

WHAT IS INTERPARENTS?

All the European Schools are supervised by a Board of Governors composed of:

- heads of delegations (EU member states, EU Commission, EPO),
- one representative of the Teaching Staff Committee
- one representative of parents (usually the chairman of Interparents),
- one representative of Directors,
- chairmen of preparatory committees (Teaching Committee, Administrative and Financial Committee / CAF),
- a representative of pupils (observer status).

The Board of Governors takes all the decisions in educational, administrative and budgetary matters concerning the European Schools. It is thus vitally important that the parents are, and continue to be, competently represented. Only the representative of Interparents (Interparents Chairman) has the right to attend these meetings.

At school level, each section of the school community elects representatives to the various committees at European level (Committee of Directors, Teaching Staff Committee, Pupils Committee, Interparents, Board of Inspectors). It is the responsibility of the local Parents' Association to elect one member of the PA Board to join the representatives of the other PA's at Interparents. At the moment there are representatives from 14 European Schools (Bruxelles N° 1, 2, 3 and 4, Luxembourg N° 1 and 2, , Munich, Frankfurt, Karlsruhe, Alicante, Varese, Bergen,Mol, Culham).

Interparents representatives also have the right to participate in the preparatory committees for the Board of Governors meetings, namely:

- Teaching Committees (Primary, Secondary and Joint)
- Administrative and Financial Committee

There is also one representative from Interparents in each of the various working groups (e.g. Primary School report, Time Table Primary School, Organisation of the Bac, Learning Support, distance Learning...) reporting to the preparatory committees.

The results of the deliberations in the Working Groups are presented at the biannual meetings of the Teaching Committee. These meetings take place over 3 days and comprise separate meetings for the Nursery/Primary and Secondary schools followed by a joint meeting for the Primary and the Secondary. The meetings allow an important exchange of views to take place between all parties involved in the European schools (Directors, Inspectors, Teachers, the Commission, the EPO, Interparents and the pupils).

The Interparents representation is decided according to a strict rotation system between the schools. Each year the designated school must send a single represent to each committee to represent all the others . This year it is the turn of Munich to represent Interparents at the Secondary Teaching Committee and at the Joint Teaching Committee.

No votes are taken during those meetings. Final decisions and votes can only be taken in the Board of Governors meetings (3 meetings a year), where Inteparents is represented by its Chairman and has one vote on educational matters (excluding matters regarding the Bac examination).

Interparents organise meetings before both the Teaching Committee meetings and Board of Governors meetings. Preparations are based on the official agenda distributed a couple of days beforehand and the annexed documents provided.

Marie-Claude DONNELLY
Representative of Munich
at Interparents

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