



MINUTES : ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING STRASBOURG EUROPEAN SCHOOL Monday 14th March 2011 at 6 :00p.m.

M. Bittmann, Director of Studies of EES, begins the meeting at 6 :15p.m.

Present :

- EES Management Team : M. Bittmann, Director of Studies, Mme Marlier, Nursery and Primary Headteacher
- Representative of the Rectorat and the Inspection Académique : M. Colinet, IA-IPR.
- Representatives of the Local Community : Mme Dreyer, Assistant Mayor, M. Zeter, Vice President of the Conseil Général du Bas-Rhin and M. Cochez, Director of Secondary Schools at the Conseil Régional d'Alsace
- Representative of the European Ombudsman : M. Amir-Tahmasseb
- Parent Representatives (APE-EES) : Mme Julien, Mme Kristensen, M. Vraux, M. Lodder and Mme Murphy
- Teacher Representatives : Mme Bykowa (German nursery section), Mme Molines (German primary section), Mme Winter (English primary section), Ms Lustig (English secondary section), M. Labergue (French secondary section).
- Pupil Representatives : Mlle Alexandrovski (S4 FR), M. Labergue(S4 FR).
- EES Secretary : Mme Pfeifer

Apologies : M. Bohn, (Assistant General Secretary, Rectorat), M. Ladaïque (National Education Assistant Inspector), Mme Rafik-Elmrini, (Assistant Mayor, Strasbourg), M. Mangin, (Regional Councillor for the Conseil Régional d'Alsace), Mme Schaal (Representative of the European Parliament), Mme Aslanidis (Educational Counsellor), Mlle Sbeiti (pupil representative).

Before beginning, M. Bittmann thanks the locally elected members of the committee, Mme Dreyer and M. Zeter.

1) Nomination of the Minute-Taker :

Mme Pfeifer.

The agenda is accepted unanimously.

2) Approval of the Advisory Committee minutes from November 9th 2010 :

The minutes are approved unanimously.

3) Preparation for September 2011 :

• Structure of EES :

The challenge is linked mainly to the development of the secondary classes as the nursery and primary classes won't change to any extent (the difficulty there lies only with finding enough sports facilities).

M. Bittmann presents the document titled ; "Structure Ecole Européenne Rentrée 2011" (Structure of the European School in September 2011):

As each year previously, an extra year level will be added: S3DE, S5EN and S5FR.

It is worth noting that there will be only 18 pupils per class in the German secondary classes : there can be up to 25 pupils in each class however there is little demand.

The opening of S5 (known as « Lycée » in the French system) has consequences in French law and the pupils are entitled to new rights. It is therefore necessary to reflect on the development of EES.

Cycle secondaire : 70 boulevard d'Anvers 67000 STRASBOURG Tel : 03 88 61 99 49 Fax : 03 88 61 99 51

Email : ecole.europeenne@ac-strasbourg.fr

Cycles maternel et primaire : 6 rue de Wallonie 67000 STRASBOURG Tel : 03 90 40 84 52 Fax : 03 90 40 84 61

Email : ce.0673016p@ac-strasbourg.fr

The specific situation of the S4 pupils (future S5) could lead to pupils leaving : leaving at the end of a « cycle »; pupils with difficulties not being able to go up to S5 ; certain pupils wish to join the Lycée des Pontonniers (international section or Abibac).

The desire to leave EES is not linked to the education offered by the school but the pupils talk about wishing to enter a real « lycée » and not remain in a « collège ».

Elisabeth Alexandrovski, pupil representative, explains that the S4 pupils are disappointed at the prospect of staying in a « collège » even if they appreciate the European school system

9 pupil applications have been registered at the Lycée des Pontonniers.

Actions undertaken for the S4 pupils, changes :

- Organisation of a meeting between pupils, parents and teachers to prepare for S5.
- Visit to the European School of Karlsruhe Open Day to allow pupils to envisage S5, S6 & S7.
- Possibly a trip to the European School of Luxembourg.
- School rules to be adapted.
- Choice of options to prepare for the European baccalauréat.
- School canteen : there will no longer be sufficient places at collège Vauban ; the pupils will go to Lycée Cassin which can hold around 150 pupils from EES.

M. Vraux presents the network of European schools of chemistry in Europe : this enables links to be constructed to promote the sciences in Europe.

