

A. Rimbaud – Second Primary School Council Meeting

Date: Thursday 10th March 2016

Venue: CM2 classroom

Session: 18.10 – 19.45 hrs

1. Nomination of the Secretary for the session: Estelle RIGAULT LETHUILLIER and Delphine PONROY (parent representatives)
2. Agenda for the Second School Council Meeting approved. The CM1A parent representative asked for a change to point 4. *School Calendar year 2016-2017*, as some parents wish to have other options for the calendars before they can vote. This request is rejected by the Direction owing to reasons further described at the beginning of point 4 of these minutes.
3. Minutes from the First School Council Meeting held on Tuesday 03rd November 2015: approved by show of hands. The Director however specifies an addendum: *“Increase security during the day (parking area)”*.
4. School Life:
 - a. **Teaching News:**
 - School calendar 2016-2017 :

- Institutional information related to drafting the School calendar:

Educational running of the School must meet objectives that keep an alternation of school terms and breaks recognised by the French State: 7 weeks of school / 2 weeks break.

The 2 proposals for the calendars submitted to vote are therefore offered to show transparency and openness to the various related parties, through a consultation process open to all parents.

- Proposals 1 et 2; vote of the School council by show of hands:

- ⇒ Proposal 1: 19 votes
- ⇒ Proposal 2: 6 votes
- ⇒ 1 abstention
- ⇒ 2 apologies for absence

Proposal 1 is therefore voted.

Mr Boncour (Counsellor Head of Cooperation, Development and Cultural Affairs, French Embassy) and Mrs Guillotin (Director of the Arthur Rimbaud School) specify that the School is run under the French education system and that, as such, it can be expected and understandable that it follows the recommended/advocated school terms and breaks. In this view, it is thus decided not to submit the calendar to a vote from the school year 2017-2018. Moreover, the alternation of 7 weeks of school / 15 days break is better matched to the one voted during the last school year as well.

The calendar (proposal 1) will have to be validated by the Inspector of The National Education (IEN) for the Southern and Eastern Africa (AAO) then by the AEFÉ (The Agency for French Education Abroad). It will then be published if and when approved.

The organisation of school time in a French School abroad is defined in accordance with the regulations from the French Ministry of National Education and Research, and its sections related to the school year and teaching time (article L521-1 of the Code for education).

- Schedule of Events for the current 2nd Term 2015-2016 :

- French speaking week (Fri 11/03 to Sun 20/03/2016): performances by the students (CPB, CM2, 2 students of 4^e and the 5 students of 2^{nde}) will take place on March 19th at the Alliance Française from 10:00 to 13:00.
- School reports circulated to the families of GS → CM2 on April 15th, end of Term 2.
- April 01st 2016: the events committee will meet on this topic.

- Events and meetings (times):

- The school schedules the meetings at 18:00/18:30 as much as possible.
- Organising events that involve the students requires a lot of preparation from the students and the teachers. It is often hard to schedule them outside of school hours.

b. HR

- Teachers turnover 2015-2016: 2 positions are likely to be vacant at the nursery, 2 vacant positions and 1 new position created for the primary next year. The recruitment procedure has been launched.

- Salaries and school fees (percentage):

Addressing questions related to the payment of salaries, the Director explains:

There are 2 types of contracts for teachers at the School: AEFÉ residents contracts (4 positions in nursery and primary; 3 in the secondary) and the local contracts. The Head of School is the only AEFÉ expatriate contract.

Type of contract	Number	% paid by the AEFÉ	% locally paid (by the School)
Expatriate	1	100%	0%
Resident	7	53%	47%
Local	19	0%	100%

Note: The school pays for the ISVL (specific allowance for local life) for the resident teachers as well as for a financial contribution of 6 per cent – contribution to the AEFÉ from the school fees, including participation in the pensions funds, the trainings, etc.

c. Maintenance of the premises:

Msasani :

The curtains in the classrooms are hard to pull, and are kept open in tying knots. The system will be improved so as to open them in full.

Room temperature control in the classrooms: thermometers have been bought. However, controlling the AC angle and performance remains difficult.

Oysterbay :

Maintenance of the ways to access the classrooms: this topic is currently being examined to find a solution.

The smoking area is moved to the place accommodating vegetal waste.

d. Safety:

- Feedback / information about the Arthur Rimbaud School:

Mr Boncour specifies that Mr Blévin is the safety officer at the French Embassy – for external safety issues the School falls under this authority. Mr Blévin maintains constant contact with the related Tanzanian authorities, and makes frequent requests to them to enforce vigilance around the School campuses.

The extension of the state of emergency in France also bears an impact on its representations abroad. Actions are ongoing but owing to their very nature related to safety issues, cannot be communicated openly. Discussions are ongoing to subcontract the gardening and security services. The police presence in front of the Msasani and Oysterbay campuses is variable but effective.

- Implementing the School ID card:

Following incidents that occurred during the last Term, the Direction has decided to implement a School ID card. Two (2) cards for each child will be given to the parents at a possible cost of 20,000 TSH for each card.

Only those holding a child's ID card will be allowed to pick that child from School.

This system will be implemented as soon as possible and will involve a trial period in order to ensure the procedure runs smoothly.

Following request from the class representatives, the Direction is willing to examine, on a case-by-case basis, requests from the families who would need, for specific reasons, more than 3 cards per child.

e. Communication

This point was added at the end of the talks. There are increasing comments about the excessive number of emails. Suggestions were made without reaching an agreement for the time being.

Iris TAM TSI spoke to point out that a communication committee was created this year (at the last School Council meeting), its objective is to address these hindrances and to make suggestions.