

French School Arthur Rimbaud

## **MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL THIRD MEETING**

held on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2016

Classroom 2, Secondary School

Session opens at 18hrs05

**Absent with apologies:** Mr Andrew Mshandete, local Tanzanian staff representative (administrative, maintenance, ASEM).

**1. Nomination of the secretary for the session** among the parents representatives: Mrs Estelle Mottier. She will be assisted by Mrs Iris Tam Tsi who will provide with a translation of these minutes.

**2. Agenda of the School Council Third meeting: approved unanimously.** AES related questions will however be dealt with at the beginning of this meeting, so that Mr Ismaël Hetiouech may leave earlier.

**3. Minutes from the School Council Second meeting held on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 2016: approved unanimously.**

### **4. School News:**

#### **• AES**

An assessment of the AES, with their instructors, is scheduled for Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016 ; yet it can already be noted that few Secondary School students take part in the AES. The Secondary School timetable makes it difficult to enrol to the AES for the Secondary students, in spite of two free afternoons this year.

The football/soccer AES had to be cancelled, likely because of a low turnout.

Students enjoy tournaments. Yet a higher and earlier coordination and scheduling with other international schools is expected. To be implemented with the person in charge of AES for the coming year.

Volleyball also to be considered for the Francophonie tournament.

The AES do not offer any water activities. Both the Head of School and the Embassy point out that this type of activity demands a specific control by a qualified staff. The opening of a swimming club and a waterpolo AES could be considered in the future swimming pool of the School.

#### **• Secondary School students**

The students ask for precisions about Personalised Support (Acompagnement Personnalisé, AP). The Personalised Support, which is part of the curriculum and included in the timetable, does not target all the students (in this case, only 5 students) whereas it is usually designed because of classes of up to 30 students in the French Secondary system. The AP hours aim at students or subjects that the teachers wish to focus on: in Arthur Rimbaud, core subjects such as French and Mathematics are directly targeted, as well as all those related to methodology and the organisation of each student.

The 4<sup>ème</sup> students wish the computer room can be improved. Progress have been made with the damaged screens being replaced, but the school IT stock is lacking RAM (Random Access Memory) and some technical issues keep on taking place: despite the satisfactory change of ISProvider to RAHA fiber, the Internet Access is still unsteady and uneven with the routers in the various classrooms.

Despite not every student has a computer, purchases have been made since 2014-2015: 2 mobile computer equipment including 1 for the Secondary school, video-projectors in the Secondary classrooms and in the Sciences/Art classroom, and a number of laptops (frequent use of Pronote by the teachers). The very fact of sharing resources nevertheless encourages group work and sharing. This situation is common in France. A better technical stability is however expected for next year and the following years. Building up digital development in the School remains a major axis of the School leading project.

The 5<sup>ème</sup> students request the handles on the toilet doors to be replaced. Regular and daily maintenance issues must be addressed to and dealt directly with Mrs Bernadette Mande or Mr Erwan Hanlée.

## • TEACHING NEWS (Cf detailed Agenda)

### **Schedule of events:**

Parents are encouraged to use PRONOTE more actively (Secondary school students have already been using it heavily). This software will also be used in the near future to circulate information that are usually sent by email. Access to PRONOTE will also be developed for the Primary School in order to provide with easier access to the School calendar of events, among others.

Kindly note more specifically in the Schedule of coming events:

- Music Day, scheduled on 21.06.2016 from 3.00pm to 5.00pm;
- The 6<sup>ème</sup> and 5<sup>ème</sup> students performance on Tuesday 28.06.2016 at 6.00pm at the Little Theatre. Two plays by Molière (*La jalousie du Barbouillé* and *L'Amour Médecin*) will be performed. In order to support the rental cost of the venue, a participation fee of 10,000 TZS per adult and 5,000 TZS per child (above 12 years-old) will be requested.

### **Primary and Lower Secondary School Reform:**

New cycles, new curriculums and a new core base of knowledge, skills and culture will be implemented in September 2016 for the Primary and Lower Secondary School.

The Lower Secondary School reform, as introduced by the Secondary School coordinator Mrs Hélène Agostini, includes:

- The creation of two cycles, one of which including both Primary and Secondary classes: cycle 3 (CM1, CM2 and 6<sup>ème</sup>) and cycle 4 (5<sup>ème</sup>, 4<sup>ème</sup> and 3<sup>ème</sup>).
- The new school report of the student will cover the years from CP to 3<sup>ème</sup>, and will allow to better follow-up the student throughout the compulsory school years.

The reform plans for 26 weekly hours to be taught in the Lower Secondary School students timetable. The French Schools abroad however do benefit from a more flexible implementation, hence allowing the School to keep the Library hours, swimming lessons and theatre classes with a total of 28 weekly hours for each Lower Secondary class.

