

Minutes of the Board Meeting of 17th May 2022

The meeting was held on site at the ESM Neuperlach from 18:30 pm until 21:30 pm.

Attendees

PA Board members: Katia Sittler (chair), Julien Jacoby, Maciej Madaliński, Daniel Pinilla Ariza, Magda Vecchi, Désirée Kandolo, Xenia Tene, Anne Ridings, Esteban Hernández Castello, Fabrizio Marrone, Roberto Trimarchi, Vannessa Doublier Pritchard, Elise Chapoy, Sten Harck, Mihail Tzekov

EC members (guests): Irene Rosin, Aurelia Fitzpatrick, Alain Camilleri

Absent PA Board Members: Stefan Unterstrasser, Catherine Jenewein, Flavio Carsughi, Antje Stoller, Sofia Macieira

1. Approval of the agenda

The chairwoman opened the meeting at 18:50 pm. The agenda was approved with 2 additions for AOB section:

- request of parents of a S5 pupil about ancient Greek teaching
- donation for a funeral ceremony

2. Approval of the minutes of the Board Meeting of 26th April 2022

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 26th April were approved.

3. Chairwoman's report

Ukrainian pupils:

Antje Stoller and Katia Sittler talked about the assumption of costs for activities booked for Ukrainians pupils from next school year. They mentioned that if Ukrainian pupils stay at ESM in 2022/23, they should be treated like other pupils regarding costs of NSA. The board members agreed on this point.

Sten Harck added that the Commission would like that parents' associations cover school fees of Ukrainian pupils from next school year and suggested that they soon integrate national school systems. InterParents is against this option and would like to change the position of the Board of Governors. Sten added that 350 Ukrainians are welcomed in the European school's system (35 pupils in Munich) and that InterParents secured that those pupils could stay in the ES system for the 2022-2023 school year.

Fabrizio Marrone pointed out that the City of Munich should cover the costs of canteen for Ukrainian pupils but that Il Cielo still didn't get any money back from the city. He asked the ESM to fill in the official request for reimbursement of canteen expenses.

Irene Rosin from the Educational council raised the question of the integration of Ukrainians pupils in English and German classes (see minutes of the April Board Meeting). Katia Sittler said that she already raised that topic with M. Hrovath. He said that the ESM didn't want to communicate to the whole community about it but choose to share information with parents of the S2 ENG.

Sten Hack mentioned that the school management had not communicated effectively about it and that the problem affected more classes. Some of the Ukrainian pupils are left alone and have real learning difficulties. The participants questioned the choice of integrating directly these pupils into

German or English classes rather than offering them immersion classes before joining language sections classes. Aurelia Fitzpatrick and Vannessa Doublier Pritchard stressed the importance of language support and suggested that ESM provides Ukrainian pupils with a summer camp including German and English crash courses.

Katia Sittler concluded that the PA would have a meeting with the school management on 01.06 and would raise the questions of the integration of Ukrainian pupils and of the sharing of costs for next school year. She mentioned that she would inform the Educational Council members of the results of the discussion with ESM.

4. Services update

Transport: Maciej Madaliński reported that registration for the next school year has started. He added that the City of Munich merged 6 routes into 3 at the beginning of the month and has caused longer journeys for some families. As a result, bus drivers forget some children. The bus companies were not very happy with the new solution. Maciej also explained that due among other things to petrol prices, private bus companies went on strike to get more money from the City. He said that ESM still has a privileged place with the City of Munich compared to Bavarian schools but that this could change in the coming years and that the service may be limited to P1/P2 pupils. Even if the service is completely maintained in 2022-2023, Maciej needs to know the number of pupils for next year to resume negotiations with the city. Katia Sittler said that she would let him know as soon as she has the information.

NSA: Antje Stoller said that the NSA team was working on creating the courses for next year on the booking system and was trying to create new courses for Kindergarten pupils. She added that they also were working on finding new teachers for the next school year and that they had difficulty finding German teachers.

RUF: Désirée Kandolo said that the team was focusing on registrations and organising day-care with RUF for next year.

Canteen: Fabrizio Marrone said that the Kindergarten team requested to still have the canteen meals served in the kindergarten building. He also said that he got a request from Il Cielo: they received an offer from the French School and would like to use the kitchen in Fasangarten to prepare lunches for the French school pupils. Fabrizio said that the capacity of the kitchen would be sufficient but that the question would be how Il Cielo would compensate for the use of the kitchen. He added the answer depends on the school and the BIMA and not the PA.

