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School Council of Tuesday June 27 2017

Present (staff members): Mr. Laurent Bonardi (President), Ms Vanessa Augendre, Ms Marie Ancelin, Ms Coline Barnier, Mr. Aboubakar Coulibaly, Mrs Fatimata Coulibaly, Mrs Julie Dervaux, Mr. Mohamed Diaby, Mr. Lazare Diatta, Mrs Marie-Bernardette Diasso, Ms Khoredia Gueye, Mrs Mame Hugues, Mr. Bassirou Ndiaye, Mrs Fatimata Niang, Ms Mégan Pittié, Mrs Eliane Sene, Mr. Lamine Sonko, Mrs Maïmouna Sow, Mr. Youssoufa Sow, Mr. Mamadou Moustapha Thiam, Mr. Ahmed Thiaw, Mr. Cheikhou Thiome.

Excused: Mrs. Fatima Diallo, Mrs Eliane Sene-Ndiaye.

Parents' Representatives : Mrs Ana Jurado, Ms Véronique Legros, Mrs Cristina Rodrigo, Mrs Hélène Constantin de Magny, Ms Fatoumata Gueye, Mrs Mathilde Delvaux and Mrs Kim Drapcho

Absentees are excused.

The meeting started at 4:05 pm

AGENDA

Mr. Bonardi read the agenda

1. Jobs map update
2. Educational assessment
3. Construction and renovation works
4. Miscellaneous
5. Questions from parents' representatives

VOTE: The agenda was accepted unanimously.

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Jobs Map update (Item 1 of the Agenda)

Mr. Bonardi thanked all the members of the council for their presence. He indicates that since the last Council, the job card has experienced some changes.

Mrs Aïssatou KA, teacher of CE1B. The new teacher for this class will be Mrs. Jennifer Utomo. She was a teacher at Shinning Star Academy in Nigeria, then a teacher and English programs coordinator at Dominion Bilingual Academy in Dakar.

Mrs Alexandra YANG, who had been recruited for CM2B and APIE3, finally withdrew for personal reasons. Mrs Waameka AHEVONDERAE was recruited. She is American and has been a teacher at Silver Spring, Maryland, then an English teacher at IQRA Bilingual Academy in Dakar.

Ms. Bradley Smith is recruited to teach English in the preschool. She is American, graduated from The University of Atlanta. She has been a special teacher in the United States and France and has decided to come and settle in Senegal.

Remarks: This point is not subject to any particular remarks.

Educational assessment (item 2 of the agenda)

Test results:

-DELF Prim: 100% of the students succeeded their exam. The first student of all the schools in Dakar is from EAB (he is non-francophone). This reflects the efficiency of the bilingual program proposed at EAB.

-CM2 English: all students, except one with learning disabilities, obtained either the A1 certification or the A2 certification (usually passed in mid middle school).

-Test of Cambridge: 100% success. The pupils classified 1st and 2nd of Dakar institutions are from EAB.

-The results of the French national assessments will be available tomorrow.

The year was very rich in educational projects. In addition to recurring projects such as special days ,handicap day, there have been many projects carried out in classrooms as well as transversal projects(food day, anti-harassment day, etc.) as well as multiple field trips (Close to 80 without recurring projects).

Construction planned for summer 2017 (item 3 of the agenda)

No changes from what was reported at the second school council. Mr. Bonardi

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Reminded that the program for carrying out the construction is by definition provisional and that experience has shown that unexpected events can always occur independently of the will of the institution and the means implemented.

Miscellaneous (item 4 of the agenda)

Mr. Bonardi shared with the Council the results of the survey sent to families.

The excellent results obtained reflect the team's commitment and the quality of the relationship between the school and families. They are also an encouragement to continue the work.

A. Your opinion on the school year 2016-2017

-67.27%: very positive

-26.67%: positive

In the comments, the numerous educational projects. Mr. Bonardi said that the projects will continue next year, both in terms of recurring actions (such as the celebration of special days) and new projects, including a web radio that was scheduled this year but which AEFÉ has postponed for technical reasons.

