

Minutes of the Board Meeting of 22nd September 2020

The meeting was held as online conference via Skype software from 6:38 pm until 9:25 pm

Minute writer: Adriana Vera-Merz

Attendees:

PA Board members: Antje Stoller, Marina Conte, Germana Baldisseri, Roberto Trimarchi, Rafael Baltanás Jorge, Esteban Hernández Castelló, Katia Sittler, Flavio Carsughi, Irene Rosin, Julien Jacoby, Sofia Macieira, Giorgios Lazaridis, Caroline Müller, Adriana Vera-Merz

Observing participant: Maciej Madaliński, Mihail Tzekov (candidates for positions in the PA Board for the school year 2020/2021), Daniel Pinilla (Representative at the SAC)

Absent PA Board Members: Gerry van Woensel, Martin Ratcliffe, Stéphane Fraissé, Kerstin Arenz, Anna Cattani-Scholz

1. Approval of the agenda

The chairman opened the meeting at 6:38 pm. The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the minutes of the last board meeting

The minutes of the board meeting held on 17th June 2020 were approved.

3. Chairman's report

- School start: Due to the late decision in whether or not the school would start with presence lessons, there were difficulties running our services during the first school weeks. Now all are functioning more or less smoothly.
The canteen and the afternoon childcare must follow the COVID-hygiene plan of the school. Unfortunately, the communication with the school wasn't optimal and RUF had planned to have groups mixing pupils of various grades, as usual. The school allows groups of pupils in the same grade only. Therefore, RUF needs more personnel. The P5 pupils are receiving no service, but the latest mid-October RUF will be able to open new groups for them.
Each class has a dedicated table in the canteen. To serve at the tables it was necessary for IICielo to buy lids to cover the food. The school agreed to pay half of the costs and the parents will pay the other half.
- SAC and Jour fixe: Currently there is no administrator at the ESM. This position will be covered starting 1st October.
The pedagogical agenda for this school year was discussed. One of the main aspects are the hygiene measures due to COVID. The different scenarios were studied again. The school is continuously working on these scenarios with the goal that no children miss lessons. The start of the school year was problematic, but now everything is working.

During the summer break cameras were installed in nearly every classroom in the secondary. They are directed to show the front of the classroom. No children are in the view field of the cameras.

There were nearly 70 S7 pupils in quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 case. These children returned to the school today. This was the first opportunity to try the cameras. The children could follow the lessons from home. The feedback was that they could see and hear the teachers, but they couldn't participate actively in class. The computer screen is small, and teachers don't see when the pupils want to participate from home.

The current S7 will be the first class to take the pre-BAC and BAC tests with the new marking system.

Sofia Maciera notes that the rooms in MS Teams were not properly set up before the lessons started. Some of them were not ready for the groups in which the teachers either belong to a risk group for COVID-19, or are in quarantine and are working from home. On another topic, she informs that the number of Serbian lessons for Serbian pupils in the primary school were reduced, within the current ONL regulations. Some Finnish families plan to file an appeal due to discrimination: after S2 Finnish pupils are not allowed to have Swedish because they are SWALS, even if it is an official language in Finland. However, Maltese and Irish pupils can continue to have lessons in Maltese and Irish, because they are enrolled in the English section. She will contact the Finnish inspector to inform him and ask him to evaluate the case.

4. AGM possible date: 3rd of November; positions to expire and candidates

The chairman will send/publish the invitation to the General Assembly of the PA which will be virtual and is scheduled for 3rd November. It is planned to use MS Teams (PA has a licence) to hold the assembly. Several options for voting virtually are being tested.

The chairman and board members are asking other parents to participate in the assembly and candidate for the open positions. If there is no other candidate for the Canteen position Katia Sittler will candidate.

The Cat III and language sections representatives will organize their meetings to elect their representatives on the PA board and/or Educational Council. The following representatives are to be elected prior to 3rd Nov, and their positions will be ratified in the general assembly:

- PA board: Italian, German, Spanish and English language sections, SWALS, Category III
- Educational Council representatives: SWALS (primary & secondary), Spanish, Dutch, Greek, Italian (primary & secondary), French (primary).

4. Transport

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5. Canteen

Some parents have had problems to log in into the Il Cielo system. Caroline will suggest Il Cielo to send a confirmation/explanatory email to the newly registered parents, explaining how to login and use the system. The question about the need of a new registration to Il Cielo for all pupils yearly rose. This is to be clarified. The canteen is running with the COVID restrictions. For some the older pupils it is problematic to choose their meals one week in advance. Apparently, it is possible to choose their meals until the evening before. This hasn't been communicated to all parents.

