

Minutes of School board Meeting

Place: Skimminge 21, Maribo

Online link: [Click here to join the meeting if you are online](#)

Date: 17:00 Tuesday 23 April 2024

Attended: Per, Karina, Sarah, Iris, Annelies, (Brian, Dom)

Online: Puneet, Carsten

Apologies: Puneet, Carsten (from kl.17:00)

Attachments:

- Minutes form last meeting (March 2024)
- School report 2023-2024
- School board election process 2024

Agenda

1. 17:00- Welcome to class councils and board members

Description:

1. Per to welcome and open the meeting.

2. 17:00- Class parent Councils and School Board Annual meeting- Per and board

Description:

2. Every year, the school board invites the class parent representatives to a meeting to discuss some topics and hear your feedback. The idea is for class reps to speak with other parents in the class about the topics listed below, collect their input, and bring the thoughts, feelings, and ideas to the meeting.

- 17:00 Topic 1: Communication between parents- for example on Aula, WhatsApp, does this function in a respectful way?
- 17:20 Topic 2: Is there a Danish vs international difference- among parents, in classes with students, outside of school?
- 17:40 Topic 3: Student screen time, for educational purposes, while at school. Should there be limits?
- 18:00 End of class council meeting

Minutes:

- Welcome- 12 class council parents present and part of the school board.
- Grade 0: Questions sent out on Aula, no responses, is this a good sign that there is no issue? Communication seems good, classes organize events and communicates. No comment on screen time 'now' as there was more before Christmas when classes were together.
- Grade 1: Questions sent out on Aula, no responses. Challenge over klassekasse, noone pays into it. Aula is a 'void'. No communication. Paper versions sent out for events, eg playdates etc. They do come for playdates, but apathy over responding. Comment on lack of 'Danishness' events. No comment on screen time.
- Grade 2: Only one response via Aula. No issue between DK vs Int in play among the children. There has been tension in the adult group, especially around the topic of birthdays. Offer to have parent

meeting but not taken up. Some feedback on how to make Danish language important and valued. Some misunderstanding or expectations, from a few, regarding difference between LIS being a Danish public school and expectations from other systems, eg what LIS can do and can't do. Criticism around screen time from parents, it is necessary but needs balance with other media. Need for some rules with the aim for focus on the task, not multitask with eg: music in the ear. Wish for screen policy.

- Grade 3: Messages are sent on Aula but only two responses. WhatsApp also does not get many responses. Council parents reach out personally. However, families still show up to organized events. Often pair up activities with other classes. Make sure screen time is purely educational based, up to the school to make the policy. Dk vs International is not the difference, there are many cultural differences at play, needs understanding by all.
- Grade 4: A very international group with almost exclusive communication on WhatsApp. Lots of open dialog, polls, and thumbs up replies. It can be difficult to bring new families in mid-year, but just needs time. The feeling is that screen time is used appropriately.
- Grade 5: Big Christmas party for Gr5+6. Not much since the split. Waiting until summer to include the new families. Communication is mostly done between themselves. Boys and girls chats, organize own activities and meet ups. They use SMS and Snapchat. Grade 5 are much calmer since the split. Aula is missing some phone numbers. When messages sent on Aula, generally a good response. Class is good together and function well. Parents are also good at communicating with each other. Feedback- some kids work better with music in the ear and there are some excellent learning tools online that teachers use. But generally kids are too reliant/addicted to modern media.
- Grade 6: WhatsApp is the choice of communication. Surprise of topic 2 question because there have not been issues. Acknowledged that phones are taken at the start of the day, and if laptops are used for educational purposes, there is no issue. What about handwriting skills? Belief that klassekasse will not work well with this age group.
- Grade 7: This age is quite independent organize activities among themselves. WhatsApp typically works, Aula less preferred for peer to peer communication. Has not heard concerns about screen time, although some seem to have their phone at lunch. Definitely some kids play games instead of doing their work.
- Grade 8: Use Aula for communication. 8 out of 9 families on Aula. WhatsApp used sometimes. Few Danes in this group, so no comment for topic 2. When class was combined there were some comment about misunderstanding of LIS is compared to a regular public school. Foreign families are concerned about meeting requirements when of their home school system when they return.

General:

- Aula- is not ideal platform. Works for top down communication- not great for peer to peer. Not always working. These frustrations lead to low usage. Not necessarily a sign of 'not caring' just ask again. But- using Aula, everyone gets the message and GDPR compliant. WhatsApp and Facebook are a choice for parent groups but not all use these platforms. Parent contact details are available.
- New kids joining- class parents would like to know early to reach out to these new families. Suggestion, tell new families who the contact parents are. Information comes from class teachers in weekly newsletter.
- Will wellbeing survey be communicated to all? Action: Dom to share.
- Optagelseprøve- can parents lobby to ministry to avoid this, and get direct access to Global Studies at MG?
- Can we organize fundraising from the parents or they can approach companies as a means to support , eg: trips
- A popular request for a school sweat shirt.

