



Minutes for the European School Copenhagen School Board Meeting

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| Date: | December 8th 2015 |
| Time: | 16.30-18.00 hrs |
| Venue: | At Skolen i Sydhavnen, 1st floor, the room next to the library. |
| Members: | Poul Toftdahl, Caroline Warner, Henriette Vollmers-Hansen, Joel Samaha, Anette Holst, Hanne Schmidt. |
| Excuses: | Hans Bryuninckx, Rasmus Hornecker, Jonas Christoffersen |
| Minutes: | Liv Gunnarsen |

Agenda

1) The agenda was approved.

In the absence of Hans Bryuninckx and Jonas Christoffersen, Anette Holst chaired the meeting.

2) The minutes from board meeting 29-10-2015 was approved.

3) Information from Hanne Schmidt:

- **Orientation Meeting**

Hanne informed that the school organised its yearly orientation meeting on the 23rd of November 2015. The meeting was well attended. Anette Holst and Hanne Schmidt were both present as well as two teachers from the nursery cycle and two from the primary cycle. Caroline Warner was also there as a representative for the parents. After the presentations, the potential parents had the opportunity to talk to the teachers, the management, and Caroline, as well as seeing the classrooms and facilities on the third floor. There was a lot of interest from the parents and many questions. Hanne also informed, that the school has so far received almost 200 applications for the nursery classes 2016, and are expecting more before the deadline on December 31st.



- **Study Trips**

Hanne informed that the school on December 3th and 4th organised a study trip for the teachers to the European school in Helsinki. The purpose of the trip was to strengthen the teachers knowledge of the European Schools vision, curriculum and methods. The European School in Helsinki has an English, a Finnish, and a French section. The school in Helsinki was chosen because they are similar to ESCPH, being a Type 2 school and having a pedagogical approach close to the Danish tradition. During the trip the teachers was also introduced to the new Finnish school reform.

Joel added that it had been a good experience for the teachers. They had all learned a lot from the way of teaching, for example the Finnish teachers organised a lot of group work in smaller groups. The Finnish teachers also shared a lot of resources and experiences.

Hanne also informed that the pedagogues are going on a study trip to Bruxelles on December 10th and 11th.

- **Process for developing anti-bullying strategy**

Hanne informed that the school has started the process of developing an anti-bullying strategy. The process has started by informing the staff, and in January a pedagogical consultant and educator connected to the program "Fri for mobberi", from "Red Barnet" will come to an All staff meeting. The process will continue during the spring and staff, parents and board will be involved.

Henriette commented that the pupils should also be heard during the process.

4) New European School at Carlsberg (information)

Hanne informed that on November 27th, Carlsberg were hosting the official reception on the building of the new school. All stakeholders were invited. The architects, politicians and representatives from the City of Copenhagen, as well as representatives from the foundations that have given donations to the project. The members of ESCPH's School Board were also invited. It was a good event and all stakeholders were happy about the project. The municipality highlighted that the project fits well into the surroundings at Carlsberg.

Anette Holst presented the new building, going through the project book. The new building will be in blocks; primary, secondary, administration and the gym. The blocks are linked together so it is possible to walk between the different blocks. Anette mentioned that due to the limited space, the recreational areas for the older children is limited. There are some areas, but it might not be enough.

Henriette asks about the security. She is concerned that the buildings are open to the rest of Carlsberg and asks if there are plans to build a fence around the school. Anette answers that it is wasn't a part of the plan for the building at the moment.

Henriette asks about whether Sankt Annæ will be placed in a building close to ESCPH.



Anette answered that the municipality haven't made a decision about this yet. So Sankt Annæ might have to start working on alternative solutions, while waiting for the Municipality's decision.

5) Quality Report for the European School 2015 (decision)

Anette Holst shortly presents the sections of the report.

Under the section "School presentation" she mentions that the values are not decided upon yet. The board decided that they should stay in the report.

Poul asks about the numbers under key figures. He would like to know how many children were in the English and in the Danish section.

Hanne answers that the school doesn't have these numbers and that it was very difficult at the time, when the numbers were recorded to get the right numbers, because some children did not yet have cpr numbers and couldn't be registered in the KMD system.

It was suggested that the school tjeck if they can find the numbers.

Under the section "Academic standards" Anette informs that there is no data yet. But starting from 2016 the 2nd grade from the Danish section will take part in the National Tests and the teachers from the English section are developing something similar for the pupils in the English section.

Under the section "Equal opportunities" Anette explains that the pupil group at ESCPH is a little different from other general schools in Copenhagen. In terms of equal opportunities the school therefore has focus on language.

Caroline asks why there is no considerations about gender under this section.

Anette explains that it is not part of the data that the municipality gathers for the report.

Caroline suggests that it should be.

Under the section "Transition to youth education" there is not much to report yet, since the pupils at ESCPH are still small, but the European Baccalaureate is an integrated part of the European School education.

Under the section "Well being" the report goes through some of the ESCPH results from the National Examination of the well being of pupils.

Poul asks if we have a number for how many children from ESCPH answered the questions.

Hanne said that we don't know, but will try to find out.

Joel comments that the questions in the examination are very leading. If the school wants to get real knowledge on the well-being of the pupils we could consider doing our own examination. Then the pupils from the English section could also take part.

After the presentation of the Quality Report 2015, it was approved by the board.

6) From the Parents Council: KKFO (information)

Henriette handed out minutes from the parents advisory council meeting at the KKFO in september. She will send out these minutes to all ESCPH board members.

Caroline introduced the issue with the KKFO. She explained that the children are not allowed in some areas of the KKFO and are not invited to take part in certain activities. Those issues are then combined with the unfortunate message send by SIS in meetings, eg. at the Parents Advisory Council of the KKFO, as seen in the minutes handed out by Henriette.

Henriette adds that some of the problem is about the way ESCPH parents are talked to by the management of the KKFO. They talk to the parents like they are not wanted. There has also been conflicts between children from ESCPH and children from SIS, that the ESCPH parents did not feel was taken seriously by SIS/the KKFO.

Caroline mentions that during the last couple of weeks the KKFO has opened up more of the areas to the ESCPH children. She also feels that there is a lack of communication between the departments of the KKFO which can add to the problem.

Henriette says, the issue is that there is a feeling amongst the ESCPH parents that the children are being treated differently.

Caroline adds that the issue is that all parents are paying for the same service and therefore should be getting the same service regardless of the school they are from. The parents from ESCPH do not have the possibility to choose a different KKFO and they should be treated with the same respect as other parents.

Joel asks if there is something the teachers can do during the day to support a better cooperation? Joel mentions that the teachers have a good cooperation with the teachers from SIS.

Henriette says that it would be good with initiatives from the bottom up.

Anette welcomes Joel's proposal and says that the school must work in different ways to further a good everyday cooperation with the KKFO, but that as a board they do not have any competences regarding the KKFO.

Henriette suggest that they reach out to the parents at the other school. And invite them to see ESCPH and meet the parents and children from the school.

Anette comments that she thinks that focus should be on the everyday cooperation.

Caroline concludes, that there is now awareness of the issues and supports the aim to strengthen the everyday cooperation. Caroline also mentions from the discussion in the Parents Council, that some parents also like the KKFO.



7) Miscellaneous

Henriette asks if it is possible to get the code for the elevator.
Hanne informs that at the moment there is no code, but a chip.