



Minutes ESCPH Board Meeting

Date: Monday 27 February 2023
Time: 16:30-18:00
Venue: Staff Lounge, 2nd Floor, European School Copenhagen
Members: Andreas Manville (EEA), Kira Peter-Hansen (MEP and External Member), Christen Bagger (ESCPH Parent), Margo Rachat Nielsen (ESCPH Parent), Stéphanie Horion (ESCPH Parent), Laure Conte (ESCPH Parent), Maya Chang Hansen (ESCPH Student), Harry Møller Hansen (ESCPH Student alternate), Sebastian Leiholt (ESCPH Student), Johan Lindell (ESCPH Staff), Rasmus Hornecker (ESCPH Staff), Anette Holst (Principal ESCPH & SAG), Julie Rørdam Thom (Deputy Principal ESCPH)
Guests: Hella Helvig Jensen (Head of Administration ESCPH), Helle Bjerre Degn (Head of Primary ESCPH)
Apologies: Hans Bruyninckx (Executive Director EEA & Deputy Chair ESCPH Board)
Minutes: Helene Kristensen

ESCPH Board Meeting

Agenda:

1. Approval of the agenda (decision) - 1 min.

Annex 1.1 - Agenda ESCPH Board Meeting 20230227

Julie Thom invited all members of the board to introduce themselves and welcomed Kira Peter-Hansen as new member of the board.

The board needs to elect a new chairperson. The election is expected at the next board meeting in April.

Decision:

- The agenda was approved by the board.

2. Approval of the minutes of the ESCPH board meeting 13 December 2022 (decision) - 1 min.

Annex 2.1 - ESCPH DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes 20221213

Decision:

- The board approved the minutes from the ESCPH board meeting on 13 December 2023.

Annex 2.1 Minutes ESCPH Board Meeting 20230227

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3. **Strategic focus points 2022/23 – Develop network with external collaborative partners (discussion) – 30 mins.**

Annex 3.1 – Strategic Focus Points ESCPH 2022_2023

Purpose: To discuss the strategic focus point on developing network with external collaborative partners

Julie Thom presented the 2022-2023 strategic focus point on developing network with external collaborative partners and explained how ESCPH continuously works with this focus point.

- Mobility Programme

Julie Lesbre, teacher in the Upper Secondary, presented the Mobility Programme. The Mobility Programme is an exchange programme for S4 and S5 students between all the European Schools. Julie Lesbre explained that she is the Mobility coordinator at ESCPH, and she organises the application process and collaborates with the other European Schools.

The Mobility Programme exists to give the students an opportunity to experience different cultural and educational environments, as well as to improve their academic skills and their language skills. They are, e.g., placed with a host family that speak their L2.

- Staff trip to Brussels

Julie Thom presented the ESCPH staff trip to Brussels as important in developing the school's network. To organise this trip, the school collaborated with staff at the European School in Uccle.

Julie Thom explained that this was rewarding for the teachers, who gained valuable contacts to reach out to and collaborate with. Furthermore, the trip contributed to a great connection between staff.

- Lower Secondary work experience

Harry Møller Hansen talked about the S3 and S4 students' recent work experience weeks. Harry Møller Hansen presented his own trip to Brussels and experience at an IT company for a week. Maya Chang Hansen also presented her work experience week at a veterinary clinic that included observing and assisting surgeries.

- Carlsberg

Helle Degn explained the school's connection to Carlsberg given the school's location in Carlsberg Byen. It has been discussed how the school can collaborate with them. For example, Carlsberg's horse wagon will be part of the school's Halloween parade, and during the Lucia parade, the school's students usually go to Hotel Ottilia as well.

- Teachers University



Helle Degn presented the school's participation in Teachers University, which is a teacher-student exchange. Currently, there are two students from teaching schools in France at the school.

- Deutsche Sprachdiplom

Helle Degn explained that ESCPH now offers Deutsche Sprachdiplom. This means that the students can take tests during Primary and Secondary, and graduate with a diploma which corresponds to the German version of Cambridge English. This effort is supporting the German part of the school seeing as it does not have its own language section.

4. **2023 budget for Primary, Lower Secondary and After School Care (decision) - 15 mins.**

Annex 4.1 – 2023 Budget for Primary, Lower Secondary and ASC DA

Annex 4.2 – 2023 Budget for Primary, Lower Secondary and ASC EN

Purpose: Hella Helvig Jensen will present the 2023 budget for Primary, Lower Secondary and After School Care for endorsement by the Board before it is submitted to the Campus Board for final approval.

Hella Helvig Jensen presented the 2023 budget for Primary, Lower Secondary and the KKFO. It was explained that the budget follows the City of Copenhagen's budget model like other schools within the municipality. However, we receive a special grant because we are a European School.

