

Minutes of the educational council 27.02.2018

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Exchange in L2

The official document is on the internet page of the European schools (<https://www.eurasc.eu/BasicTexts/2016-01-D-49-en-4%20+Annex.pdf>).

There are two possibilities:

- in S4

the exchange is thought for strengthening the of the L2 language and it should last 3 to 8 weeks (short stay)

- in S5

it lasts one semester and it is recommended within the same language section; however, since not all European schools have all language sections it might be organised in L2 or L3 sections.

Exchange can be done also with non European schools, in this case it will have to be organized individually.

This year the ESM sent very many applications and therefore not all of them could be accepted. The host schools did not have enough places in the requested language sections or did not accept a change of section (from L1 in the ESM to L2 in the host school).

Marks are accepted by the schools.

New marking system

In February a meeting of the directors of European schools has taken place.

The central office in Brussels will organize a teacher conference on April 16th for informing the teachers. The ESM will send some teachers which will report to the others.

A central document will be distributed to the parents.

Because of the change in the marking system Brussels has decided to postpone the changes in the programs of mathematics, physics and chemistry.

Generally, the school programs, for instance the number of tests and the dates in which they will be done, will have to be adapted to the new marking system.

The highest class which will use the new marking system is the actual S4 which will be S5 next year. Most of the worries are for this class and more attention will be given to it because of the Semestertest.

The document that Brussels is planning to produce and distribute is not ready yet, neither will be ready in April most probably. It will be a "dynamic" document, in the sense that it will be modified on the bases on the various inputs until a final version

will be reached. The director hopes that it will be ready early enough to be distributed and explained to the parents not at the last minute.

Budget

Budget 2018/19: still ongoing, there have been some difficulties but they have been solved.

Budget 2019/20:

- the EPO has confirmed a budget which is such that the school will be able to pursue almost all programs / projects, apart few ones that will have to be postponed;
- teaching time will not be affected, apart from the SWALS;
- the list of old a new posts has also been included.

Medientage

This project will take place on march 19th and 20th from 8:30 to 15:30 and will involve all S1 and P5 classes.

The main goal is to sensitize the youngest pupils who up to now could not use their mobile phones in the school.

Program of the event.

First day:

- an inquiry will be made about how much time the kids spend with their mobile phone;
- workshops in the Europahalle about cybermobbing, dependence, cyber-idols, advertising, data protection, privacy (passwords, etc.), fake news.

Second day:

- the teachers (ICT) will work with the pupils in groups.

As follow-up there will be a workshop for all teachers and an Elternabend for the parents of the pupils who took part to the workshop.

It is planned to organize the same project also for the S2-S4 classes in the future.

It is also considered to involve the older students to help during the workshop as they might have a better impact on younger kids.

Another idea is that of teaching the S4 students to help as assistant during the next Medientage next year.

Still another idea for the future is that of involving an actor specialized in cybermobbing and krimi stories.

LGBTQ (Lesbian Gay Bisex Transgender Queer)

The director accepted to talk about this point raised by the student, though it is a delicate matter.

The students presented some slides explaining the concept (shall we attach them? they are quite well self-explaining).

The students see that this subject is not treated in the school and there was a proposal of incorporating this subject in the science lessons, which apparently has already been done in one ES in Brussels. The parents pointed out that the subject is delicate and should be treated by persons (teachers as well) who are well prepared.

It was also pointed out by the students that there have not been cases of mobbing because of sexual orientation, though sometimes students use the words lesbian, gay, bisex, transgender in the wrong way (making fun of other students for instance, or using the words lesbian, gay, etc., in an offensive way).

It was proposed to create a team of people (school psychologist, Erziehungsberater, students) who can help in case of any issue with sexual orientation, for personal development or for any problem that should arise.

The students also proposed to have a small school conference on this subject. However, both parents and school management feel it is too early for this, but do not discard this option for the future.

School material

Often teachers distribute photocopies, which is generally welcomed.

However, it happens often that when a student is absent for even only one day, it is very difficult for him/her to get that material.

The parents underline that one cannot count on the other students for this distribution.

The school has various means to distribute and store material (sms, moodle) and the parents asked if it would not be possible that photocopies and other material be stored there and made available all the time.

This could also be useful for substitute teachers who then would have a clear guide about what to do with the class.

And it would be very useful for new teachers who do not know the system well, at least in the beginning of their time at the ESM.

For new teachers the parents suggested a "start kit".

A central storage system would also be useful for the parents who could have a better view of the subjects which are currently treated in class. At the moment the only information available is given by the various programs from Brussels, which are however very general and leave the teachers the freedom to decide when to treat a certain subject during the year.

Harmonzation

The discussion on this subject was postponed to the next ER.