B. Communication from the institution

-84.76%: very satisfactory

-14.24%: satisfactory

-1%: rather unsatisfactory

In the comments, parents emphasized the excellent communication of the Head of school and his availability. Mr. Bonardi thanked the parents for their confidence.

C. Communication with teachers

-55.15%: very satisfactory

-41.82%: satisfactory

-2.42%: rather unsatisfactory

-0.61% unsatisfactory

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In the comments, parents stressed the availability of teachers and the ease of getting Information or an appointment.

D. Your opinion on the proposed curriculum

-62,20 %: very satisfactory

-37,20%: satisfactory

-0.61%: rather unsatisfactory

In the comments, parents emphasized their interest in the educational offer of EAB. Some asked why there isn't any day care section on Corniche campus.

This is due to the configuration of the kindergarten building that is not conducive to the reception of a day care section (presence of steps to access).

E. Your opinion regarding the facilities

-17.07%: very satisfactory

-72.56%: satisfactory

-9.15%: rather unsatisfactory

-1.22%: unsatisfactory

In the comments, the parents emphasized the progress at the level of facilities. Several parents indicate that there should be more toilets and some regret the configuration of the canteen.

Mr. Bonardi says the new canteen space is now finished and will be open to students at the beginning of the school year.

The new kitchens are also finished. In addition, 10 new toilets, also completed, will be open to students at the beginning of the school year.

Questions from representatives of parents (item 5 of the agenda)

Parents' preliminary remarks: Before discussing the issues selected for this last council, we would like to take a moment to thank you, all EAB staff, educational, leadership, and technical, for everything you did on a daily basis to make the school excel and make the children feel good. The major assets and successes of EAB are, in our view, the dynamism of the school, its "human" scale, its very multi-national environment, its both multi-cultural staff and family, its diversity of offers and its openness to parent-school exchanges. The communication is easy at all levels from the teacher up to the management, which is highly appreciated. Thank you all for all of this and BRAVO for this nice year that is ending.



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1. We know that the new school canteen will be set up at the beginning of the coming school year we gladly recognize the efforts implemented to improve the conditions for the reception of the children during meals time in the current situation, certainly not ideal. We discussed various issues that could contribute to the improvement desired by all within the framework of the new canteen, and we wish to share one in particular:

By exchanging with our children, it often happens that the atmosphere of the meals is rather relaxed with little supervision, kindergarten and also elementary. We think that the meal time is also an occasion to learn to sit at a table, eat properly, share a meal in community in respect, to discover new tastes etc ... Is the staff really sufficient in number to better cope with this meal time which is an integral part of the school life of our children, can additional staff be considered?

The meal time must indeed be achieved in the best conditions and it is in this perspective that was conceived the new canteen space and kitchen. Indeed, this new space will make it possible to see the organization of the service and the assignment of the various staff. This will make it possible to optimize monitoring. A document "The Golden Rules" of the canteen has also been prepared and will be shared with students for a good understanding of the rules of collective life on this meal time. An evaluation progress will be made to make any adjustments. A parents' representative asked whether the provision of microwaves was re-envisioned. Mr. Bonardi said no, for the reasons given

in a previous council. It is asked whether stainless steel knives can be used. For safety reasons, this is not possible but a search is underway to identify resistant plastic knives.

2. Our children often tell us certain aggressiveness, even violence, during

recess time (children rushing without reason, children punching, snacks can also be taken, bags open and school supplies thrown away ..). We know that children are supervised and adults cannot see everything or be everywhere, that hits are often reprimanded or not. Would it be possible to increase the awareness of children on a more regular basis (for example display the school rules in courses, perhaps in a more graphic form, or organization of a or thematic days ...), and try to improve the conditions of these relaxing times so that each child finds its place?

The school rules are clear on this point and the appropriate punishments are taken when there is misconduct. However, the most important axis remains prevention. Sensitization is also carried out but, as in any school, it can be improved. It is in this context that our first anti-harassment day was organized.

