

MEETING EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL 16.10.2023

Minutes common part

hybrid 16:15-17:00 h

Mr Hrovath opened the meeting of the Education Council. He pointed out that the purpose of this body is an advisory function.

1. Drawing up the agenda of the meeting of the Educational Council

He emphasized that discussions of individual concerns and requests should be avoided in this meeting and should rather be tackled in bilateral meetings. He quoted art. 21 §2 of the General Rules of the European Schools (Ref.: 2014-03-D-14-en-13)

"The task of the Education Councils shall be to seek optimum conditions for effective teaching and to promote positive and stimulating human relations. In particular, they shall seek to introduce all measures likely to highlight the school's European character. They may set up working groups. They may adopt resolutions for submission to the competent authorities of the European Schools. If the Director takes a decision which does not conform to a proposal made by the Education Council, he/she shall give his/her grounds for doing so. Discussions of individual cases must be excluded."

2. Update school start 2023-24

Mr. Hrovath reported a smooth school start thanks to the excellent team of nursery/primary and secondary and mentioned that school year 2022-23, the first post-corona school year, was very successful with promising PISA results, an excellent Whole School Inspection (WSI) report and a positive audit in the financial area. For school year 2023-24 one focus would be on the core business, teaching and learning with the school specific objective "students as active learners", the only recommendation from the WSI report. The second focus would be on "one school two sites" and the third focus on the future of the ESM, elaborated later on.

The activities and projects planned in 2023-24 would be as rich as last year, starting with a project week in the secondary next week and continuing with Christmas activities in November/ December.

The security situation especially in Fasangarten connected to the conflict in Israel would require further security measures in the Helene-Habermann-Gymnasium (HHG). The safety and security team were in contact with the relevant authorities and organisations and well prepared to master all challenges.

3. Future ESM: Revision Admission Policy/ Situation of the Dutch language section

Mr. Hrovath informed the Council regarding the situation and process which led to the proposal (document) which has been discussed in the recent Joint Teaching Committee (JTC) and will be discussed in the Financial Committee. A decision was expected in the Board of Governors beginning of December. Supported by a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment) he explained the situation and the concrete proposals.

A lively discussion took place in which the parents expressed their concerns and criticized that there was no consultation so far.

Mr. Hrovath explained that the working group of the main stakeholders got the mandate from the Administrative Board in January 2023 to present a proposal in the autumn meeting. This proposal has been approved by all members except the students. Also, in the JTC the proposal has been accepted with the remark of the students.

Furthermore, the parents raised the question regarding the SWALS of category 3 where they also felt excluded. Mr. Duggen replied that the ESM was complying with the rules. Mr. Hrovath pointed out that the document was a huge step forward to the future of the ESM since the management has put a lot of effort for longtime to open the school for category 3. Following the question of the parents, he confirmed that the extension of the Spanish section in the secondary cycle is actually not on the agenda but would be monitored carefully during the next three years.

4. Safety in Fasangarten

As already mentioned before, the school management was in close contact with the officials. All measures would be adopted immediately, but at the moment there was not information to strengthen the measures.