



Europäische Schule RheinMain
The European School

Schulberatungsausschuss 12.03.2024 / School Advisory Council 12.03.2024

Participants:

Tom Zijlstra, Gitta Lotz, Daniella Schmitt, Marcus Adams, Iris Bustillos-Heuer, Martina Rinneberg, Fiona Hartmann, Kathryn Hoover, Allie Bebb, Dominic Rogers, Dagmar Rodriguez

Schülervertretung:

Mika Sandner, Sami Garelnabi, Kanwar Sandhu

Elternvereinigung:

Janina Wiebols, Bernd Gegenheimer, Sabine Walser, Vanessa Schlüter-Haag, Alexandra Burchard, Dorith Rödig, , Sophia Gross

Agenda / Tagesordnung:

Points from school management / Punkte der Schulleitung

1. Short introduction round

The student presidents could not make it and were replaced by three other students at short notice

2. Follow-up der letzten Sitzung

- BAC is looking good. Students are doing well. We are expecting good results.
- DP verification almost completed.
- Student council presidents have been doing well and are doing a good job representing the school. They went to Lux/Brus
- Eurosport is taking place this week. ESRM is represented with 24 students in Bertrange
- Ski trip and S4 trips went well
- Smell in the sports hall has been eliminated.

3. Science symposium 2024

- 186 external participants at ESSS
- 134 students overall
- 52 teachers attend at ESSS
- 3 teams with 4 students per team from ESRM plus teachers/ 20 student volunteers to help out
- S1-S3 are junior members
- S4 and above are senior participants
- Aula: opening/closing ceremonies
- Exhibits: in sports hall
- Jury: in the pavillions (18 judges, 6 groups of 3)



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- Award ceremony in the Aula on Wednesday
- Important visitors: Minister of Education of Hessen, Mayor of BV will welcome guests, Alessandro Ercolani (Space Center) is keynote speaker
- Closing speaker: Prof. Guido Friebel
- Scientific program: Ms. Lagarde from ECB, scientific program at ECB
- Dinner at school mensa /guests stay in Sachsenhausen hostel
- DS introduced the programme via ppt to all participants of SAC
- Audience: 200 student participants, student volunteers, teachers and parent volunteers, PTA responsible, VIPs for opening and closing, sponsors,
- Monday after the presentation all ESRM/ISRM students can go and visit the exhibits (they will on exhibit until Wednesday)
- Primary Science Festival will take place on Friday before the real event.... Primary has also prepared wonderful things.
- External visitors will visit Primary exhibition and Tiny Forest
- Sports hall will be closed from Monday until Wednesday.
- Students will be informed at which times the Aula will be closed for the Science Symposium.

The full program can be found here: http://esss.wp.eurisc.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/04/Program_ESSS_07_02_2024-1.pdf.

Points from the Student Reps

Points from Parent Reps / Punkte Elternvertreter

1. **Sommerfest** – Summer Fest
 - The proposed date is June 22, when all exams are finished
 - GL: There will no longer be any money tokens/'Bons'; the plan is to produce "ESRM Dollars" (tokens with the school logo, in different denominations), which can then be reused. At the end of last summer fest: no return of unused coupons was allowed. This year, everyone needs to know clearly and beforehand what the rules are for giving ESRM Dollars back! If we print ESRM tokens, and any leftovers could be used at the next event.
2. **Verschiedenes**
 - Security: Tore sind komplett auf. Ausweise müssen nicht mehr gezeigt werden seit dem Wechsel der Security; mit alter Crew lief es besser. Abholer-Eltern werden nicht mehr kontrolliert; vor allem nachmittags. Die Direktion wird dies überprüfen.
 - Question students: No fundraising opportunity at ESSS? Answer: No!
 - S7 can fundraise at Spring Concerts and Primary Science Symposium



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Minutes / Protokoll Secondary meeting:

1. Summative Assessment in S4-S6

In S4-S6: The new document passed by JTC states that an alternative summative assessment (research project, assignment, portfolio...) is possible instead of B-test or exams in Semester one for the B-grade. This is optional for the school/HoS (department wise) . It has to be the same within the sections. It is a harmonized approach amongst all European Schools. This approach is currently undertaken for the electives in S6-S7 and is well liked by students.

Addendum: According to a correction sent out by the JTC, this alternative assessment can only be considered as of September 2025 for S5 and as of September 2026 for S6.

TZ: we have to be more careful how we name assessments. Let's avoid in S4 to speak about "exams".

2. STS – Science, Technology and Society: New Subject in S6-S7

As of September 2024 STS will replace Bio2.

The new subject STS is a mix of all natural sciences. It can be an oral BAC subject. It can be taken as 2hr course - and offers a very general approach (holistic approach to anything applicable to the 21st century). Students can move up from STS to BIO/CHE/PHY with a promotional test. Or they move down from a natural science to STS. Students interested in studying medicine are recommended to take BIO4 STS will be taught by the school's Science and Biology teachers.

