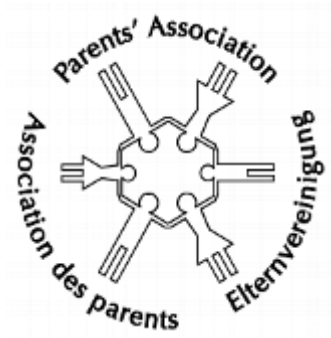


Parents' Association of the European School Munich



Minutes of the Board Meeting of 23.04.2018

The meeting was held in the premises of the EPO, Bayerstr. 34, Room 3468, from 18:30-21:00.

Minute writer: Manolis Papastefanou

Board Members present (15): Jean-Luc Dupuis, Koen Leuridan, Julien Jacoby, Rupert Plenk, Carolyn Casall-Bain, Rafael Baltanás, Gerry Van Woensel, Dimitrios Varelas, Stefano Zanaboni, Kerstin Arenz, Günther Körbler, Anna Cattani-Scholz, Irene Rosin, Flavio Carsughi, Manolis Papastefanou.

Board Members absent: Sebastian Petit, George Lazaridis, Marina Conte, Antje Stoller

Observing members of the Educational Council: Mark Robinson (EN-HS), Ines Lampreia (SWALS-GS), Maciej Madalinski (KiGa), Ursula Haider (DE-HS Deputy)

1. The chairman opened the meeting at 18.30.
The agenda was approved.
2. The chairman reported that in the issue regarding the budget of the School, some progress has been made. EPO and ESM seem to be cooperating towards a solution of the existing problems. This does not mean that all the saving measures decided will be abandoned, but there appears to be a common effort towards a solution. The Association will contribute by taking over some of the extra activities organised by the School and offer them in the framework of NSA (extra-curricular activities).
3. Julien Jacoby (treasurer) explained that there has been some progress regarding collecting money from unpaid invoices. An issue that was being looked into was the possibility for an invoice to be paid in more than one payments. For the moment, if any member wishes to pay an invoice in more than one payments, it has to communicate with the office and request it. The Association is generally flexible in such cases, but the book-keeping system does not foresee such a possibility and the accountant has to do it

manually every time, which in view of the relative few such cases is manageable. The possibility to integrate such an option in the IT book-keeping system is being contemplated.

Another issue that was raised was the time difference between invoicing and actual debiting. It was mentioned that the invoices of the Association gave an indication about the expected date of the debiting; J. Jacoby said he would look into matter.

4. Upon a question about the prices for the music lessons in the framework of the "music seminar", a discussion took place. The chairman explained that the whole organisation of the courses was done by Ms Stegeman, who is a music teacher at the School. The music seminar existed before as an independent activity and the Association took it over at the request of the School. All the teachers were hired by Ms. Stegeman and the Association was not involved in anything except facilitating the registering of the children and collecting the fees, which were then paid to the teachers and Ms. Stegeman.

The conclusion of the discussion was that, if the Association offers these music courses via its own portal, then the Association was also legally responsible and that meant that the Association should also be in a position to oversee and monitor these courses. This was particularly true, concerning the qualifications of the teachers and the other requirements they had to fulfil, just like every other teacher of the NSA program (certificate of good conduct, first aid etc). At the moment the whole responsible for this was Ms. Stegeman and this had to change, were the Association to continue offering these courses via its web portal. The chairman stated that he would bring the matter to the School management during an upcoming meeting (following week) and, if there was no willingness for cooperation, the Association would cease to offer the courses at the NSA portal.

It was also agreed that Anna Cattani-Scholz would contact the Städtische Musikschule of Munich to explore the possibility of organising music lessons for primary school pupils at the new site, in the framework of NSA.

5. Regarding the request to support financially the purchase of footballs for the classes of the primary (see point 4 of the agenda), Kerstin Arenz explained that the school secretariat had requested that 2 balls for each class be purchased, which made the total amount about 1500 Euro. The Board decided to support this request with the sum of 1000 Euro.
6. Carolyn Casall-Bain and Anna Cattani-Scholz reported from the last Interparants' meeting in Brussels. Some points:
 - Parents wishing to enter the European School system should be better informed.
 - The school calendar should be made known earlier than January of the previous school year.
 - A lot of pressure has been exercised by the schools to the parents' associations for financial assistance throughout the system. The possibility to standardise the

procedure for requesting and giving financial assistance to the schools is being contemplated.

- Counter-bullying regulations are not enforced sufficiently at the play grounds in the schools. It will be tried to keep record of children who go to the nurse after a recreation pause.
- Locally recruited teachers have no sufficient experience that could allow them to access managerial positions.
- A structure could be put in place in every school to welcome parents, put them in contact to each other and encourage their networking.
- There has been a case of a pupil abused by a teacher in one of the Brussels' schools. Questions about whether there is a protection policy in place and who is responsible in such a case were raised.
- The issue of finding host families for exchange students and who is responsible for it was raised.
- In the issue of drug policy in the European schools, it was considered important that the pupils (and their families) perceive it as fair. Another issue was that pupils spoke more easily to a professional (psychologist, expert etc.) than to the police and the question of whether police should always be involved was discussed.

The Board members commented that in Bavaria drug use was a crime and anyone (teacher, director) who was aware of it and did not report it to the police was also breaking the law.

- School management should be more responsible and reliable in forecasting and managing the school budget.
- It was estimated that the European school budget as a whole would increase by 10% as a consequence of BREXIT.
- 40% of the pupils of the European school system are applying to UK universities. The importance of English native speakers in both teachers and pupils was stressed again.
- There is a summit of the European school system in Brussels scheduled for 25.05.2018. It was not clear yet who will participate, but it was expected that at least the president of Interparents would be invited.
- On 28.08.2018 there is an Interparents meeting in Brussels regarding the BAC. The plan is to coordinate among all the schools, monitor the situation and be able to react swiftly in case of any problem. **A VOLUNTEER from the ESM is needed!**
- Language policy is also being discussed. Issues like the distinction between mother tongue and dominant language, the introduction of L2 in Kindergarten, the introduction of the host country language, how the proficiency level of a language

is assessed etc are issues under discussion. **A. Cattani-Scholz requested feedback from the Board members.**

Finally, Interparents selected the design by Carolyn Casall-Bain as its new logo!

7. Marc Robinson informed the Board that the draft agreement between EU and UK regarding BREXIT was published. According to it, the UK government will continue supporting the European Schools until the summer of 2020. This would mean that teachers from UK should be able to continue in the European Schools and the BAC will be recognised in the UK until then. There was no information about what will happen after that date. On another important issue, EU residents will continue to pay the tuition fees applicable for UK residents until then but it appears that after that date they will be liable for the full overseas fees. There may be possibilities for individual universities to decide to apply the lower fees for EU residents, as well.
8. Ursula Haider asked whether it would be possible to publish the minutes of the meetings of the Educational Council at the Association's website. After brief discussion, it was concluded that it was not clear whether the School management – who approved the minutes – considered the minutes to be open for such a publication. Enquiries will be made and if the School management is not against, the minutes will be published at the website page dedicated to the Educational Council.
9. Stefano Zanaboni informed that on 25.05.2018 a new law regarding data protection enters into force in Germany and the Association, which was a "Verein" under German law was also subject to it. Although data protection issues were taken into account when the IT system of the Association was put in place some years ago, there may be the need for some additional actions. S. Zanaboni will provide the chairman with the necessary information in order to assess whether there is anything to be done.
10. Next meeting will take place on 30.05.2018.

The chairman ended the meeting at 21:00h.