



Europäische Schule RheinMain  
The European School

## Joint Sustainability Committee / Gemeinsamer Nachhaltigkeitsausschuss 22.09.2025

Participants: Tom Zijlstra, Gitta Lotz, Daniella Schmitt, Alexandra Bebb, Marcus Adams, Doga Ersin, Greta Schmidt, Eva Gutu, Ela Gül, Vedha Sabharwal, Julia Fassbender, Helena Riffer, Fiona Hartmann, Paul Weir, Gökhan Kocakaya, Okkert Havenga, Cora Mrosek, Teresa Schmidt, Dominic Rogers, Janina Wiebols, Vanessa Schlüter-Haag Jana Fach

### Agenda / Tagesordnung:

Review of the Minutes from the last meeting. No comments/additions

#### 1. Punkte der Schule

- Umweltschule Award: Certified for the next two years, Award will be collected on Friday 26th September
- Next year it will have to be reapplied with two projects. Suggestion that Primary takes point on one of the projects for the next application round. Possibility of a combined project (Jonas with Paul?). Deadline for submission of project idea in school is May 2026, which then has a year to show enough proof of usability. Parents are happy to assist in finding a project.
- Tiny Forest Success: Was part of the Umweltschule application, and received a certificate for the Tag des Schulgartens. Also planted bee friendly plants, which got a certificate for Deutschland Summt! If there are further bee projects, the support association can be asked for assistance.
- Sustainable Staff Room with improved recycling system and a drinking water system. Secondary student council encouraged to school students on using the right bins. Rooms that lack the requisite bins, need to be reported to allow students to separate their trash. Student council to collect ideas on how to keep trash sorted. First step to make a survey on which rooms are lacking the requisite bins (Student council). In Primary copying of resources has gone way down, due to the buying of resource books. Secondary has reduced the teacher's printing credit, to encourage print saving. Student books are now Lehrmittelfreiheit books, which will be lent to students for a year.
- Question for a book swapping room, where older students can leave books for the younger ones. Problem is consistently the lack of space and someone willing to be responsible for it. Parent Association has this on their agenda to be solved in the future.



- Tablet trolleys ordered, along with computers, which can be shared and used, reducing electronic waste.
- IB Diploma Program: Collaborative Science Project: Students focused on scientific method to cover various projects, as well as measuring biodiversity and water capture from the various buildings. Powerpoints are available online.
- Beehive Project Update: There has been a successful first harvest. 60 jars were filled, which will be sold later on in the year. This will be a MYP project, which will run over the next 13 weeks, integrated into the timetable, to explore marketing opportunities, branding, logos and pricing in a workshop with our personal Imker. Over three days, students (S1) can then work on making additional things to sell in line with the honey and bees. They will be sold at the winter concert. The bees are not self-funding yet, so we are searching for additional sources of funding. Suggestion from Wiebols that the Förderverein could be involved, as they are looking for a new project. Bebb will get in contact with PA.
- Charity Dance (Halloween): The focus will lie on bats in coordination with NABU. There is a telephone meeting on the 22nd September. MYP3 are designing the teachers, Myp4 will be learning about this in class. The donation for the bats will be included in the ticket prices, with the goal of using these proceeds to buy kits for Bat boxes and building them with the students and then donating them to NABU. Students should be involved in improving their local areas. Date for dance is 23.10. Tickets are ready to go, and student council will be informed when they can be sold. S6&7 don't like going to these dances, because the younger ones are there and they feel smothered. They would like a separate dance for themselves. Bebb informs it is a lot to ask from teachers. Suggestion that the parents swap around with supervision.
- Sustainable school trips: S2&3 are taking part in Outward Bound, their values can be read online.
- S4 is going on a bus trip to Brussels, Belgium & Strasbourg, France.
- S6 will be taking trains and busses to Milan, London and Barcelona.
- Day trips will be using public transport where possible with the Hessenticket.
- Environmental stewards committee will be run by Mr Weir, suggestions for this year are currently being collected with decisions to be made on focus for the year. Ela Gül will be taking on the tip of the week, which will be included in the Friday newsletter.



- Fruit from the various trees and the school garden have been harvested and the trees have done quite well. Maybe look into pressing juice in the following years. The garden also does not get attention during the summer break, there needs to be a system in place on keeping track of it.
- Lunchpakete is still a lot of trash, which was especially evident during Frisbee day. There is always a lot of unused food thrown away. The Schnitzel sandwiches are also not that popular. There needs to be a way to reduce the trash. Part of the problem is the reduction of choice for the students. At the moment they choose once for the entire year and some students may want cheese sandwiches, because they don't like cold schnitzel. Suggestion to hand out the food without additional packaging, students bring their own storage device. Or maybe have Tupperware which they can buy against the voucher. There needs to be a meeting between school, Melomi and the parents to discuss the problems with these issues.

## 2. Punkte der Eltern

- Parents would like to suggest a more regular cycle for clean-up days. Suggestion that the various year grades are responsible for a month, collecting jackets, trash etc. and putting it into a central place. Suggestion class teacher time could be used for this.
- Could there be a project day for Sustainability in the week before the summer holidays, where each year grade could come up with a project. This could be included in the STEM projects, which has an option for sustainability. Schlüter-Hagg has the idea of thinking two years ahead, for inviting experts from outside, with parent help, would make it easier for the teachers. It would have to come from the entire parent association.
- Possibility of applying for the certificate of a Fairtrade School. 1000s of schools are part of this already. The requirements on the part of the committee are lower than the Umweltschule, however the demands on the part of the students is much higher, which has been passed on to the environmental Stewrds. They will look into it.
- Förderverein is working on a Portal for shared car rides, and secondhand book sale which might be launched by the next academic year.
- Sebastian Vettel has won an award for Nachhaltigkeit and is offering a lot of resources and ideas to school. Idea for launching a bigger project and 'Fair', with his involvement in line with the honey. To be discussed.