Vannessa Doublier Pritchard asked if the current increase in food prices would affect the price of the canteen. Fabrizio replied that Il Cielo already raised the prices for next year a bit and that they answered that they were well organised to deal with inflation.

5. Financing questions

Julien Jacoby mentioned that the ESM asked if the PA could participate in the financing of the lanyards for P1 pupils (300 €) and the renewal of the 80 blue balls (1300 €) for primary pupils. The Board members unanimously agreed on paying half of the total amount and allocated 800 euros to the lanyards and balloons.

The Board members also agreed on participating in the financing of the S7 Abi Ball that pupils would like to organise outside the school premises. Even if the pupils would have to pay entrance fees, they still need more money and would receive 500 € from the ESM and 500 € from the PA (unanimously agreed).

6 ER Topics

Irene Rosin informed the Board members of the subjects recently raised by the representatives of the Educational Council:

- The EC members would like to have access to the PISA results of the ESM and would put this request on the agenda of the next EC.

- They would suggest the ESM to intensify prevention campaigns against addictions (in particular to prevent consumption of alcohol amongst youth). Anne Ridings said that the school didn't replay the lessons cancelled due to corona in the fields of sex education or safety in public transports and that EC members could also raise this point.
- EC members plan to ask if ESM is going to update the homework guideline. They should also raise the question of harmonisation of grades among sections. Irene Rosin pointed out that the lack of harmonisation has to be put on the agenda because pupils follow the same curriculum and must pass the same exams from S5 to S7 (Semestertests and Bac).
- Aurelia Fitzpatrick mentioned that GS-EC members still raised the question of the low level of L2 German due to the absence of ability groups and the A2 level expected at the end of primary school. EC representatives would continue to ask for a higher level and level groups. ESM already answered that they won't do level groups and that they provide an effective support for German.

EC members also provided information on the prevention of mobbing at ESM. Irene Rosin said that there were fewer cases from S5 because language sections were mixed and pupils were more mature. The main problem at HS is that pupils refuse to talk about their problem. Irene Rosin pointed out that most of the ESM staff were involved and aware of the problem. Sten Harck and Roberto Trimarchi agreed on the fact that the school tried to do its best but is under capacity with only 1 psychologist. EC members confirmed they would ask that ESM recruit a second psychologist.

7. InterParents: Update on Distance learning and BAC

Distance learning: Sten Harck informed that the Office of the Secretary-General of the European Schools (OSGES) was working on a new and lighter version of the Distance Learning Policy. The document was still confidential and couldn't be shared. Sten Harck said that the different ES would have the power to adapt the policy to their local needs and that the document would mainly consist in recommendations.

BAC: Sten Harck and Vanessa Doublier Pritchard made an update on the platform provided by InterParents to monitor complaints and questions initiated by BAC-students and parents and help them to address the different issues (for ex.: subjects or marks received). Vanessa volunteered to help Sten this year. Sten Harck mentioned that there were problems of communication last year and some families were unaware of the help they could receive through InterParents. ESM already rejected to communicate the link to the platform to S7 parents. Vanessa said that PA and EC representatives should communicate intensively.

8. Planning of next school years meetings (including GA)

Katia Sittler said that, as pointed out by Mihail Tzekov, the article 6 of the Internal Regulations of the Board provides that Board meetings have to be set in advance for the following year. Katia Sittler mentioned that board meetings were usually chosen from month to month and that the PA could change the article 6 in that sense. The PA Board members unanimously approved this point.

Katia Sittler also mentioned that 2 meetings were already set for the 2022-2023 school year:

- 15/09: September Board Meeting
- 18/10: General Assembly

9. Any other business

Daniel Pinilla Ariza informed the board members that a family from the HS contacted him to get help from the PA for a derogation request regarding ancient Greek. Daniel added that the PA wouldn't be able to help with this issue.

Mihail Tzekov reported on a meeting between the German section representatives and ESM regarding the current difficulty in recruiting German teachers. The school suggested that parents could help to promote the school. They also said that they received many applications but often of insufficient quality.

The PA Board members unanimously agreed to donate 200 euros to fundraising for a pupil's funeral and to send a card on behalf of the PA.

10. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will take place on 23th June at 7.00 pm (face-to-face).

The meeting ended at 21:30 pm.

Minute writer:

Elise Chapoy