Repeaters will have to adapt to this new scheme as well. The new subject will not become more difficult to achieve good grades.

3. Enrichment – list of activities

- Environmental students- had school clean up day 01.03. – Allie Bebb
- MUN with Blair Namnoum
- TedX – Sabrina Bieber – will happen in Oct. 2024 where presentation will happen
- High school Young Investors Competition - Oliver Chance – worldwide competition. All ESRM teams placed under top 500, two teams placed top 100 out of 4200 teams.
- Careers panel of S5/S6 students was organized by Mrs. Burchard, who is happy to organize the panel again.
- Lucy Kinosian was here as career volunteer. A lot of students (over 60) consulted her
- Janine Duvier – German Development Bank was here
- Many other events happening throughout the school year
- Lucille Dawkshas / Julia Faust – Diversity club
- Science Club – Chris Falokun



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- Choir – Kornelia Harskuti
- 3 rock band – Pdraig Duggan (Teacher, Junior, Senior rock band)
- Spark Magazine – Lucille Dawkshas
- Eurosport – Agostin Losada
- Other extracurricular sports activities like soccer, basketball, badminton, running
- Duke of Edinburgh – Allie Bebb, Lauren Orrick, Oliver Chance, Paul Weir
- Suggestion from the Parents' Association: A "Year book" club. With a small group of students it might have more pictures and variety. TZ would like it to be more diverse, have more text, not just be a photoalbum. The issue of "Datenschutz" (data protection) must be considered. The point will be discussed in the Management Meeting with a view to having students/teachers join the process now. Maybe it is possible to have individual agreements for certain events, where students can only take part if parents agree to their pictures being published – as is the case for TedX.

4. Educational Trips

All trips went well! Mostly positive feedback received! S6 trips coming up next week. All worked out fine. 10% students did not take part in the S4 language trips.

Management message: The many issues with parents before the S4 language trips are a problem. The school is considering not organizing these trips anymore. S4 trips are not part of the regular structure of the European Schools system. Hundreds of hours of work and endless debates. A compromise must be found to keep the trips, but with a different model.

Parents' Association comments: students loved the trips!!! Thank you for all the effort. Zoom info evening on trips was very valuable as it created trust, and then parents found it easier to commit. If the trips take place again, communication between the school and the parents needs to change. The Parents' Association could filter the communication coming from the parents: Questions/complaints would first go to the parent association, be bundled and then passed on to the school management. The Parents' Association will formulate suggestions / a plan and propose a working group meeting (by June) with Ms Bebb and the school management to explore if and how S4 language trips can take place in 2025. This would also include suggestions to improve the communication procedures that would go both ways, to ensure that Ms Bebb would be spared the time and effort of communicating multiple times with individual families.

Suggestion: Also approach S3 parents early on with the details of the trips and encourage them all to let their child join the trip.

TZ: Let's find a workable compromise.

The Parent' Association is asked to come up with suggestions by mid-June and communicate these to him.

5. ESSS organization and schedule – see above

6. Schultoiletten / School toilets



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Update: Toilet passes have been introduced because of increased vandalism. There is increased supervision of the bathrooms, and the number of open bathrooms has been reduced to minimize vandalism. The company Ille has made a donation – deodorant for toilets to make them nicer – the idea being that beautifying the space helps care for the space.

Feedback from the PAs: on the whole the toilet pass is useful. Decreased group use. Students are taking less time in the toilets. Lesson time is less impacted.

It is difficult to catch students during break time. There is an increased habit of eating in the toilets. On the whole, the presence of PAs in the toilets has helped. Reporting of issues has also increased, as there is more staff around to report to. During the recent weeks there has been no major vandalism. That is a big step forward.

Student remark: It is a good idea to have the PAs patrol the toilets. The problem was group visits. Closing of bathrooms is very inconvenient if you have to go far to find the next open toilet. In that case a lot of lesson time is taken up.

TZ: we will slowly re-open toilets in strategic areas of the school

Parent comment: Many students hardly drink during school time, so that they do not have to use the toilets. This is very unhealthy, especially for students with a chronic disease.

TZ: Students with special diseases receive permanent passes, so that they can use the toilets anytime. Please get in touch with Ms. Bebb.

Points from the Parent Association

1. Feedback der Eltern zur Nutzung von elektronischen Geräten (iPads, Laptops)/ Feedback from the parents about the use of electronic devices (iPads, laptops)

Use of electronic devices and WIFI is very different depending on what teachers allow and what they don't allow. It could be helpful to discuss putting in place a policy on what device must be used at school.

Idea: students who cannot afford their own device could rent one from the school or receive it through a special fund towards which donations can be made – even by using crowd funding. Or with funds from the Digitalpakt of the German government.

