

# Minutes for the European School Copenhagen School Board Meeting

Date:	April 14th 2015
Time:	19.15-20.45 hrs
Venue:	At Sankt Annæ Gymnasium
Members:	Poul Toftdahl, Caroline Warner, Henriette Vollmers-Hansen, Joel Samaha, Rasmus Hornecker, Jonas Christoffersen, Anette Holst, Hanne Schmidt.
Excuses:	Hans Bryuninckx
Minutes:	Liv Gunnarsen

## **Agenda:**

### **1) The fence towards the harbour.**

Hanne Schmidt informed the board that SIS and the municipality are planning to remove the fence between the harbour and the playground. Hanne asked for the board's support in asking the municipality to keep the existing fence or a smaller marking fence for safety reasons. She explained that originally it was not planned to have a fence towards the harbour, but that a temporary fence was put up at the request of the ESCPH. She has contacted the municipality and they are willing to participate in a meeting about the fence.

The board supported the wish to keep a fence between the playground and the harbour for safety reasons.

Jonas Christoffersen added that it could be relevant to hear Elsebeth from the Campus Board who works at the municipality about safety regulations.

Caroline Warner added that she had looked into the issue and there are certified playground inspectors that the school can contact for an assessment of the safety at the playground.

**It was decided that Hanne Schmidt will organise a meeting with the municipality about the issue and look into the possibility of having a playground inspector assess the playground.**

## **2) The progress of the work developing the strategic focus points for the school year 2016/17.**

Hanne Schmidt informed the board about the school's progress in developing the strategic focus points for the school year 2016/17. So far the school plans five strategic focus points and three of them are continued from school year 2015/16. Hanne Schmidt shortly presented each point on draft basis to the board.

- European School identity (continued from 2015/16):
  - European School values and traditions
  - Staff knowledge of the European School system
  - Cooperation with other European Schools

Because the school is still new it is important to continue to focus on introducing new teachers, students and parents to the European School System. This will be done by developing values and traditions at ESCPH, enhancing staff knowledge of the European School system through mentor programs, attending in service trainings in the European School system and organising study trips to other European schools.

Joel commented that there is a big difference between the different European Schools, and that it would be relevant to focus on developing ESCPH's own identity as a European School. Hanne Schmidt agreed that the school should focus on developing it's own identity with influences from the European School System, the Nordic pedagogical context and as part of SAG.

- Language and literacy (new):
  - Linguistic focus
  - Focus on reading

Since many of the pupils at ESCPH, especially in the English section is not taught in their native language it is important for the school to focus on developing the pupil's language and vocabulary. The school plans to work on this through emphasising a linguistic focus in all subject, through in service trainings for teachers and through developing a reading policy.

- Visible learning (continued from 2015/16):

The programme on visible learning continues in 2016/17.

- Teamwork and harmonisation (continued from 2015/16):
  - Classes
  - Year level
  - Section

The focus on teamwork and harmonisation across language sections continue in 2016/17. There will also be an increased focus on teamwork at class and year level.

- Wellbeing (new)
  - Pupil's wellbeing
  - Anti-bullying policy
  - Wellbeing coordinator

ESCPH has a specific challenge in terms of wellbeing because many of our pupils have moved a lot. Therefore the school should have an extra focus on helping the pupils form friendships. The

school will in 2016/17 work to develop the wellbeing of pupils through finalising the schools anti-bullying policy, appointing a wellbeing coordinator and by enhancing the parents knowledge about wellbeing, bullying and prevention at a joint parents meeting.

**The board took note of the information.**

Henriette raised the issue of the cooperation with SAG as a focus point and **it was decided that Hanne Schmidt will discuss the issue with Anette Holst and that they will decide whether to include the issue as a focus point.**

**3) Miscellaneous**

It was decided that either Henriette or Caroline would participate in the dialogue meeting with politicians from the city of Copenhagen concerning schools cooperation with parents.