There have been complaints because of the small size of the portions in the secondary. Caroline has already discussed this topic with Il Cielo and will raise it again.

6. RUF/Pauker

RUF offers 16 groups of 10 children each with one caretaker and 1 springer. Additionally, there are 2 bigger groups with 15 children and 2 caretakers. Because the school announced its decision of school format very late, administrative issues arose. RUF created most of the email addresses for the groups with their domain and the PA created two of them.

The free time activities are planned according to the COVID hygiene plan. They take place outside more than it was usual.

The groups for P5 will start to run in October, when RUF has hired the required personnel. If the children have an Abo at Il Cielo, the meals have been debited even if the children haven't eaten. If the parents ask for it, Il Cielo will refund the meals. Parents can also stop the abo in the EV system as long as the children don't attend the afternoon care. In this case, the price per meal will be more expensive.

Some of the P5 children registered at RUF are attending the homework-groups of the NSA. If they decide to continue doing this instead of joining RUF, their parents can cancel their attendance to RUF according to the contractual conditions.

Pauker has only one group which is running smoothly.

7. NSA

The NSA courses mix children of different grades and language sections. The school accepted this following the argument that this avoids that the children go to e.g. sports outside the school with external children. The COVID risk is clustered within the school.

This is the first year in which the NSA started in September. It was a challenge because the school announced only on 1st September that it would start normally. There were not enough available rooms for all courses. The courses for the secondary begin next Monday.

The music courses will be held in the school. Ms. Stegemann wants the instruction to be face to face. The virtual lessons are planned only for the case the COVID situation requires it.

7. IT update

The IT support for the office is switching from Kim Mayser to Marcel Wolf. For him to broaden his responsibilities, the Minijob contract has to end and a new support contract must be signed. Kim has given Marcel the licence numbers and the information he requires to provide the support. Kim's contract runs until the end of the school year.

On 17th September Flavio Carsughi sent the board members a link to test the first module of the new PA system. By now only 5 people have sent him their comments. The remaining board members are invited to test the module and give their feedback as soon as possible. To advance in the project successfully, it is necessary to test as much as possible.

The development of the software is going on as scheduled. The transport and NSA modules should be ready as required for the registration of next school year. The city of Munich expressed some time ago that they want the registration for the transport to take place with them directly. This must be clarified in order to make the right software development.

It will be possible to test the modules for the different roles: city of Munich, NSR teacher, etc.

8. Financial issues

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9. Any other business

- There is no update regarding a possible reduction of Cat III fees due to the pandemic.
- The parents from Brussels who will appeal against the application of the new German conversion table as of BAC 2021 before a German court, asked the PA to distribute information amongst the parents and for a financial contribution. The total costs of the legal procedures are estimated to be € 20K.

The board decided to share the information with the parents, but no decision was made about a financial contribution. Before deciding on this, the PA would like to have the information about who has contributed financially by now, how many parents of the ESM have joined the appeal, and which is the position of the Central Office towards this action.

According to the information received from the organizers of the appeal, only one family in Munich has joined the initiative.

There are several groups taking different actions to achieve a change in the German conversion table. It seems these actions are not centrally coordinated. One action can prevent another to be successful. In case the court decides against the appeal, the other actions will be in vain.

- Julien Jacoby comments he joined an Interparents meeting. He praised the work Interparents does and invites the rest of the board members to join the next virtual meetings.
- Currently, there are not enough lockers for all pupils in the secondary. The lockers are now managed by an external company. Apparently only 500 parents registered for the service in July. There were hundreds of late registrations. The company couldn't make all lockers available by the beginning of the school year. They will be ready in October.
- Due to COVID-19, questions have risen about purchasing air cleaning devices for the classrooms for the winter. Due to budgetary reasons and technical open questions, this is not feasible in the short run.
- In the secondary school it is mandatory for the pupils to wear a mask at all times, including in class. This will remain so, even if the official Bavarian regulations are more relaxed. The school has made this decision to protect the more than 20 teachers belonging to the risk groups for COVID. The normal operation of the school would be greatly affected if teachers get sick. During sport lessons the teachers can decide whether or not the pupils must wear a mask.
- The chairman asks the board members to make comments on the email he distributed with the results of the school inspection and send them to him.

10. Next board meeting

The next board meeting was scheduled for September 8th October 2020.

The meeting ended 9:25 pm

Minute writer:

Adriana Vera-Merz