

Minutes ESCPH Board Meeting

Date: Thursday 12 December 2024
Time: 17:00-18:00
Venue: 214, 2nd Floor, European School Copenhagen
Members: Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen (External Member), Margo Rachat (ESCPH Parent), Stéphanie Horion (ESCPH Parent), Laure Conte (ESCPH Parent), Signe Severinsen (ESCPH Staff), Rasmus Hornecker (ESCPH Staff), Muskan Asim (ESCPH Student), Saanvi Parija (ESCPH Student), Søren Nielsen (Deputy, Andreas Manville, EEA), Caroline Warner (Deputy, Christen Bagger, ESCPH Parent), Özkan Güler (Director ESCPH)
Guests: Helle Bjerre Degn (Deputy Director), Hella Helvig Jensen (Head of Administration)
Apologies: Kira Peter-Hansen (MEP and External Member), Laura Rosenvinge (Copenhagen City Council and External Member), Andreas Manville (EEA and External Member), Christen Bagger (ESCPH Parent)
Minutes: Helene Kristensen

ESCPH Board Meeting

Agenda:

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

Annex 1.1 - Agenda ESCPH Board Meeting 20241212

Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen chaired the meeting in Kira Peter-Hansen's absence.

Decision:

- The board approved the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the ESCPH board meeting 3 October 2024 (decision) – 1 min.

Annex 2.1 - Draft ESCPH Board Meeting Minutes 20241003

Decision:

- The board approved the minutes.

3. Budget for Upper Secondary 2025 (decision) - 15 min.

Annex 3.1 - Budget for Upper Secondary 2025 DA

Annex 3.2 - Budget for Upper Secondary 2025 EN

Purpose: The board needs to approve the 2025 budget for Upper Secondary.

Hella Helvig Jensen presented the 2025 budget for the Upper Secondary.

The budget has been made with the entries that the municipality allows. It is prepared based on management's expectations for future operations, and therefore has the character of a future assessment.

Key points:

- The Finance Act for 2025 has now been enacted but it did not give cause for budget corrections.
- Upper Secondary is expected to admit 80 students in the 3 new S5 classes in August 2025.
- GL and AC have negotiated a 3.34% increase in pensions through the collective agreement with KL. This causes a rise in teaching costs that the state does not cover, as it is the municipality and KL that have overseen these negotiations.
- The school is currently working with the municipality and The Child and Youth Administration to find a solution as the state does not account for the rise of cost on a municipal level.
- From 2026, we will see the full effect of the increase in pensions.
- The grants increase year by year as Upper Secondary enrolls more students. Especially the completion rate (*Færdiggørelsestakst*) which we receive per graduating student.
- The grants from UVM and the Municipality are fixed rates.
- Overall, the budget for 2025 is tight.

Decision:

- The board approved the 2025 budget for the Upper Secondary.

4. Strategic focus point 1: All students should develop to reach their potential (discussion) – 20 min.

Annex 4.1 – Strategic focus points 2024-2025

Purpose: Management will present strategic focus point 1: All students should develop to reach their potential. The focus will be on the development of the Lower Secondary department.

Helle Degn presented strategic focus point 1: *All students should develop to reach their potential* with a focus on the development of the Lower Secondary department.

There have been many changes over the past five years, which has, in some ways, been challenging for the framework and structure of Lower Secondary. Helle Degn now also oversees Lower Secondary as Deputy Director, focusing on its development.

Key points:

- Teachers and management currently meet weekly to support this development
- There is a wish for more frequent feedback and dialogue between students, teachers, and management
- Learning conversations and celebrations are developing under a new framework
- Students experience pressure revolving around B-tests. We are working on including B-tests more in the teaching and lessons to relieve the pressure.

The Lower Secondary Children's Rights & Student Council (a combined council) have decided on their common goals:

- No discrimination (in collaboration with SSP)
- Student voice – through work with the student-driven newspaper, the sustainability committee, the democratic election process for both councils, and running the student gala
- Physical space (reading area and toilets)
 - o There's been a well-being survey for the students. Areas where students didn't feel safe include the toilets. This mainly concerned younger students meeting older students. The doors will be switched to glass doors to increase visibility into the open handwashing areas.
 - o An area for Lower Secondary students to relax is being developed

5. Various updates and information – 15 mins.

• Information from students

Lower Secondary

The student council is currently working with discrimination as their focus point. They are working on receiving more anonymous inputs from students.

There is a lot of focus on well-being and stress levels during B-tests, especially for the S4s.

Upper Secondary

The student council is working with DGS – Danske Gymnasieelevers Sammenslutning. They are also working on getting more involved with other

European Schools and Accredited European Schools, for example through CoSEEA and participation in EuroSports and the Model European Parliament.

Some students have expressed that they feel a certain degree of miscommunication between students and teachers regarding grading and the grading process and the student council is working on this with management.

- **Information from staff**

Primary and Lower Secondary

Primary and Lower Secondary are working with the processes around management change, and it is going well.

Upper Secondary:

The teachers in Upper Secondary expressed their wish for a meet and greet with Øzkan Güleriyüz. This was set up and was very successful.

The science hub in Upper Secondary will be refurbished and both teachers and students are excited about this.

- **Information from management**

Primary held their annual Christmas Concert today where the parents from P0 – P5 visited. It was a success. There will be a common assembly on the last day before Christmas as well.

We have started the process for admission to new nursery classes. We are focusing on attracting more applicants for the French section, for example, we are creating a French video and will host a French open house event.

The annual orientation evening in Upper Secondary is on 21st of January. We are advertising online, and everyone is welcome to spread the word.

We are working on a school sign by the entrance towards Ny Carlsberg Vej and traffic signs. We are also working on upgrading the staff lounge.

6. AOB – 5 mins.

Øzkan Güleriyüz informed the board that Kira Peter-Hansen and himself are working on having a seminar for the board with an external facilitator in order to strengthen how we work professionally on the board.