

## **Minutes of the Board Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

The meeting was held on site at the ESM Neuperlach from 18:45 pm until 21:58 pm.

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### **Attendees**

**PA Board members:** Roberto Trimarchi, Katia Sittler (chair), Julien Jacoby, Maciej Madaliński, Daniel Pinilla Ariza, Magda Vecchi, Xenia Tene, Vanessa Doublier Pritchard, Konstantin Poullos, Flavio Carsughi, Fabrizio Marrone, Anne Ridings, Esteban Hernández Castello, Elise Chapoy, Karsten Röski, Désirée Kandolo

**Absent PA Board members:** Catherine Jenewein, Sofia Macieira, Antje Stoller, Mike Marqués

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### **1. Approval of the agenda**

The chairwoman opened the meeting at 18:45 pm. The agenda was approved with one addition for AOB section regarding the participation of Educational Council (EC) representatives to Jour fixe meetings.

### **2. Presentation of Organic Garden AG (<https://www.organicgarden.de/schools>)**

Nikita Stromberg, Director of operations at Organic Garden and Carola Petrone, Director of school nutrition at Organic Garden made a presentation of the company now in charge of the canteen at ESM.

Carola Petrone (former IlCielo manager) explained that IlCielo was merged with organic Garden in October 2022. She added that the situation didn't change for the ESM Parents association (PA) on a legal point of view but Nikita Stromberg pointed out that a new contract may help clarifying it. Organic Garden is a bigger company than IlCielo, with activities in 4 areas: high-tech organic farms, business nutrition, school nutrition and direct-to-consumer sales (online and city shops). Ideas and concepts of Organic Garden are the following: organic food, local products, attention to sustainability and CO2 emissions, plant-based nutrition for the future (with 15% meat products vs 85% plant-based products).

They said that the main contact would now be Nikita Stromberg but Carola Petrone would still be in charge of the nutrition plan and the daily management of canteen and kiosk. They mentioned that they would soon implement an immediate feedback solution at HS.

The question of the increase of food prices was raised. They replied that Organic Garden could keep the price unchanged (at the moment) thanks to their own organic farming and bulk-buying.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the Board Meeting of 14th December 2022**

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

### **4. Approval of the minutes of the extraordinary Board Meeting of 10th January 2023**

The minutes of the extraordinary Board Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January were approved.

## 5. Chairwoman's report

- Status of employees (**not for publication**): ...*omissis*...
- Interparents: The general rules of the European schools have been amended but, as some rules regarding insurance and liability may cause troubles for PAs activities, Interparents decided to hire a lawyer and prepared a letter of complaint signed by all the PAs.

## 6. Administrative Board

Daniel Pinilla Ariza reported on the Administrative Board of 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The following topics were discussed: implementation of the annual budget, preparation of the 2025 budget (no savings expected except for staff travel costs), enrolment of Ukrainian pupils and security at school. Andreas Kistner, security manager at ESM, said at the Administrative Board that the fire protection system would be updated at high school and that the German Ministry would pay to install new surveillance cameras in Neuperlach. He added that ESM would soon improve access and signage, including Braille, for people with special needs. Anne Ridings pointed out that ESM has still not communicated information on safety measures at ESM to parents. Katia Sittler replied she would mention that point at the next Jour fixe.

Daniel Pinilla Ariza informed the participants that decision-making on 3 important topics - the amendment of the Cat III. family's admission policy, the opening of a Spanish section at HS and the potential closure of a section - has been frozen for 1 year. EPO, main stake-holder at ESM, considered that there were too many opened questions regarding the HR internal policy and the evolution of pupils' numbers at ESM.

Katia Sittler added that the number of Cat. II pupils at ESM didn't increase and that no new contract / interested company has been mentioned at the meeting. Some participants at the administrative board mentioned for the first time the possible return to a school on one site.

Daniel Pinilla specified that current P4 and P5 pupils wouldn't be affected by a potential Spanish section at HS as a result of the freezing decision.

Daniel Pinilla Ariza also mentioned that seconded teachers are paid by each country and that EPO reimbursed each country partially. He said that EPO encountered difficulties with the reimbursement for some countries.

The [2023/2024 Holiday calendar](#) has been approved at the Administrative Board and published.

## 7. Pedagogical Projects (EN, KIGA, IT)

Italian section: Board members unanimously approved the projects presented at the December Board meeting by Magda Vecchi and allocated 1500€ to the different workshops and activities at GS and HS.

English section: Anne Ridings presented a Shakespeare project to be done in the Anglophone section for S3-S7 L1 pupils. Workshops, that are focused on Shakespeare, his plays and his language, would happen during English classes and be organised by the class teacher and an external actor. Board members unanimously approved the project and allocated 475€.

Kindergarten: Board members unanimously decided to support the first Kindergarten trip (since the corona crisis) to SeaLife in Munich and allocated 1500€ to the project presented by Konstantin Poullos.

SWALS: Katia Sittler reported that the SWALS team at GS would like to go ice skating with Swals pupils on February 9. Board members unanimously approved the project and allocated 300€.

## 8. Services updates

**Transport:** Maciej Madaliński said that a bus company reported damages of about 1200€ to the PA after finding that seat belts might have been cut by ESM pupils. Maciej said that the PA couldn't find

the names of the pupils involved and that someone would have to pay for the damages. Insurance of families could pay the repair costs. The problem is still being resolved.

**RUF:** Désirée Kandolo mentioned that an information day for EPO families has taken place at the Kindergarten and that 8 families showed interest. She added that registrations for the RUF winter holidays are in progress.

The PA is still in the contract negotiation phase with RUF for the following years. Désirée Kandolo specified that families and PA would like to amend the prices.

**Canteen:** Fabrizio Marrone said that the PA would now have to conclude a contract with the new canteen provider Organic Garden AG. He added that he would first inform the families by sending a newsletter.

## **9. IT update**

Flavio Carsughi said that Com21 appointed a project manager who would be in charge of the PA system and its main contact. The PA will no longer have the possibility of contacting the programmers directly. Flavio said he would schedule meetings with the new project manager and the PA board members in charge of services in the next weeks. He specified that the manager would have to be trained in the PA booking system and that Com21 must still deliver new developments by the end of March. Penalties may apply otherwise.

## **10. Any other business**

Vannessa Doublier Pritchard said that, as mentioned at the November joint Board meeting with Educational Council (EC) representatives, one representative of the EC would attend the Jour Fixe meetings together with the school management and the PA. In view of the Jour fixe of January 26, Katia Sittler provided ESM with the names of Vannessa Doublier Pritchard and Karsten Röski as they both are members of EC and PA. Vannessa explained that, even if her name has been mentioned at the November BM when discussing the topic of the evaluation of locally-hired teachers, it hasn't been established that she would be the representative of the EC at Jour fixe meetings. Katia Sittler agreed that EC and PA are 2 different bodies and that EC would have to name their representatives. She added that she would inform the school about that rule.

## **11. Next board meeting**

The next board meeting will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 18:30 pm (face-to-face, ESM Neuperlach). Board members were in favour of a face-to-face meeting (6 votes in favour, 4 abstentions and 4 in favour of a Teams meeting).

The meeting ended at 21:58 pm.

Minute writer

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Elise Chapoy