

MINUTES – MEETING OF 10 JUNE 2026

Participant Board Members:

Albert Rädler (DE), Treasurer
Andrea Panizza (IT), Deputy Secretary *[online]*
Andrew Janis Folkmanis (EN)
Anja Semmelrodt (DE) *[joined at 19h25]*
Anne Becker (DE), Vice-President for pedagogical matters
Inês Sajara (PT) *[online]*
Johanna Peyredieu du Charlat (SE) *[online, joined at 22h00]*
Joana Gil (PT), Secretary
Lena Widefjäll (SE)
Mindaugas Skaraitis (LT), Member of the Bureau *[online]*
Rüdiger Martin (DE)
Soraya Lemaire (FR)
Virgilio Miolato (IT)
Virginie Battu-Henriksson (SE), President

Absent Excused Board Members:

Alessia Ghezzi (IT)
José Madeira (DE)
Nicolas Lacroix (FR), Vice-President for administrative matters

1. Approval of the agenda

Following the request by the Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters, points 4.3 and 4.4 were swapped. The adjusted agenda was approved by unanimity.

Decision: The agenda is approved.

2. Approval of the public minutes of the Board meeting of 4/06/2026

The Board votes unanimously the approval of the public minutes of the Board meeting of 4/06/2026.

Decision: The public minutes of the Board meeting of 4/06/2026 are approved.

3. Items for decision

3.1 Designation of the members of the jury for the APEEE logo competition

The President introduced the topic by reminding that the logo competition has been officially launched and communicated to pupils on 21 May 2026. Promotion has been carried out through the newsletter of 22 May, flyers displayed on the screens in the

préaux, posters placed on the *préaux* notice boards and information shared via the pupils' Teams channel by their Counsellors. A reminder communication will be requested to the school to encourage further participation before the submission deadline. The deadline being 13 July, the jury should be available in the days immediately after, to ensure the assessment of the submitted proposals. The jury for this competition needs to be formally established. Regarding its composition, the President proposes that it includes the Communication Officer of the APEEE, one Art teacher of EEB2, one student from the *Comité des Etudiants*, and two Board members. Virginie Battu Henriksson and Anja Semmelrodt offered to be members of the jury.

The Board establishes by acclamation the composition of the jury responsible for selecting the winning submissions in the competition for a new APEEE logo as follows:

- the Communication Officer of the APEEE
- one Art teacher of EEB2
- one student from the CdE
- two Board members, namely Virginie Battu Henriksson and Anja Semmelrodt

Decision: The Board establishes the composition of the jury responsible for selecting the winning submissions in the competition for a new APEEE logo as follows:

- the Communication Officer of the APEEE
- one Art teacher of EEB2
- one student from the CdE
- two Board members, namely Virginie Battu Henriksson and Anja Semmelrodt.

3.2. Meeting with the Court of Auditors on school trips

Virgilio Miolato informed the Board of the on-going review (not audit per se), carried out by representatives from the European Court of Auditors, regarding the organisation of budgetary school trips across the European Schools system. Budgetary school trips are mandatory trips organised by the school and entering the school budget. There are also the extra-budgetary trips, typically organised by the teachers, which are not covered by this review. Andrew Janis Folkmanis reminded that in InterParents the importance of having teachers involved in the design of the school trips, to ensure its pedagogical value, was already stressed. Virgilio Miolato acknowledged the importance of that element, while noting that it falls out of the scope of the European Court of Auditors review. Anja Semmelrodt noted that the pedagogical relevance is however linked to the value-for-money perspective. The European Court of Auditors requested information through a standardised questionnaire and a meeting, due to take place on 11 June. As a line to take, Virgilio Miolato suggested to stress the need to improve governance, transparency, and financial accountability for school trips and ensuring parents are fully integrated into the accountability loop as key stakeholders. A discussion on the importance of school trips and on their cost-effectiveness followed, with Board members acknowledging that parents complain recurrently of the lack of information regarding the prices, and in particular of the absence of a breakdown of expenses. The Board agreed with the proposed approach for the upcoming meeting with the European Court of Auditors regarding the organisation of budgetary school trips. The APEEE will advocate for enhanced financial transparency and stakeholder involvement under the current framework contract, specifically requesting itemized budget breakdowns for parents, value-for-money benchmarking shared with the APEEE, and regular updates on the Trip Kitty and solidarity funds. Virgilio Miolato and Albert Rädler volunteered to attend the meeting with the European Court of Auditors.

The Board, by acclamation, mandates Virgilio Miolato and Albert Rädler to attend the meeting with the European Court of Auditors on school trips.

Decision: The Board mandates Virgilio Miolato and Albert Rädler to attend the meeting with the Court of Auditors on school trips.

