

## Minutes of the Board Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

The meeting was held as an online conference via MS Teams from 19:00 pm until 20:43 pm.

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### Attendees

**PA Board members:** Antje Stoller, Roberto Trimarchi, Katia Sittler (chair), Julien Jacoby, Sofia Macieira, Maciej Madaliński, Daniel Pinilla Ariza, Magda Vecchi, Désirée Kandolo, Xenia Tene, Elise Chapoy, Anne Ridings, Esteban Hernández Castello, Vannessa Doublier Pritchard, Stefan Unterstrasser, Flavio Carsughi

**Members of the Educational council** (guests): Irene Rosin, Simona Barbieri, Alain Camilleri

**Absent PA Board Members:** Fabrizio Marrone, Catherine Jenewein, Mihail Tzekov, Sten Harck

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### 1. Approval of the agenda

The chairwoman opened the meeting at 19:05 pm. The agenda was approved.

### 2. Approval of the minutes of the Board Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December were approved.

### 3. Chairwoman's report

- **Corona situation:** Katia Sittler said that, as mentioned in a recent newsletter, the ESM went to 5 tests a week for high school pupils. Since the groups are more stable in primary school, PS pupils continue to test 3 times a week.  
Katia Sittler has been asked many times the question of "Lolli tests" at ESM. Daniel Pinilla Ariza clarified that ESM was on the waiting list for obtaining them. Katia added that ESM would have to pay for Lolli tests and would try to obtain them at least for the kindergarten. She also said that the question of air purifiers in classrooms has often been raised. The director of the school replied that covid air purifiers are already being tested but that they are considered noisy and disrupt the class. Air filters are already available in the canteens. If the school decided to install filters in every classroom, it would need to find a budget of more than 1 million, which would not be without difficulty.  
The director Anton Hrovath mentioned that school staff has to work 3 hours for each positive case at the moment and their assessment is that contaminations take place outside the classrooms.
- **Category III pupils:** The PA has raised the question of a new admission policy during the last administrative board. It was reported that a meeting between Andreas Beckmann, the new Secretary-General of the European schools, and the president of the EPO António Campinos took place in the fall 2021. The president showed himself in favour of a revision of the rules of admission of cat. III families but first asked to obtain financial scenarios that include the consequences of the new EPO regulation for working from abroad. Katia Sittler stressed that the admission policy would not change in 2022.  
Flavio Carsughi asked if Katia Sittler and Daniel Pinilla Ariza presented the financial report made by Enrico Fedrigo and Flavio, which shows that an increase in the number of Cat III pupils would be accompanied by a decrease in the costs of financing for the EPO. Roberto Trimarchi answered that EPO did not follow up on the report and that the PA should present

it again. Katia Sittler said she would organise a meeting on this issue.

In response to Sofia Macieira's question, Daniel Pinilla Ariza clarified that a person working as a service provider or contractor for the EPO belongs to cat. III and not to cat. I families.

- **SWALS:** The SWALS topic would be discussed at the June administrative board with EPO, once the ESM collected the SWALS data for next school year. Daniel and Katia will work with Sofia Macieira and the SWALS EC representatives to prepare the meeting.

Sofia recalled that Interparents SWALS working group is working on a letter to be presented to the Board of governors and that the discussion needed to be taken to the upper level.

- **Kindergarten:** Katia Sittler informed the members of the resignation of Lisa Melessaccio. The school is currently looking for someone to replace her starting next school year.

#### 4. Educational Council Reports

**Primary school:** The school direction cancelled the January Educational Council due to the absence of new subjects.

**High school:** Irene Rosin and Vanessa Doublier-Pritchard made a report of the January Educational Council. Topics on the agenda were: the corona situation and its consequences for the preparation of semesters tests, the difficulties about the mixing of online and in situ teaching, the launch of the working group dedicated to the preparation of the European Week (9-13.05), the abandonment of the use of GeoGebra software in favour of scientific calculators, the implementation of PISA tests at HS, the "whole school inspection" in November 2022. Irene Rosin mentioned that ESM planned a meeting on 15/02 with HS and GS EC representatives to prepare the questionnaire of the whole school inspection.

**Recruitment of German teachers:** Simona Barbieri, representative of the HS German section, said that parents have concerns regarding the school's difficulties in recruiting German teachers. She had contacts with parents' representatives at the European School Frankfurt who encounter the same problem. Simona suggested that EC representatives and the PA work together to address that issue. The working group would also involve representatives from Frankfurt and maybe Luxembourg. The main problem is the low attractiveness of positions for German civil servants and the related instability of local contracts.

Katia Sittler mentioned that this topic was discussed during the last administrative board. The ESM said the problem would be almost insoluble given the price of housing in Munich and the school's salary offer. Katia Sittler confirmed to Simona Barbieri that the PA would join the initiative and work on the problem of recruiting German teachers. Mihail Tzekov (German section) and Sten Harck (Interparents) would be the right contacts.

Daniel Pinilla Ariza confirmed to Anne Ridings that, as a result of Brexit, the UK inspection would no longer inspect the ESM.

#### 5. SAC/Admin Board Report

Daniel Pinilla Ariza said that the topics covered were almost the same as those of the Educational Council. The director also mentioned that ESM wanted to deal with the question of the service provider for the canteen, that they would inaugurate the Fasangarten school during the European Week with the Helene-Habermann-Gymnasium and that the major renovation work in Neuperlach will be supported by the German government.

#### 6. Services update

**Transport:** Maciej Madaliński said that the main difficulty now was dealing with the different statuses of pupils (recovered, vaccinated or not) when a positive case occurs in a bus and children must be sent to quarantine.

Maciej clarified that taxi drivers don't have to be boosted.

**RUF:** Désirée Kandolo said that RUF and Pauker were running according to the plan and that groups must be closed after 3 simultaneous Covid-positive cases. She added that Katia Sittler and her were working on a questionnaire for families to assess their satisfaction and adapt our services.

**NSA:** Antje Stoller said that the PA would start sending invoices to the parents next week and that NSA won't take place in kindergarten until the end of February.

**Canteen:** Katia Sittler said that the PA didn't plan to change the service provider for the canteen but would work on improving the quality of food and services. Working groups are going to be launched at both primary and secondary schools to identify the reasons for dissatisfaction and develop areas for improvement with Il Cielo.

She added that parents must pay canteen fees while children are in quarantine. As specified in Il Cielo contract, families must pay during the first week of absence but not the following ones, if communicated beforehand.

## **7. IT update**

Flavio Carsughi said the new booking system has now reached its mature phase. The PA should nevertheless make an investment in the coming months to increase the efficiency of the system and make it user-friendlier for the teachers. He added that the members should agree on a certain number of working hours to be granted to Com21 for the evolution of the software. He estimated that the project would require an envelope of 10 to 15,000 euros. The project and its budget were unanimously approved.

## **8. Any other business**

In response to Sofia Macieira's question, Julien Jacoby explained that he has sent a message of support to the office employees with the board members in copy because some parents have addressed them lately without showing the necessary respect. He clarified that even though there are many different nationalities at ESM, respect for others must be the basis for communication.

## **9. Next board meeting**

The next board meeting will take place on 17<sup>h</sup> February at 19:00 pm via MS Teams

The meeting ended at 20:43 pm.

Minute writer:

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Elise Chapoy