The most pessimistic view for pupil numbers in S5 would be 8 pupils in S5EN and 12 pupils in S5FR. This would allow places to be made available for other pupils : information will go out to families of the pupils in 3^{ème} (S4 equivalent) of the international sections and bilingual sections of other schools who have a strong ability in L2.

M. Bittmann is looking to take an active step by offering a different proposition to that of Lycée des Pontonniers ; the admission procedures are not the same: there is no general test to enter EES, for example.

M. Labergue and Ms Lustig are worried about the academic level of pupils arriving in S5 and it will be important to study the entry applications carefully. Exams at EES are difficult and pupils must work consistently.

Mme Julien specifies that the motivation behind the application is very important and that the pupils and their families must not have a consumer attitude.

- **Admission for the school year 2011/2012 :**

Applications can be made online until April 10th 2011. 270 applications have already been received up to now.

There is huge demand for the first year of nursery, primary and secondary; the M1FR class has 24 places but there are more than this number when the categories A, B1 and B2 are grouped together. Thus, the actual admission criteria are no longer sufficient and new criteria must be drawn up. Propositions will be made to Mme l'Inspectrice d'Académie who will decide.

The propositions could be:

- Necessity to study the profile of the pupil.
- Belgian method: lottery with a « huissier » (bailiff) as witness.
- Privileged brothers and sisters rather than the categories.

Mme Dreyer mentions the importance of defining the admission criteria before studying the applications to remain fair.

In France, privileging brothers and sisters represents a right to « family grouping » except for bilingual classes and classes with special hours such as music and dance.

Mme Julien understands the constraints of prioritising but wonders about the welfare of families who already have children at EES.

Ms Lustig also questions the admission problem for the children of members of staff.

M. Vraux specifies that selection is difficult and it is important to remain objective.

M. Amir-Tahmasseb intervenes to remark that certain situations have exceptional circumstances and that these must be taken into account.

M. Zeter mentions also the importance of family grouping but Strasbourg has other schools; it is essential to define clearly the admissions criteria without creating too many categories. Why not the lottery system? It is unassailable.

- **Teachers :**

Primary : few changes; there will be some extra hours for English as a foreign language.

Secondary :

The teachers in the secondary are attached to EES but some only in a temporary role ; several positions will be created for September 2011 : French, maths (for the 3 language sections), music, art, sport, history, geography and German.

These positions will be included in the « mouvement national » (positions available); it is an internal procedure of the Education Nationale. If the positions are not filled during this phase, a second phase will begin with the publication of the positions on the school website.

Contracted teachers can then be employed: the school is also looking for a physics and chemistry teacher (English), a Latin teacher, a German teacher and an English teacher.

- **Premises :**

Primary : no change.

Secondary : the current temporary buildings will be removed and replaced by a building holding 13 classrooms of different sizes on 3 floors.

4) The future of EES after 2011 :

EES Audit :

The EES project will be validated for the next two years by the audit report of the governing body of the European schools in April 2011.

M. Bittmann presents the inspectors recommendations following the audit (see page 2 of the document "Conclusions et propositions").

Therefore, the change of status for EES could be accepted as a pedagogical experiment of schools with a shared base.

The pilot committee will also be meeting on April 4th 2011 in order to validate the « cahier des charges » (budget) ; the bidding for construction of the building will be open until September 2011.

These recommendations are valid for 2, possibly 3 years.

Next, the school must request permission to open classes S6 and S7 : an application of conformity will be submitted before April 2012.

In September 2012, around 1000 m² of buildings will be installed on the car park of the Inspection Académique in order to hold the pupils from the older age classes (secondary).

Financial contribution to the European School :

Each type II European school benefits from an annual grant which is prorata to the number of pupils of category A1. The grant which will be paid in 2011 will correspond to the grant due for 2009/2010 and for that due for 2010/2011. Accordingly, Brussels wants the list of pupils names who are entitled to this grant.

The question now is how to receive and spend the grants : discussions are underway with the local authorities.

M. Bittmann proposes to consult the Advisory Committee for the division of the grants.

Mme Julien is delighted with this proposition ; the specific aspect of EES creates extra costs and this grant would allow the school to manage these costs. She notably suggests employing a secretary for Mme Marlier.

Mme Dreyer underlines the need for transparency concerning the spending of the grants. She explains that it is not possible to use the money for administrative reasons, only for pedagogical reasons.