3. 18:05- Approval of minutes and approval of agenda

Description:

- 2.1 Approval and minutes and follow up on action items from last board meeting (attached)
- 2.2 Approval of agenda

Minutes:

- 2.1 Approved without comment
- 2.2 Approved without comment

3. 18:10 Reflection and evaluation for class council and school board meeting

Description:

3. An opportunity for the school board to reflect on the meeting with the class parent councils. Are there any actions or future agenda topics that need to be discussed?

Minutes:

A good meeting. Screen time mentioned as something that has gone down. Useful information was provided by the Parents Council.

Reflections on having information on Aula and What's App.

Important that not all info or conversations among parents are shared with their children, especially topics that could cause concern, are about teachers, other children.

Focus on bringing in new parents in the class – welcoming and giving information about activities in the class. It could be something for the parent's council to handle. Or new parents could have contact info on the members in the parent's council.

To consider: How could we make parents be more active on Aula and make them respond? Perhaps more information in a folder for new parents – or in a welcome letter from the classes. Info meetings for new parents held regularly to also be an option.

There wasn't that much feedback about Danish/international group. The general impression is that it is going fine.

Board talking about how to raise money for class activities. It could be an idea to hold An International Day at LIS to sell cake, food and other stuff.

4. 18:30 News from chair and principal

Description:

- 4.1 Staff changes
- 4.2 Budget
- 4.3 Ny aftale om folkeskolen
- 4.4 Pavillions update

Minutes:

4.1 Veronika has given her resignation and will finish at the end of June. Job ad goes live this weekend. Katja has finished and Freja has taken a contract until end June. Kylie and Laura began in Spring School this month.

A new teacher will begin in August, moving from Holeby School – teaches Danish, English, German and cooking.

4.2 It is predicted that there will be 400-500k budget overspend. Due to items related to expansion, such as extra rent, pedel services, renovations. LIS have meet with LK Økonomi and they will take our case to the sector budget meeting.

4.3 Link: <https://www.uvm.dk/aktuelt/nyheder/uvm/2024/mar/240319-ny-aftale-om-folkeskolen>

There are 33 initiatives, such as:

- more local decision-making power and reducing central management.
- Investment of DKK 740 million annually dedicated to strengthening schools, along with additional investments for books and classrooms.
- The curriculum will be streamlined, with a reduction in the number goals to provide teachers with more freedom in teaching.
- Schools may introduce grades from Grade 6
- Option for Grade 8 and 9 Grade can combine school and a work placement

4.4 Update about the pavilions. The plan is still to have the pavilions ready for use in October 2024. We still have to plan where to put the rest of the classes until then. We are working toward a solution similar to the one that we have now which means a few class rooms in Borgerskolen and the Gymnasium.

The Gym next to LIS will attached to the school from August.

The football court will be moved to another part of the school yard.

The playground at LIS needs to be updated in the future.

5. 18:45 School report and looking ahead

Description:

5.1 A brief presentation of school report which was presented to the School Sector as part of the quality assurance procedures/skoleudvirkling samtaler. Key statistics are attached.

5.2 A brief presentation of the main timetable and scheduling points of interest for school year 2024-2025.

Minutes:

5.1 Next year there will be an increased focus on Math. Some classes will have to teachers during some lessons.

Suggestion: "Playdate-bench". A bench for the students in a certain color in the green area could signal "I would like to have someone to play with."

5.2 Since splitting the classes in January, there are no changes to the number of lessons and subjects for each grade level, except, swimming only Grade 3, PE in class pairs, 1+2. 4+5, 6+7. 8+9. One PE class will run over lunch but finish early. Most teacher will follow their current class. Priority to two teacher for English and Danish, two adult for practical subjects, maths boost continues with a focus on mellemtrin. Classes with trips will have two class teachers, others only one. No teacher now with double class teacher duty.

6. 19:00 Preparation for the Annual General Meeting and School Board election

Description:

Decision on the agenda for the AGM 21st May 2024, and presentation of the school board election process and nominations.

Suggested agenda:

- Welcome
- Topic- should something be presented at the meeting?
- Call for nominations and school board election proces

Minutes:

Dom takes the board through the rules and timeline of School Board Election. How to be nominated and elected.

If the number of nominated is not higher that what is needed for the board an actual vote won't take place. Then we will have a peaceful election. If election takes place it will happen on paper.

As this year is an election year the meeting will be focusing on nominations and elections. The school will also tell about the plans for next school year – specifically about the pavilions and class rooms.

7. 19:25 Next meeting

Description:

- AGM
- 11 June 2024- Principles, Meeting schedule for the coming school year, Revision of annual wheel.

Minutes:

AGM will be rescheduled: The new date will be the 16th May at 4:30.

8. 19:30 AOB

Description:

Opportunity for any announcements or proposals.

Minutes:

The current board is running again for the election.