DS: There are two aspects to this:

1. The internal policy and guidelines for staff: S4/MYP4 and above can allow students to use devices. it is the prerogative of the teacher to decide whether students should use a device in their classroom.
2. The external policy: do we prescribe certain devices for students with specific software on it? It can be limiting. There are also parents who do not allow their children to use devices – we cannot forget that there is a limited amount of parents/ students that want non-digital use, and we and should respect that. .

The school is actively accessing the Digitalpakt: Funds of Digitalpakt have been used by the school for new smart boards, etc.



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School Management will consult different stakeholders to discuss different ideas. One being the idea raised about having a particular device with a particular software on it.

DR: we need to facilitate for all aspects, from no laptop to top brand laptop. All students need to have the same opportunities and chances.

Logistics: the level of management to cater for devices all the same with all the same software would be huge.

Students can make dynamic choices, meaningful choices and there is ample ICT available in school –also, laptops/ smartpads can be borrowed from the school.

TZ: There must be clear info to the parents to ensure that everyone is on the same page. No brands will be prescribed. We invest constantly and try to be transparent. We should develop a questionnaire to parents to cover more aspects of school life.



2. Umgang der Schule mit der Nutzung von Chat GPT zu pädagogischen Zwecken (Schulung der Lehrer / Nutzung durch Schüler – was ist erlaubt?). Unterschiede ESRM/ISRM? / What is the school's policy towards Chat GPT in terms of training for teachers and the allowed use by students?

How does the school know when work is manipulated by using ChatGPT? There appears to be no official communication from the school to the parents yet. This could be a topic for a Friday Flyer. Is there training for staff? And how can the Parents' Association support the school?

DS: This is a very important topic. I take part in working groups in Brussels who cover same topic. We are waiting for them to come up with general guidelines. Nothing has arrived from Brussels yet. We have an internal policy that has been communicated to teachers and students. We cannot publicize our internal policy, because we are waiting for the Brussels policy so as not to have any contradictions. Secondary has strict rules regarding AI. Academic honesty/Plagiarism rule! If you do not name your sources, including AI, it is plagiarism. Sanction: grade 0 (=cheating). AI is like an external source.

Teachers speak to their students about this topic and speak to them about how to use it in a good way. We raise awareness and teach responsible use. There are measures of control.

3. Feedback der Eltern zu S4 B-Tests/ S5/S6-Examen

Feedback after the tests took a long time due to resits. Sometimes the students only received marks without comments. Suggestion: shorter period between test and announcement of the grade.

DS: moderation takes time, resits etc. We strive to do our best. There were lots of exceptional cases.

S1-S3 are allowed to take assessments home.

For S4 and above parents can make an appointment to see the work of the students, because harmonized exams/ B-tests in S4 need to be archived.

Suggestion: go through the test with the entire class

4. Lunch – Nutzung der Aula/Alternativen wenn besetzt / places to eat lunch when the Aula is in use for other activities

Answer: study area downstairs. PAs supervise the situation and allow students to use the study area, if the Aula is in use during lunchtime. TZ: we need to be more vigilant to avoid events in the Aula during lunch time...

DS: There will be a clearer message to students when there are alternative arrangements such as boards around the Fish Tank area.



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**Schulberatungsausschuss 12.03.2024 /
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Attendance: Gitta Lotz, Marcus Adams, Martina Rinneberg, Kathrin Hoover, Fiona Hartmann, Natasha Mackenzie Ford, Janina Wiebols, Bernd Gegenheimer

Minutes / Protokoll Primary meeting:

1. European Science Symposium/ Project Week Primary

- Mrs Mackenzie Ford presented the project week for the Primary which will be for PP-P5 in the week of the 15th April 2024.
- The handouts and powerpoint presentation are attached to the minutes for reference.

2. Educational Support Update

- The data for educational support was presented for cycle 4. All stakeholders expressed a great satisfaction and appreciation of the data, and the individualized learning that ESRM continually gives.
- The data presented for the SAC for Educational Support is attached to the minutes for reference.

3. European Hours PP (24-25)

- Mr. Adams presented the new PP European Hours model which will be trialed in school year 24-25. EU Hours will be split into woodwork, coding and gardening. It will be in groups of 8, for 4 weeks at a time. DEA will have the rotation from September-December, DEB January to Easter, ENA Summer term.
- All stakeholders expressed a joint positive view to the initiative, and accepted a small financial fee would be required for PP in the material list for the cost of the woodwork project.

4. AOB

Mr. Adams presented the case that Bike Training will have to be changed in school year 24-25. Far too many children cannot cycle a bike, and this is now a problem with the practical assessment with the police. It will be likely the case in 24/25 that parents will have to fill out a sheet to show a child can complete the needed competencies for bike training. The theory will still be taught like now. All stakeholders accepted this was a fair way forward, and concrete proposals will be given in the upcoming months.

Points from the Parents' Association

The parents had no agenda points. A question was asked about the toilet situation in the Primary, which was clarified as a 'repair' rather than vandalism in the school. It was clarified that any incidences (minor) in the past were not the cause of the Secondary School students.