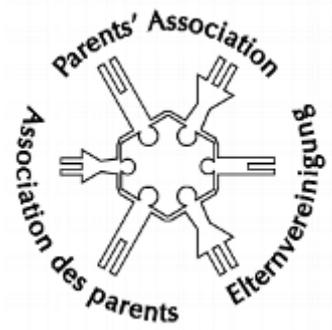


# Parents' Association of the European School Munich



## Minutes of the Board Meeting of 17.01.2017

The meeting was held in the premises of the EPO, Bayerstr. 34, Room 3468, from 18:40 to 21:15.

Minute writer: Manolis Papastefanou

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**Board Members present (14):** Georg Weber, Rupert Plenk, Jean-Luc Dupuis, Carolyn Casall-Bain, Sebastian Petit, Rafael Baltanás, George Lazaridis, Marina Conte, Gerry Van Woensel, Antje Stoller, , Anna Cattani-Scholz, Irene Rosin, Enrico Ulivieri, Manolis Papastefanou.

**Board Members absent:** Dimitrios Varelas, Stefano Zanaboni, Kerstin Arenz, Maria Pia Ayala – Periello, Günther Körbler

Observing members of the Educational Council: Valentina Fazio (IT – HS), Marcela Frank (SWALS – HS), Mark Robinson (EN – GS)

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1. The chairman opened the meeting at 18.40.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda were approved unanimously.
3. The chairman reported on various issues:
  - Canteen: the container installed next to the eating area is operational, and despite some initial problems, the temporary kitchen has been operating since the 9<sup>th</sup> of January. Crockery was missing during the first week and plastic plates were used, but as of 16.01.2017 normal crockery has been available. The output has reached 1400 meals per day, which is very close to the normal output of the kitchen. The next expected milestone is the termination of the refurbishment works and the handover of the "normal" kitchen. It is planned that this would be done during the summer holidays in time for the canteen to be ready at the beginning of the next school year. The Association is monitoring the situation closely.

- Lila container: the children have been moved back to the container and lessons are taking place there as usual. The last measurements were made available and have been checked by two experts charged by the Association. One of them has already given a positive opinion regarding the suitability of the container to be used for school classes. Follow up measurements will be done in some months, but it is generally felt that the problem has been solved. The chairman commented the cooperative and transparent attitude of the German authorities on this issue.
- On 19.01.2017 a meeting of the Administrative Board of the school will take place. The main subject of the meeting is the budget of the school. Another issue on the agenda is the problem of the lack of replacement of absent teachers (see also point 6 of the minutes of the last meeting). The school has developed a concept to address this problem and it will also be a point of discussion during the meeting.
- In connection to the lack of teachers, it appears that there have been several applications for teacher positions received by the school. It was reminded that the checking of the qualifications of the candidates as well as the whole selection process was responsibility of the school.
- A more specific point regards the English speaking teachers. The UK has formally announced that no more teachers will be seconded to the European schools starting coming September. It is also not clear what will happen to those who are already seconded, i.e. will they have to return to the UK or not. The list prepared by the English representatives with possible contact points for recruiting teachers from other English speaking countries (see also point 4 of minutes of meeting of 08.11.2016) has been provided to the school. The Association will be monitoring the issue closely and provide support if and when necessary.

#### 4. Financial Issues

- A request by Kim Weber (coordinator of Sport at the ESM) for financial support for the participation of the ESM team to Eurosport competition (22 – 25.03 in Brussels) was discussed. This is a recurring event the ESM participates at and the Association has been supporting it for some time. It was agreed to provide the same amount as the previous year.
- In a similar request, the Board agreed to support financially the trip of the Primary School Choral to Varese with the same amount as the previous year.
- Marina Conte informed that the theatrical event in the IT section for which financial support was requested during the last meeting (see point 7 of the minutes) has been postponed for organisational reasons.
- A brief discussion took place regarding the amount of the membership fee and whether it should be raised in view of increased costs and overhead to be expected when the new site of the ESM will be operational. It was remarked that the fee has been stable at least for the last 9 years. Manolis Papastefanou, Carolyn Casall-Bain with Jean-Luc Dupuis will look closely on the matter. It was pointed out that any change would have to be agreed by the General Assembly of the Association.

5. Interparents: Anna Cattani-Scholz made a short introduction about Interparents for the benefit of the new Board members. She also reported that the next meeting of Interparents was planned for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of February in Brussels. The main topics of discussion are:

- The new rules regarding the locally recruited teachers
- The new directives on the evaluation of teachers by inspectors and schools; focus is to be on improving and harmonising the teaching throughout the system.
- The new marking system that is to be introduced in the coming school year for the lower classes of the Secondary school. The issues that will arise with the recognition of these marks by countries and universities are being discussed since the transcription of the marks to the various national systems has to be established anew.
- Educational support is also in the focus. There is a working group working on the subject and a specialised inspector is expected to visit the schools. (S)He is expected at the ESM towards the end of January.

A. Cattani-Scholz requested feedback regarding experiences with Educational support, Bullying and Exchanges of Pupils at the ESM. She also requested feedback from the EN section representatives regarding issues that may arise as aftermath of Brexit. The Board also agreed to the request of A. Cattani-Scholz that Enrico Ulivieri accompanies her to the Interparents' meeting since issues regarding IT will be discussed.

6. A brief discussion regarding the visits of inspectors ensued. It has been observed that the school has not always been informing parents' representatives or even parents in general when inspectors are visiting. This resulted often in the inspectors meeting with some parents without anyone else being aware of their visit. It was pointed out that parents' representatives, apart from having the mandate to the represent parents, are the ones that have the overview of the group (section) they represent. Although meeting of the inspectors with parents cannot and should not be forbidden, it is important that the inspectors meet the representatives. For this to happen, the information that an inspector is coming to the school should be given by the school. The chairman will address with this issue with the school.

7. Next meeting will take place on 15.02.2017.

The chairman closed the meeting at 21:15.