

### 9. APEEE Treasurer handover (5 mins)

As time had run out the point was postponed to the next board meeting.

### 10. Administrative Meeting Reports – reporting on system level meetings: updates on meetings and latest developments (20 mins)

- 12 December: Berkendael CE
- 16 January: Uccle Primary CE
- 9 January: Secondary CE
- 9-10 January: Complaints Board hearings

### 11. Review and solicitation of agenda points for upcoming meetings 2025 (10 mins)

- 17 January: SAC meeting
- 29 January: Admin Board
- 4 February IP preparatory meeting (tbc)
- 10-11 February: INTERPARENTS (hosted by EEB1 Uccle)
- 13-14 February: Joint Teaching Committee

As time had run out due to the request of the school to quit the school premises at 23:00, President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ asked members to send any points for the 17 January SAC meeting to him by email. Points that would already be raised were 180 days, European activities (idea of alternative activities during the 2 weeks of BAC), school entrance Vert Chasseur, which is recurrent, evaluation of L2 policy (of functioning of the system), Well Being, BAC (some discussed in CE). Deputy Secretary Sandrine PIERLOZ suggested it might be interesting to raise with the school the accredited schools and the announcement made on intranet. The President clarified that this would be more a point for the Admin board and is separate from our school enrolment.

The President concluded, reminding about the organization of a pre-IP meeting on 4 February, before the pre-JTC IP meeting that EEB1 would be hosting on 10 and 11 February 2025. This would be organized with the delegates of IP and any member of the board could attend and give input on the JTC and the IP General Assembly

## AOB

Jan TYMOWSKI and Valentina PAPA have reviewed and commented on the draft security and safety agreement with the school, as proposed by Director TRAN on the basis of a draft for all APEEEs prepared by the Secretary General, modifying it for APEEE to sign separately (in addition to the one signed by APEEE Services). President Sigfrido RAMÍREZ PÉREZ will **circulate a final draft after its approval by Director TRAN, and a written procedure might be run for the APEEE Board** to approve it for signature. It was noted that APEEE Services would be signing on the following day.

*Supporting reports and documents for this meeting are accessible to Board members in the OneDrive Board meeting folder.*

*The next meeting is scheduled for 20 February 2025 (online)*