Other similar actions will take place next year. The role of student mediators must also be the subject of further reflection which will be conducted.

3. We highly appreciate the recruitment of a nurse and a dedicated space and have retained that a better developed area will be in place in September. We would like to have more information on the functioning and equipment of this infirmary



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with regard to the return to parents of acts performed and care provided by the nurse: For example, will there be an 'infirmarium' sheet (in the liaison book if the nurse gives a medication, she can inform the parents to avoid

Overdose or drug interactions at home? Can she call parents directly or does it have to pass through the secretariat etc...?

Recruiting a nurse who, as you know, is a full-time worker at EAB is a real plus. A dedicated space already exists and will be refurbished during the summer. The next step will be to create a liaison tool with families. Since the liaison books have been printed last year, a form will be put in place for the year 2017-2018. For the following year, this will be integrated into the liaison book. This will allow parents to know more precisely what acts have been performed at the infirmarium during the passage of their child. Concerning medication intake, it is mentioned in a very detailed way in the admission sheet where parents must stipulate in particular allergies, contraindications, vaccines, chronic diseases. A free space is also left to provide complementary details. The importance of this card is reminded to parents. In case of change, parents must inform the school. Only non-prescription drugs can be administered based on the pupil's state of health (mainly paracetamol based medicines to relieve the pain). In case of need, the nurse can contact the parents via the secretariat.

4. We understand that the school calendar has to be set beforehand with a little margin for the absences or unforeseen situations so that teachers have enough time to complete the curriculum. It seems that the third term evaluations end around mid June and that the school will officially end this year on July 6th. How do you explain that students should continue coming to school for about three weeks? What are they doing?

The school calendar is not set by the institution, but by The Agency for French Studies Abroad (AEFE). This includes the end of the school year, this year, July 6th. Evaluations end in fact in mid-June but the work in class continues in different forms: reinforcement, field trips, art including the preparation of end of year shows, etc.

5. The French Language and Francophone Week is held annually in collaboration with the French Institute. Could EAB students participate in the yearly French-language dictation and will the winners be recognized subsequently?

EAB participates in many projects and it is of course impossible to take part in all. EAB presents students at DELF Prim and the results were excellent as stated earlier in the meeting. The dictation could be part of our Literary Spring to complete the reading rally which is very successful and awarded in partnership with the Parents' Association (APE).

6. A recurring question from past years. Although an improvement has been known to revise the quantity of school supplies, it would appear that the quantity requested is still excessive and that the monitoring of supplies is not always managed closely. In some cases, the supplies of those who purchase supplies are found in the course of the year in the hands of some students who did not bring the total list of theirs, which is unfair and not correct. Wouldn't it be possible on the one hand to ask for some copy books with fewer pages (or to reduce the number of copy books by subject)?

Example 2 copybooks for the year instead of 1 copybook per quarter per subject, especially if the number of pages per copybook is 196 pages). Another option would be to give the option to buy supplies on a quarterly basis and ensure that each student receives his own school supplies. What do you think of these proposals?



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Supplies have been reduced in volume. For example, the lists of textbooks have been reduced by another 9% this year. Regarding stationery, the whole team is aware that progress is still to be made. The proposals that the parents have just made will of course be taken into account in the collective reflection that will be carried out. A parents' representative asked why it is not possible to order the manuals by unit (without going to the complete list). It is then stated that the school is not intended to compete with bookstores and must strike a fair balance between this principle and the service offered to families.

The agenda having been exhausted, Mr. Bonardi thanked the members of the council for the quality of exchanges all along the year. He particularly thanked Mrs Drapcho, the President of the parents' Association, who was leaving Senegal at the end of the school year and congratulated Mrs Fatoumata Gueye, the new President of the of the Parents' Association.

Mr. Bonardi closed the meeting at 6.30 pm.

The Secretary

The Head of School

Dr. Laurent Bonardi