Key points:

- Regarding salary, we have budgeted for a new deputy head in management, extra resources for parental leave as well as a larger French section.
- Skoleflex and BUFFlex are grants the municipality cover 1:1 throughout the year, so this is not taken into account in the budget.
- The particular costs, e.g., rent, are also covered 1:1 by the municipality.
- Teaching related expenses decrease because the Brussels trip was taken into account in 2022.
- The municipality have created new accounts for more nuanced budget control. We now have accounts for IT, Copydan, inventory, and cleaning.
- Expenses related to Ukrainian children are also covered 1:1 by the municipality.
- We had a surplus in 2022 that we are bringing into the budget in 2023.
- The Culinary School has a large deficit, and we are also budgeting for a deficit in the Culinary School in 2023.
- All in all, we are budgeting with a surplus of DKK 614,000.



Margo Rachat Nielsen asked if inflation had been considered for the budget of the Culinary School seeing as food prices have gone up and this might have a large impact. Julie Thom responded that the economic situation of the Culinary School is not satisfactory, but the 2022 budget was set up more than a year ago.

Andreas Manville asked about the price of the food at the school and how much is sold. Hella Helvig Jensen responded that we have many children buying food – around 60-70% - which are some of the highest numbers within the municipality.

Stéphanie Horion asked about the budget for SWALS students. Hella Helvig Jensen responded that it is expensive to have SWALS students and we cannot foresee how many we will have.

Hella Helvig Jensen presented the budget overview for the After School Care. It was explained that they have their own budget frame. The budget for 2023 shows a surplus of DKK 319,000. Staff expenses is increased to DKK 200,000 as there is a wish for a pedagogical day for the pedagogues.

5. Admission

• Primary

Helle Degn explained that the school has received close to 300 applications for the new nursery classes. Around 150 of those children have been invited for screenings beginning 28th of February 2023. The children invited for screenings have been chosen based on category, age as well as their kindergarten reports.

Helle Degn explained that we have received the most applications for the English section, whereas we have received the least for the French section – around 25-30.

Laure Conte added to this that it can be difficult for some French parents that the Danish school system starts at a later age compared to France. This might lead to stress among French parents regarding school readiness.

• Lower Secondary

Julie Thom explained that the deadline for applications to the new S1FR has been extended. It is currently the plan to create an entirely French class. If this is not possible, it will become a Danish/French combination class. Rolling admission for Lower Secondary will also be assessed soon.

• Upper Secondary

Julie Thom explained that students can apply for the new S5 classes until 13th of March this year, as the process is different. After this deadline, the Ministry of Children and Education will send us the applicants we have from Optagelse.dk.



6. Various updates and information - 10 mins.

- Information from the students

Upper Secondary students have recently received school reports and preliminary grades and are currently preparing for the bac exams. The students have recently had two very successful parties with Vibenshus Gymnasium. The Upper Secondary Student council have recently passed their bylaws, and have also recently sent two representatives to a European School union meeting in Brussels, for which they received a partial grant from the PA.

In Lower Secondary, they have had success with securing plastic containers with pads in the bathrooms for students. The student council are currently preparing a video for a Danske Skoleelever-competition to win money for some of their projects.

- Information from the staff

In Primary and Lower Secondary, it has been a relatively quiet school year post-Corona and time to focus on getting back to normal.

In Upper Secondary, the teachers have been working hard on the pre-bacs and giving grades.

7. Information from management - 15 mins.

- Bac preparations - exams and proclamation

Julie Thom informed the board that the proclamation date is officially on 1st of July, 2023. This is a week alter than the rest of the schools in Denmark. The students' last exams will be on the Thursday, they will receive their results on Friday, and then the proclamation on Saturday. The school is still communicating with universities about what the European Bacculaureate is.

- New staff/recruitment

Helle Degn informed the board that we have been missing a Deputy Head of Primary since August, but that Rikke Groth Nielsen has now been hired. Management is looking forward to being at full capacity again.

Helle Degn also informed that Robert van Leeuwen will be taking on the position as Head of Lower Secondary, filling in for Madelaine Kirk who will go on maternity leave in May. Some tasks will also be covered by other teachers, who will be given the time to fulfil these tasks.

- SAG/ESCPH separation

Anette Holst informed the board that the separation of SAG and ESCPH was given its first reading in parliament last week, and that if all goes well, it will be approved in April. The next step is that it needs to pass in Borgerrepræsentationen, which we also expect that it does. Separation is expected to take effect from August 1st, 2023.

- Parents Association

Stéphanie Horion informed the board that Greta Lempel has stepped down as chair of the Parents Association but is still active as a member. Aarushi Singh is the new chair of



the Parents Association, Margo Rachat Nielsen is the treasurer, while a new deputy chair is still needed.

8. AOB - 5 mins.

Margo Rachat Nielsen asked about a spam email from a former employee. Anette Holst explained that it came from a former temporary employee at Sankt Annæ, whose contract was not prolonged.

Margo Rachat Nielsen asked about the use of elevators at the school when children have injuries and use crutches etc. Julie Thom explained that students are given keys for the elevators by the administration when needed.

Margo Rachat Nielsen asked about safety and emergency management at the school. Julie Thom responded that the school is updating and working on emergency management guidelines, and that people from Beredsskabsstyrelsen have visited the school in this regard.

Julie Thom informed the board that the school has a new website. Laure Conte commented that it is nice to see that the school is active online and on social media.