M. Amir-Tahmasseb asks for the Ombudsman to be included in the pilot committee.

5) Minutes from the working groups :

• **Solidarity (Charity) :**

The solidarity project is presented by Mme Molines. Several actions have already taken place with the association which helps children living in the streets in Uganda: they have already raised around 900 euros, thus enabling participation in a bigger project ; for example, 112 children have been returned to their families, 2 homes have been built, several children have been allocated funds to return to school, ...

The next steps will be the bring and buy sale at the primary school and solidarity day on April 14th. A sale of watches is also planned : the selling price will be 17 euros and around 2-3 euros will go to the solidarity project.

Another project is being studied : exchanges with travelling children on a local level.

• **Autoevaluation :**

Objective : to measure whether what is done at school conforms to the expectations of the European school system.

M. Labergue explained that he is in discussions with a teacher in the European school of Karlsruhe.

• **Identity :**

Objective : to have a shared vision of what the school is and what is to be done.

A questionnaire about identity has been set up by Mme Bensalah and Mme Epstein. The pupils and the families have until March 28th to return them.

An easier questionnaire was created for the nursery and P1, P2 classes.

• **Transition :**

Actions taken :

- Meetings between P5 and S1 : more time must be taken than last year : 2 pupils from P5 will spend a day in an S1 class with an S1 pupil as mentor.
- "Mathématiques sans frontières" (maths without boundaries) for P5 and S1.
- The M2 pupils will spend ½ day in the P1 classes in small groups.
- Shared singing between M2DE and P1/2DE.
- L2 sports days in February and June.
- Poetry day.
- Lesen Nacht : the pupils of S1 will be going into the P4 P5 classes.

• **Comenius :**

Project title : "Our planet, understanding the present to prepare for the future".

A trip to Helsinki was undertaken in November 2010 with the 5 partner schools.

The next trip will be to Manosque from March 26th to March 30th 2011.

On September 29th, Strasbourg will welcome the partner schools.

A shared project is undertaken, for example, a display or play or the creation of board games.

The difficulty of this project is in the communication : the creation of a blog which all member schools can contribute to may help.

6) **Any other business :**

• **Other school projects :**

- Trip to Lyon for the S4 classes at the end of the year : pupils participate in the preparation of the trip.
- Trip to Bibracte for the S1 classes : the number of children attending is increasing, thus creating extra costs ; they must leave on Sunday (as opposed to Monday in previous years) in order to take part in all the activities ; cost estimated at around 300 euros.
- Project for 4 pupils from S4 to go to Australia during the summer holidays as part of an exchange programme : 8 weeks will be spent in a school there.
- Pedagogical day on May 2nd 2011 : the pupils will not have lessons and the teachers will have meetings; the after-school care and the canteen will operate as normal.
The APE-EES has already given its agreement in principle.
- All primary schools will be closed on Friday 3rd June 2011 (decision of the Ville de Strasbourg).

Cycle secondaire : 70 boulevard d'Anvers 67000 STRASBOURG Tel : 03 88 61 99 49 Fax : 03 88 61 99 51

Email : ecole.europeenne@ac-strasbourg.fr

Cycles maternel et primaire : 6 rue de Wallonie 67000 STRASBOURG Tel : 03 90 40 84 52 Fax : 03 90 40 84 61

Email : ce.0673016p@ac-strasbourg.fr

Proposition from M. Bittmann to also close the secondary classes, lessons will be caught up during the afternoon of June 15th 2011. This proposition is validated by the Advisory Committee.

- Lessons will finish at the end of the school day on June 27th 2011 for the pupils of collège Vauban in order for building works to begin, but not for the pupils of EES.
- May 9th 2011 Europe Day; M. Amir-Tahmasseb proposes that a visit to the parliament be organised for that day, parliament will be in session. This could be suitable for the pupils of S4. M. Bittmann will make an official request to the Ombudsman.
- June 18th 2011: Kermesse (School fair).

• **APE-EES :**

Mme Murphy attended a meeting organised by InterParents on February 8th 2011 : this involved a round table of parents from type I and type II European schools.

Several subjects were discussed, which led to the conclusion that EES operates normally ; the difficulty at Manosque is the separation of the international and european sections; there are many SWALS at Dunshauglin ; there are many problems in Parma where they have the feeling of being too close to the Italian system ; there are budgetary problems in the type I schools which means some lessons are cancelled ; there is a marked increase in the importance of the type II European schools, ...

Meeting secretary
Mme Pfeifer

Meeting president
Mr Bittmann, Director of Studies