



MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2023

The meeting was opened at 6:15 p.m. with a quorum present - 13 with voting rights + 1 guest

AGENDA :

1/ Vote on the education mapping

2/ Responses to unanswered questions from parents' representatives at the meeting held on 16th November 2023.

During the visit by the deputies in charge of the Africa Sector, it was noted that for the last 2 years, one of the two posts of mathematics teacher on secondment in the secondary school department has not been filled by tenured Education Service teachers. The agency's pre-SMC (Social Management Committee) is therefore considering that position n° 11669 should be withdrawn, particularly in view of the fact that for the last 2 years, the school has trained a local staff for this position. The members of the School Board are asked to share their opinions.

Mme Dauer explains that last year 18 candidates applied for this post, but that the first candidates did not obtain their secondment and then the last candidates had already committed themselves elsewhere.

She added that Mrs. RIZK, a local staff, teaches mathematics, science and technology and is a dependable resource. Next year, consideration would have to be given to a committee recruiting local staff in mathematics.

Mr Deytieux: What are the consequences of this vote?

Mrs. Dauer: For the agency, there is little impact, as the decision is virtually a done deal.

Mr Deytieux: Won't the quality of the teaching be inferior to that of a teacher on secondment?

Mrs. Dauer: Surprised by this question, she asked what kind of image and consideration this would give to local staff who are members of the School Board and work at the school. LFIA makes considerable efforts to train local staff. In addition, some local contract teachers have passed the competitive examination in France and have experience in French schools. In Mrs. Dauer's view, all teachers, whatever their status, should be recognised for their skills and commitment.

Mr Sidibé: Cautioned that the quality of the recruitment interview could be undermined by this kind of comment!

Mr Monbeig: this is a less expensive form of recruitment. Someone who is paid less takes on overtime. The government is withdrawing its support. I am in favour of a limit on overtime.

Mr Sidibé: There is a limit. The number of hours worked does not reduce the quality of teaching.

Mme Dauer : Teachers at LFIA, whether on secondment or under local contract, are of a high standard. If student numbers increase, the post could be restored in future years.

LFIA has a good number of teachers on secondment at the moment, bearing in mind that there is one on secondment for each subject, which is not the case in a number of establishments in the Central Africa Zone.

Mr Sidibé: In France, there is also the problem of recruiting maths teachers.

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Mrs Dauer: against: 2 votes - abstentions: 5 votes - in favour: 6 votes

Mr Monbeig was shocked by the fact that parents were voting to have the post withdrawn. He had never seen anything like it in his entire career.

The parents' representatives: they trust the institution and the local contract recruitment committee. The only thing that matters to them is having a good teacher who is present regardless of his or her status.

Answers to questions from parent delegates:

Mrs Dauer informed the members of the School Board that she had invited the parent delegates to a meeting the previous day so that they could get to know each other and to inform them of their roles.

On the question of recruitment, Mrs Dauer indicates that each local contract is recruited following a vacancy announcement, followed by a meeting of the recruitment committee represented by members of the board, elementary and secondary school teaching staff and management.

If there is a problem with a teacher, the parent should see the teacher directly in the first instance. This may be sufficient. The Class Teacher and/or the Educational Advisor (CPE) will take over if necessary.

To reassure and inform parents, conferences and workshops are organised once a term by Mme Alliès and Mrs. Dauer. Guest speakers can provide their expertise, such as the teacher in charge of teacher training (EMFE) and the French National Education Inspector (IEN)...

As far as education assistants are concerned, a training effort is being made to improve their skills. On-the-job training is planned for these staff, as well as online training to improve their level of French, particularly for primary school supervisors. Regular situational reviews are carried out to provide a framework for the work of AEDs and supervisors.

Teacher absenteeism: this is not an issue to be raised this year.

Pornographic sites visited by certain pupils: Mrs. Dauer impressed on the students to pass on information to adults if they see suspicious windows opened during their work sessions. It takes more time to research IP addresses to find out on which PC these images have been viewed.

Cases of bullying: there are cases of bullying in the school. It is a reality, which is why we are setting up Project PHARE. An informative meeting for all primary school teachers was held on Monday 27 November to explain the method. Training will also be provided for secondary school teachers very soon. This is a method of shared concern. You have to be patient. The method is such that the student who is the bully is encouraged to find solutions for the student who is being bullied. It is a method that works, but it takes time and several engagements.

Parents' concerns about sexuality and LGBT education: Mrs. Dauer informed members that a seminar on this subject would be held in the near future. She would like to involve speakers such as specialist teachers and possibly the regional Inspector. The difficulty lies in finding a suitable date.

Relaunch the survey on the uniform or dress code. The issue has not been approved. Parents must submit it to the members of the Management Committee.

Open up to the culture of the host country: Offer to teach TWI in the school. The AEFÉ requires this as part of its certification criteria. Mrs. Amarteifio used to teach it. This point is currently being examined.

Unclean toilets: It is up to each pupil to pay attention to these hygiene issues, as the LFIA makes every effort to ensure that the toilets are cleaned between classes. Students need to be made aware of their responsibilities.

Medical check-ups: Parents have noted that these are taking place too late in the year. Mrs. Dauer agreed.

Discussions are also underway to remedy this problem. Arrangements have also been made with a hospital for an ophthalmologist to come and visit the LFIA with his equipment. Mrs. Alliès enquired about the most appropriate grades to target for these visits.



Canteen: All points will be discussed at the canteen committee meeting on 6th December.

Everyone complains about the noise level. Is it possible that soft music at a low level could reduce the noise and soothe the children? This is a suggestion put forward by the management.

Representative of the student delegates: please note that we are in a class right next door! It is hard to concentrate when there is music playing.

Mrs. Duroseau: does the administration visit the canteen regularly?

Mrs. Dauer and Mrs. Tchivagnon agree that they do not visit often enough due to lack of time. It should be noted that it is the CE1s who seem to be the noisiest, as they are also in the largest group.

Suggestion box: approved. Parents are asked to send it to the administration for it to be fixed.

Request from secondary school students to reinstate identity cards. Mme Tchivagnon spoke to Mrs. Dauer about this. Won't students take advantage of this rule to leave their liaison book at home? We are currently discussing changing the back-to-school system. Mr. Sidibé is approaching 3 service providers to optimize the entry system. The new system would concern all staff, pupils and parents.

CVL President: They would like to have a termly assessment timetable for each subject, in order to help them better organize their workload in the final year. Mme Dauer insisted on the need to invest in their studies on a regular basis and not just in the context of an assessment. She suggested that students discuss this directly with their teachers.

Regarding the traffic flow in front of the LFIA entrances, Mr Aschkar suggested asking the AMA to regulate one-way traffic around the school.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7.15pm.

Secretary:
Claire Enjuanès

Chairperson :
Catherine Dauer