3.3. Communication on budget-related matters

The Treasurer introduced the topic stressing the need to communicate clearly on financial matters for which there is no sufficient information available for parents. In this regard, he reminded that the amounts spent between August 2025 and the elections in mid-January 2026 will be imputed to this financial exercise. In light of the parents' community calls for increased transparency, it is important to have a clear framework that allow to disclose financial information in a way that is legally sound, comprehensive and clear.

The Board discussed several options concerning the outreach to parents on financial matters, including the addressees (class representatives only or all parents), the form (in writing or through a dedicated info session or a combination of both) and the timing (in the next AGM or in an ad hoc moment). The Board acknowledged that the topic was worth further reflection.

The Board votes unanimously to mandate the WG Budget to work on a range of options to be presented to the Board on possible ways forward to disclose information on budget matters in a legally sound, comprehensive and clear manner.

Decision: The Board mandates the WG Budget to work on a range of options to be presented to the Board on possible ways forward to disclose information on budget matters in a legally sound, comprehensive and clear manner.

4. Items for discussion

4.1. Lost&Found in Evere from 2026/2027

Soraya Lemaire introduced the topic describing the Lost&Found of EVE: items lost are made available to parents on the last Friday before every holiday break, and are afterwards immediately given away by the school to a charity. This makes it difficult for parents to recover items, particularly if they cannot go to the school on that specific Friday. The Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters reminded that there was never a "Eureka" model as in WOL, but rather a system where all the found items are made available in the hall of the school. More recently, and since the existing model was not very effective, the school changed the approach and started leaving the items where they were – under a pilot project that the school finds the results quite positive, on the grounds that if the items are not moved from where they were left, children are able to find them more easily. However, it is to be seen whether such a model would still work with an increased children population as from September. The Board welcomed the initiative of keeping this matter under consideration following the *rentrée* in 2026/2027 and raise with the school as appropriate.

4.2 Overcrowding

Soraya Lemaire, as contact point for CEA and focal point for overcrowding, informed about the state of play and of the fact that the figures for enrolments in 2026/2027 are not yet available. That makes it difficult to assess the state of play vis-à-vis a possible future overcrowding and contribute to a proper reflection regarding 2026/2027. Andrew Janis Folkmanis concurred that the official final figures might come in late and prevent a very accurate picture already at this stage, so it is important that the provisional figures are considered for any reflection. The existing figures point, in any case, to enrolments below the school's capacity, be it by Belgian or by European School's standards, so there is no overcrowding, technically speaking. However, the President stressed that some issues linked to increased children population, such as use of playgrounds and availability of sport facilities, will be felt in Evere as of rentrée 2026/2027 and may be seen as issues belonging to overcrowding and the APEEE should keep a close eye on these matters. In any case, the President agreed to foster the discussions next to the OSG through an email prepared for that purpose by the focal points for overcrowding. Andrew Janis Folkmanis reminded the political commitment by the Belgian authorities to foster the accreditation process for schools. The Board discussed the implications of the accreditation process. Soraya Lemaire stressed that in any case, and irrespective of the fact that as of now there is no overcrowding, the APEEE should not wait until overcrowding becomes real, and should follow-up the matter closely. The Board agreed to keep this topic under constant review.

4.3. Organisation of the Working Groups

The Secretary introduced the topic reminding that until December 2025 the structure of the working groups lied on the existence of a number of fixed working groups, in particular for services: WG Canteen, WG Transport and WG Extra-curricular Activities, as is the case of the three other Brussels-based APEEEs, and was the established practice until recently. Irrespective of the merits of the merger of the three working groups under one single working group (the WG Business Process), and in line with the concerns already expressed by some Board members as regards the need for a closer follow-up, this concentrates the work in few people and ultimately risks leaving some aspects without proper overview. An amendment to the internal rules can be considered to reinstate the three working groups, while a more readily available solution is to appoint correspondents, as already envisaged in the current rules. The Board discussed the pros and cons of the current model. There was consensus on the importance of reflecting on the long run under the WG Governance, while at the same time finding solutions for the short term. Board members committed to reflect on their availability to become correspondents for each of the three services, under the governance model currently enshrined in the internal rules.

The Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters referred to the need to reflect on the organisation of the work of the pedagogical working groups and introduced the point by presenting the framework on the pedagogical matters, and added that many aspects are horizontal and could be better tackled through joint work of WG CEPM and WG CEES. While it can be explored the merger of those two working groups, in the meantime they can have joint meetings whenever that is deemed appropriate, under the steering of the Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters.

