



JACQUES PREVERT INTERNATIONAL FRENCH HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
OF 16 December 2022

Present :

Ms Sophie BAILLY-BECHET, President
Ms. Natchula WILSON, Treasurer
Ms. Enyonam DAGADU, Vice-Treasurer
Mr Krishan Kappor, Member
Ms Emma Tarrant, Member
Mr. Jean-Louis Feghali, Member
Ms. Mirna Abdel Massih, Member
Mr. Mohamed Sidibe, CFO

Alan Bernstein (ex-officio) Staff:

Mr. Wissam RAAD, Vice-President
Mr Thomas Leguevel, Member

Start: 8:10 am / End: 10:17 am

Before the Chair presents the meeting agenda, a parent asks whether a quorum is required to vote on the budget. The Chairman replies that according to the Association's statutes, a quorum is not required when a General Assembly Meeting is postponed.

Agenda:

1. Report on the activities of the Board of Directors
2. Approval of the 2023 Provisional Budget
3. AOB

1. Report on the activities of the Board of Directors

Presentation made by the Chairperson

Number of students and employees:

- 715 students (91 in kindergarten, 329 in primary school, 179 in middle school and 116 in high school)
- 106 staff members (local and resident contracts).

The Human Resources Committee:

The commission is finalizing the recruitment of a new catering service provider for the canteen. The service will begin early January 2023.

The high school section (hut) has been operating since the beginning of last November.

An 18,000-euro budget was voted by the Board to compensate for the depreciation of the Cedi and to help local contract staff facing financial difficulties caused by the high inflation rate in Ghana.

Staff representatives were met several times to discuss various issues.

In terms of recruitment, there are still five (5) positions to fill.

Security

The recommendations of the Embassy's safety report have been followed and already implemented in some cases:

- In particular, the reinforcement of the security set up for containment(anti-intrusion)

Legal and land situation:

A registration process is being finalized with the registry.

The name will then be updated to allow the registration of our land with the Lands Commission. In addition, there is a land demarcation problem that needs to be addressed.

Infrastructure

Works carried out:

- 2 speed bumps
- Transformer Coverage and Electric Power Generator Automation (July 2022)
- Installation of barbed wire on the wall between the high school and the church (August 2022)

Work In Progress

- Reinforcement of the canteen floor to allow access and use of this level (to be completed in January)
- Purchase and installation of a new 400kV generator (December 2022)

Other:

Several events have already been organized: some have been sponsored by the school's partners (events for World Cup or AIDS Day).

Other events are coming in 2023: the 60th anniversary of the LFIA.

2. Approval of the 2023 Provisional Budget

The budget is presented by the Treasurer.

The PowerPoint presentation will be shared with the parents.

A few questions before the vote:

- How was the decision taken to allocate a budget of EUR 18 000 to compensate for inflation?

Answer:

Following several discussions within the Board and with staff representatives. It is important to note that a 12.5% support will be offered on an exceptional basis and only once.

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Questions:

- Is it not necessary to increase tuition fees in order to ensure the continuity of school operations in the event of a fire, for example?
- The amount of 200 euros per child as a contribution to infrastructure will not provide a significant amount for the expansion work. It needs to be increased. Other private facilities in Accra have significantly higher fees, making it easier for them to grow.

Answers:

- In case of a fire, the school is covered by insurance.
- The board did not wish to increase tuition fees given the economic situation in Ghana this year. However, one must be careful when comparing with other private institutions, and keep in mind that the LFIA is a semi-private institution and not totally private. As a result, school fees should not be too high, which could compromise access to some children.
- Regarding the amount of 200 euros, the board is well aware that it is a small amount, but insists that it is a starting point to create a reserve to be able to apply for funding for projects such as the expansion thereafter.

Intervention:

Is it possible to obtain funding from AEFÉ for projects.

Answer:

AEFE does not offer project financing but rather a guarantee.

Questions/ Proposal:

- Do we really need to expand?
- We do not have a large gym and swimming pool, but the advantage of LFIA is its quality teaching.

Answer:

- The expansion of LFIA is bound to happen sooner or later.
It is recalled that one of the objectives of the French government is to develop French education in Ghana; the LFIA is reaching the maximum of its capacity, and will therefore require an expansion.

It is true that we provide quality education, just like other schools, but some parents are also looking for infrastructure that is worthy of an international school.

It is recalled that other private schools are applying for approval to teach the French program and could meet the expectations of some parents in terms of infrastructure.

A parent's suggestion:

The school will have to be explicit about what these 200 euros are for, as well as give details on the reception of current students and of those in the near future, pending the expansion or possible relocation of the high school.

Questions:

- Will the prefabricated buildings be used as teaching classes next year?

Answers:

- Yes. Prefabricated buildings are too close to the wall and it is dangerous to build 'real' buildings there.
In addition, the school may well move to another site so there are no plans to invest in a project that may prove useless in the long term.

Vote for the approval of the 2023 budget:

For: 15

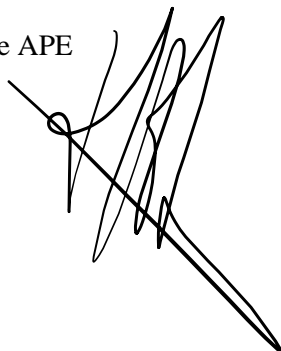
Against: 3

3. AOB

No comments

Sophie BAILLY-BECHET

President of the APE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Bailly-Bechet', written over a diagonal line.