

Minutes of the Board Meeting of 21st May 2024

The meeting was held on site at the ESM in Neuperlach from 18:30 pm until 21:00 pm.

Attendees

Parents' association (PA) board members: Michael Bölter, Elise Chapoy, Vanessa Doublier Pritchard, Susanne Herrnberger, Esteban Hernández Castello, Désirée Kandolo, Inés Lampreia, Maciej Madaliński, Daniel Pinilla Ariza, Karsten Röski, Katia Sittler (chair), Antje Stoller, Xenia Tene, Magda Vecchi

Absent PA Board Members: Flavio Carsughi, Marcela Frank, Narjess Kraiem, Evert Küppers, Muriel Lepage, Konstantin Poullos, Mike Marqués, Fabrizio Marrone

Members of the Education Council (EC) (guests): Kerstin Arenz

1. Approval of the agenda

The chairwoman opened the meeting at 18:45 p.m. The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Board Meeting of 17th April 2024

The minutes of the board meeting held on April 17 were approved.

3. Jour Fix report of April 26, 2024

Karsten Röski reported on the PA Jour Fix with the school management on April 26.

- The school gave information on pupil numbers next year. The secondary school should have 1350 pupils, and the primary school should have 700 pupils (70 more than this school year). They specified that they get a lot of applications from potential Cat. III families, mainly for the French and Spanish sections. They mentioned that 7 new pupils would join the Dutch language section at primary and 4 at secondary. Katia Sittler said that SWALS pupil numbers should remain unchanged, and that ESM may give children tests to determine their dominant language. Daniel Pinilla added that testing Kindergarten children was difficult because they can be shy, and the result of the test might not be satisfactory.

- The ESM confirmed that there were a few Cat.II pupils with a private application and clarified that families who wish to join the ESM as Cat. II can't change their contract and move to Cat.III afterwards.

- The pupils of the present P5 SP would join as a group in one of the S1 DE classes next school year.

- ESM would allocate as many rooms as needed to RUF next year so that each interested family may have a place in the afternoon care.

- The last school week would be free for S1-S4 pupils and ESM would offer an alternative program to S1 and S2 classes. Susanne Herrnberger said that some S1-S4 pupils might want to volunteer at primary school during this week, and that she could provide the educational council parent representatives with a concept.

- Martin Duggen said that teachers at HS would like an update of the policy on the use of phones at school and suggested a full ban on phones. Kerstin Arenz promised to provide information on the topic (refer to section 7).

Vannessa Doublier Pritchard stressed that European schools would soon consider Intensive Support type A (ISA) and type B (ISB) pupils when forming classes. A pupil with ISA may, for example, count for two pupils in the future (more information about educational support and inclusive education: <https://www.eursec.eu/en/European-Schools/studies/educational-support>).

4. Pedagogical projects

P3 DE project: Susanne Herrnberger presented the project of two P3DE classes. Teachers organised a city-tour of Munich and would like the PA to fund the guides and transport costs for a total of 400 euros. Board members unanimously approved the project.

P1: As happens every year, the school management asked the PA if it might fund the lanyards for future P1 pupils for an amount of 530 euros. Board members unanimously approved the project.

Spanish section: Esteban Hernández Castello said that ESM would finally fund 50% of the theatre project that the PA accepted earlier. The section would like to use the 650 euros remaining to fund other projects. Esteban would present the projects at the next meeting.

Katia Sittler said that the organisation and funding of pedagogical projects have been a little chaotic this school year. She mentioned that the PA would have a meeting with ESM on that topic and that they would suggest letting the school manage the budget. A condition would be to keep language section representatives well informed of the projects.

5. Services update

Canteen: Katia Sittler mentioned the reopening of the main canteen at HS on May 13th. Vannessa Doublier Pritchard said that the PA, as a member of the working group on the new food policy, should be informed of interventions by external participants about veganism. Katia Sittler said that she would keep Fabrizio Marrone informed.

RUF: Désirée Kandolo said that she was waiting for the meeting with RUF at the end of June and had in the meantime, nothing to report.

NSA: Antje Stoller announced that the NSA's planning for next school year was ready. She also said that she was working on the booking system and, more precisely, on the deregistration process for families who have left the school. She would also discuss with the treasurer and the accountant the automatic deletion of invoices after 10 years.

Transport: Maciej Madaliński said that the registration for next school year is closed, and that the request number is approximately the same as this school year. Some families of future S6 or S7 pupils weren't aware of the fact that they must apply for the reduced tariff card directly with the Munich Transport Corporation.

Maciej also mentioned the case of the Ukrainian pupils living outside of Munich and their transport costs (730 € for the school bus or 73 € for the MVV card). The PA covered the transport fees for the last 2 years. ESM informed him that 3 primary pupils living outside of Munich should apply next school year for bus transportation and probably 11 secondary pupils for a MVV card. 29 Ukrainian pupils in total applied for a MVV card. Katia Sittler suggested voting on a budget of 7.000€ so that the PA might be able to cover the transport costs for all the Ukrainian families. She added that the vote would only be valid for 2024-2025 and that the PA would have to vote annually. Antje Stoller stressed that families should be made aware of the financial assistance and of the fact that it might be stopped. Maciej Madaliński added that ESM might finance half. Board members approved the budget of 7000 € to cover the 2024-2025 transport costs for Ukrainian families (10 PA board members voted in favour, 2 abstained).

Maciej also said that the contract of one of the bus companies has been terminated by the city of Munich and that the PA would inform concerned families of a possible discontinuation of the service.

6. Greek language section

Xenia Tene summarised the main points of the meeting of May 15 between ESM and the representatives of the Greek section.

New admission policy: The Greek representatives let ESM know that the new Cat. III policy caused a

difference in treatment between the Greek section and the other language sections. ESM answered that the difference was due to the low percentage of Cat. I families in the Greek section. The representatives pointed out that the Italian section had the same percentage of Cat. I pupils and was fully included in the new policy. The Italian section has nevertheless an important part of Cat. II families, which is not the case for the Greek section. Some PA board members stressed that the decision was probably budgetary. ESM said that they would get back to the representatives of the Greek section.

Combined classes: Xenia Tene said that there was a differential treatment between the sections when it came to the grouping of classes. Anastazija Avsec, director of primary, confirmed it and said that she planned to harmonize practices. Xenia said that each combined class of the Greek section would have up to six more pupils next school year and that the difference in treatment could no longer be.

7. Educational Council (EC) report

Kerstin Arenz reported on the last Educational Council meeting on May 15. She informed the participants that ESM rejected the proposal of the parents and pupils who wanted to organise a school trip for S4 pupils as a replacement for the former ski days. She also mentioned that the policy on the use of screens and phones was on the agenda. Teachers' representatives made a presentation and suggested drastically reducing the use of screens at school. The school management wanted no discussion on that topic during the EC meeting. Parents representatives suggested first implementing the current policy and providing data about the use of phones at ESM. Pupils and parents' representatives refused to participate in a working group at this stage. Parents would address that topic during the next Jour Fix. Kerstin Arenz stressed that PA board members should let the school management know that this topic falls under the mandate of EC parents' representatives when asked. Vanessa Doublier Pritchard added that Interparents might also work on that issue.

8. Any other business

Vanessa Doublier Pritchard informed the participants that Interparents would launch a working group on the dominant language and that she would soon forward information.

9. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will take place on June 19th at 18:30 pm (face-to-face, Limani Restaurant München).

The meeting ended at 21:00 pm.

Minute writer:

Elise Chapoy