4.4. Priorities for the Annual Pedagogical School Plan 2026/2027

The Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters shared that very soon the APEEE will be called to comment on the Annual Pedagogical School Plan 2026/2027. Since a consultation of parents took place in the context of the Whole School Inspection, the information then gathered can be usefully put at the service of the assessment of the Annual Pedagogical School Plan. One of the points was educational support – there are already many children benefiting from any form of educational support (including general support), the overall total reaching 28 %, which is higher than many other schools. As regards gifted pupils, there are guidelines for how to approach those cases. Another area of concern for parents was L2 – in this regard, there are now pilot projects of enrichment for children. Finally, the Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters mentioned that under the aegis of a “future proofing” chapter that could be suggested to the school, aspects such as the use of digital tools but also the development of labs and other infrastructure and projects can be touched upon.

In order to produce a fully adequate input for the school, an inclusive process should be envisaged, with a further consultation to the parents on all areas of relevance to the Annual Pedagogical School Plan.

Concerning educational support, Andrea Panizza debriefed on the content of a meeting held the day before with parents leading the network of parents of EEB2 gifted children. Currently the school asks for a medical certification for the cases of gifted children, but then there are no specific actions as a follow-up, which unfortunately leads to measures only kicking-in some time too late, when the difficulties for the child to fit into the classroom become apparent. The parents leading the network of parents of EEB2 gifted children expect the school to take more tailored measures to make sure that the specificities of these children are catered for.

A brief discussion followed on how quickly some competences are becoming obsolete in light of the speed of technological developments.

The Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters committed to organise the consultation of class representatives on the Annual Pedagogical School Plan as soon as possible.

5. Items for information

5.1. App for carsharing and app for small adds

Rüdiger Martin and Virgilio Miolato informed on the state of play of the initiative consisting of the creation of a digital space/application features for the school community. This platform would enable parents to coordinate carsharing and sell items like used textbooks, while also creating a framework for peer-to-peer student assistance (e.g., tutoring). The platform *O Marché* is already being used by some APEEE, but it displays the items without any order or categories. For that reason, alternatives are being considered. The intention is to move to a pilot at some point, also to test parents’ interest. As next steps, the WG ICT will take this initiative forward, including as part of the broader, ongoing reflection on the APEEE’s overall digital transformation. It should be integrated into the ICT development pipeline in accordance with relevant priorities and technical timelines. The President welcomed the work undertaken and stressed the importance of addressing the matter urgently – in particular on carsharing, which would be very much welcomed in the context of the move of the whole nursery and primary cycles to Eever. The idea of a pilot project to test the appetite of the parents’ community for such a service was, in this context, particularly interesting.

The Board welcomed the work already carried out and took note of the proposal to develop a digital platform/feature for the school community to facilitate carsharing, the exchange of materials, and peer-to-peer student tutoring. The project will continue to be steered under the ICT Working Group.

5.2. Information storing and record keeping

The Secretary reminded all Board members that is their responsibility to ensure the filing of the relevant information they circulate or bring to the Board, in particular the coordinators of the working groups. Every Board member can reach out to the Secretary for Information if they wish that a session on filing or general use of Sharepoint is organised with the APEEE Communication Officer. The filing and record keeping are key elements to ensure institutional memory and to ensure proper operational continuity. This is also a key element to ensure that the upcoming Board members can rely on the work that is being carried out now and take it forward. Virgilio Miolato stressed the importance of using the WOL Board e-mail addresses to communicate within the Board, to notably ensure a proper interface with Sharepoint.

5.3. External evaluation of the implementation of the European School's action plan

Virgilio Miolato debriefed on the initiative of the European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education (EASNIE), an independent organization co-funded by the European Commission that acts as a collaboration platform for ministries of education. EASNIE conducts external evaluations of the European Schools – including one in 2021, followed by an Action Plan for 2024/2025. Parents were recently invited to participate in a survey evaluating that Action Plan. This initiative represents a step towards greater parental inclusion. While some survey questions appeared more relevant for staff, the inclusion of parents in the process was a positive development. The Board took note of this initiative and looks forward to further updates.

6. HR and confidential business matters

[Confidential point due to data protection and privacy legislation]

7. AOB

The Vice-President responsible for pedagogical matters wondered about the list of activities made available by the extra-curricular activities team and whether the supervision (with a snack) is available only for nursery and primary or also for S1 and S2. It was clarified that is the latter, and that such supervision is available also for children which are not enrolled in any activity.

The President informed that the special supervision afternoon of 24 June in EVE “The Exploration of Eve” will bring together both children in APEEE supervision and in OIB, which will be a first.

The President reminded the Board members of the organisation, the following day, of a webinar on the transition, in Uccle, to electric buses.

The meeting ended at 23h15.
