

## EEB1 Meeting Notes of the Students

CoSup meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December

12/4/2018

EEB4

9:30-17:30

EEB1 representatives from the Pupil's Committee: Jacob Stokkebye, Alexandra von Koppenfels, Laszlo Molnarfi

Reporter: Laszlo Molnarfi

Subject: Points of interests for students at the latest CoSup (Student Union of the European Schools) meeting. These are comments on the agenda and an extension to the official minutes.

The agenda was approved. The new vice-president was elected. The CoSup Tax was discussed. We, as the school with the most amount of money, had proposed that each CDE which has more than 2500€ pays 2% of their assets (1% if they are also hosting the meeting) – with this fee calculation, we would pay approximately 400€ per meeting. We are firmly committed to, and think it is our duty, to finance the students' representation and so the CoSup as well. See the included document for the current tax proposal of the CoSup. For State of PR, we asked again about having official minutes, about publishing them and the CoSup rules and agendas online for students. We also asked whether a list of goals and achievements (the latter is part of the CoSup statute) would be published – all our suggestions were well received. Locally recruited teachers are worried, and so are students, because LRTs are being phased out and their contracts suddenly terminated to make room for seconded teachers (those who come from the member states). This is an issue because good teachers are lost, especially during years S6 and S7, when the teachers should ideally remain consistent. The CoSup will inquire at the OSG about this issue. For democracy in the European Schools, we proposed the following suggestions; a vote for students at the Board of Governors, even if it is only symbolic. We propose that it could be a proportional vote, and that maybe Directors of the European Schools could also have votes. We proposed more autonomy, for example in post creation, which is right now managed by the OSG/BOG and not the individual schools. We proposed more harmonization of the CDE elections for the integrity of them, and more harmonization of their independent regulations. We suggested to make the Education Council binding on the administration and not only an advisory council. We proposed that all of the OSG/BOG documents, minutes be published for transparency. More direct communication was also mentioned, so that issues can get solved faster (ex. so that each student, or at least CDE may contact the Head of IT at the OSG and get a reply without having to go through CoSup, and the waiting period reduced) and faster overall change, better appeal procedures for pre-BAC/BAC results. We supported the idea of the CDE providing legal counsel and pushed for the legal integrity of judicial procedures in the European Schools, so that they reflect European values. Finally, we introduced the idea of a student bill of rights, like they have in some US schools. Out of these suggestions, the CoSup presidency supported more harmonization, said they would

look into the EC suggestion as time permits, justice reform, quicker and more direct communications and student bill of rights. The CoSup presidency gave explanations for the other points; vote at the BOG would be too difficult to acquire, and in their opinion the OSG/BOG rightly reserves the right of post creation due to being funded with the European Commissions money. Minutes for the OSG would be difficult to publish and make, due to their length. On the next agenda item, the CoSup voted on whether to allow the presidency of each CDE, in addition to the elected CoSup representatives, to be CoSup members as 3<sup>rd</sup> members and whether to allow the presidency (who is in our opinion in the circle of trust) thereof to have access to the CoSup FaceBook group. Both motions failed to pass. Sports for girls being a joke and statistics in ma3/ma5 turned out to be a school specific issue (the former, EEB1 since we do not follow the syllabus apparently, we will talk with the Direction about it) and normal according to the syllabus (latter). There are issues with the Prebac, since the regulations (2015-05-D-12-en-13-Arrangements for implementing the European Baccalaureate Regulations 2019, point 6.3.9 is for pre-BAC)<sup>1</sup> do not allow students to consult the examiners notes on their pre-bacs. This means that students are blocked from appealing in the already complicated appeal system, and that they cannot prepare for their BACs since they have no feedback. This will be clarified and attempted to be remedied by the CoSup<sup>2</sup>. Exams on Computers are already available for people with disabilities (ex. dyslexia)<sup>3</sup>. The Chairwomen of the European Baccalaureate 2018 Session supported writing exams on computers for everyone, and after a vote, so does the CoSup. For mental health, it was said that most schools are forming working groups and pay special attention to LGBTQ. We asked which schools have a full-time psychologist (as we do not), and it turns out that Lux 1, Brussels 2, Alicante, Lux2 and Brussels 4 have full-time psychologists. Splitting the L1 exam into two parts would be better for student concentration (studies apparently show that students unwillingly lose concentration after a few hours, and the L1 exam is long: 4 hours), however it is unfeasible. It would be difficult to convince the OSG/BOG, and there could be cheating problems. We asked each CDE to ask the student constituency before proposing such changes, to make sure that they actually want this or not. The Election Procedures amendments were moved to writing procedure, since we would not have had enough time to do them there respecting everyone's opinions and listening to everyone. Our propositions are attached, and the final proposition of the CoSup presidency (that was made by mixing the proposals of all the CDEs) as well. The GCAA document mentioned never existed and the OSG cannot find it in their archives, so do not ask. Mock orals are not going to be banned (that was a misunderstanding), as per 6.5.3 of the regulations and some teachers in some schools have already started organizing them. Due to time constraints, we skipped JTC October Debriefing, Board of Governors December Preparation, Pedagogical Reform WG and the Alumni Project. For CoSup hoodies, logos are still needed – these can be either made by an inter-school logo competition or someone from the CoSup, but they will ultimately be voted on by the CoSup, as these hoodies are for the CoSup members only. Mr. Matthew Pye from Woluwé presented his environmental project. He took part in organizing the November 20<sup>th</sup> climate strike and wishes for better education and awareness about climate

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<sup>1</sup> And for information point 6.4.10 is for the written BAC and 6.5.6 is for the oral BAC.

<sup>2</sup> Update: It seems that this issue is solved, and that this was a misunderstanding. The rights a student has to view the pre-BAC is practically the same as for the BAC, see [https://eursc-my.sharepoint.com/:i:/g/personal/molnarla\\_student\\_eursc\\_eu/EWJ73ZoBnItEr-WLd\\_ipULUB3Jpc3Sps52HFVzJBIZ2\\_fQ?e=MwNsHk](https://eursc-my.sharepoint.com/:i:/g/personal/molnarla_student_eursc_eu/EWJ73ZoBnItEr-WLd_ipULUB3Jpc3Sps52HFVzJBIZ2_fQ?e=MwNsHk)

<sup>3</sup> However, there are issues with that in practice. See: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2018/12/04/sink-or-swim/barriers-children-disabilities-european-school-system>

change, which is a serious issue which politicians and the media aren't representing and taking action on correctly. He wrote a book ("No Common Sense") about climate change with both scientific and philosophical backing, which he wishes to be taught as part of the curriculum for S6 and S7, or for the book to be given and bought for all secondary students in schools (which also provides funding). Also, each year new editions of the book will be published, with different essays by European School students (the included essays change every year) – we need to advertise this and make sure students are aware of this opportunity. The CoSup strongly supports this project, and we have already contacted him for further collaboration. We will also contact our local APEEEs and the CoSup will contact the Interparents to push for the aforementioned actions. Even though we actively supported and took part in the project, the newspaper project was killed off due to a lack of volunteers. However, EEB1 still has its BISSC newspaper on which students from all of the 13 (+ Accredited) European Schools and the international schools in Brussels can publish freely (<https://bissc.net>). For the Euronight, Luxembourg 2 is looking for clubs and asking around. The festival project was killed, and the third meeting was set for the 9<sup>th</sup> of February at Luxembourg 1. The vote of confidence passed without issues raised, thus the meeting was concluded.