Please note that the Library hours are also devoted to education activities and not aimed at borrowing books only.

The compulsory subjects split into core base subjects for all students and complementary subjects where the contents can be learnt in diversified ways – *Accompagnement Personnalisé*, AP (personalised support) and *Enseignements Pratiques Interdisciplinaires*, EPI (an education project jointly led in two subjects).

- The AP will be effectively included within the 26 weekly hours defined in the timetable. 3 hours in 6<sup>e</sup> class, a level that stands out as the end of cycle 3 as much as the entry in Secondary School: this assumes a particularly strong support for the students to settle best in this transitional period of time, 1 to 2 hours in cycle 4.

The AP enables students to explore different ways of learning, teachers to diversity the types of groups for students – as class group, target groups, skill groups, ...

In Arthur Rimbaud, 2 teachers – French and Mathematics – will be dedicated to Lower

Secondary School AP in 2016-2017. This implementation will be assessed to decide whether or not to consider AP for 2017-2018.

- Creation of EPI:

Crossing subjects and disciplines enables to cross-check the skills, to give more meaning to them and therefore to use a variety of competences. The students thus get familiar with project building and their efforts lead to a practical achievement.

A final oral examination for the *Diplôme National du Brevet* (DNB) will focus on the EPI studied throughout the Lower Secondary years. The students will present during the examination a topic related to one of the 6 topics – minimum number of topics studied in EPI. That examination will replace the current oral DNB examination on History of Arts.

**The Partnership Convention** between the French School Arthur Rimbaud and Alliance Française of Dar es Salaam is now signed. It can be extended or reviewed every year.

#### • **TEACHERS TURNOVER AND RECRUITMENT 2016-2017**

8 renewed positions, 3 newly created positions, 1 vacant position in Nursery following Marion Wunschel (GS)'s newly announced departure.

#### • **PROJECTED NUMBER OF STUDENTS 2016-2017**

The current number of students meets the projected budget (projected number confirmed to the AEFÉ = 310), or even tends to increase (325) as new enrolments are still being taken. The capacity of the Nursery School is not yet full, the number of students is maintaining in Elementary levels and increasing in Secondary levels. Mr Philippe Boncour points that the new Campus will contribute to raise the number of students.

#### • **SCHOOL LIFE<sup>1</sup>**

##### **Exit autorisation cards for Secondary School students:**

The cards will be updated and will now have two mentions to be signed by the parents. The first one related to an autorisation to go out during lunch time, the second one related to an autorisation to go out at the end of the day's lessons according to the timetable, or in case of a change in the timetable should a teacher be absent. The shape of this school card remains to be determined by Mrs Bernadette Mande and Mrs Annie Guillotin.

#### • **RUNNING AND INVESTMENT**

**Works** scheduled during the Summer break are mainly about restoring facades and improving the Oysterbay campus entrance gate so as to make it cleaner and brighter. The basic maintenance is also required in the Msasani campus and the coating type must be reviewed to replace the sandpit, the quotation received for synthetic grass being over budget. The situation is the same for the basketball field in Oysterbay. Other works to improve the Oysterbay campus playground out of safety concerns, are being considered by the Management Board.

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<sup>1</sup> School Life = it must be brought to everybody's attention that this administrative service in French refers to the following: pastoral care, discipline, behaviour and conduct, late arrivals, and absences.

**The School and the Embassy** have submitted the request to get a 10,000 euro parliamentary grant that French MP Alain Marsaud has committed to donate. It is aimed at purchasing digital equipment. The request is being processed, despite the School being originally considered as non eligible owing to previous AEFÉ grants.

The purchase of video-projectors namely, could complement the progress made in the past two years regarding technical equipment – 2 mobile classes, mobile interactive boards as well as new computers were purchased. The teachers room is also better equipped now.

The Embassy (Counsellor Head of Cooperation, Development and Cultural Affairs) specifies that MP Alain Marsaud has held to his commitment: the 10,000 euros grant from parliamentary funding is indeed granted to the School.

• **THE COMMUNICATION COMMISSION** is presenting a *Newsletter* template in both French and English versions. This has been worked out in order to reduce the number of emails sent to the parents and to ensure information to be circulated more reliably. This *Newsletter* may seem to duplicate PRONOTE on some points, yet it will have the advantage to be sent to parents only once weekly, while the parents will have to make the move to look into an information on PRONOTE by themselves.

The document in question is a template prepared on Power Point that can be filled in with various pieces of information to circulate. It is paramount for all users to abide by a rigorous transfer of the data by Thursday every week. The Newsletter will thus be able to be circulated to the School community – parents and staff – on Fridays.

Mrs Annie Guillotin suggests, on a trial basis, to launch this Newsletter from September 2016-2017.

Session ends at 19Hrs35.