



Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday 9th January 2025 from 19h to 23h15

Location: Alcide de Gasperi, Charlemagne Building (European Commission) and not available online.

Present in situ: Present at the start of the meeting were 249 class representatives or Board members and 115 proxies were given.

Others: APEEE Director, APEEE Staff, voting company and volunteer interpreters.

The Annual General Meeting is convened to discuss and present the following agenda points, on which class representatives and Board members will vote. All documents were made available on the APEEE website before the meeting and were sent to all parents.

- 1 - 19:00: Approval of the Agenda
- 2 - 19:20 - 20:35: Approval of the tellers and of presiding officer of the electoral office; elections of Board members
- 3 - 20:35 - 20:50: Exchange of views on transparency
- 4 - 20:50 - 21:45: Financial report
 - ⇒ Presentation of the financial report
 - ⇒ Approval of 2023-2024 accounts
 - ⇒ Discharge to the Auditor
 - ⇒ Approval of 2024-2025 budget
 - ⇒ Membership fee 2025-2026
- 5 - 21:45 - 22:45: Annual report 2024
 - ⇒ Presentation of annual report
 - ⇒ Approval of annual report
 - ⇒ Discharge to the Board
- 6 - 22:45 - 23:00: Results of Board's elections

Opening statement by the Chair of the Board, M. Andrew Janis Folkmanis, including explanations on the voting system and the possibility of a consultative vote for parents who are not class representatives and Board members.

The Board has 19 vacant mandates and currently 6 candidates have come forward to stand for the elections. The Chair invites parents who wish to stand and who have not yet sent their candidature, to raise their hand and give their information to the secretariat. 10 candidates step forward to represent the German, Portuguese, Lithuanian and Dutch sections.

1. Approval of the agenda.

A test vote is launched to establish the procedure. A technical issue affecting less than twenty class representatives is solved. The Chair introduces the agenda and invites the members to vote.

The members vote on Resolution 1: *The General MEETING approves the agenda of the AGM on 9th January 2025.*

Decision: Resolution 1 is approved by 95.9% majority (0.82% no – 3.28% abstention).



2. Approval of the tellers, presiding officer & board elections.

The Chair introduces the second resolution and invites members to vote.

The members vote on Resolution 2: *The GENERAL MEETING names as tellers: John Carroll, Yaseen Dimov, Milena Sardella, Maija Knutti, the last being the Presiding Officer.*

Decision: Resolution 2 is approved by 91.33% majority (1.63% no and 7.05% abstention).

The members vote on Resolution 3: *The GENERAL MEETING fixes for the election of the members of the Board the maximum number of "crosses" per ballot at 19 for a total of 19 vacant positions.*

Decision: Resolution 3 is approved by 94.07% majority (1.89% no and 4.04% abstention).

Class representatives take the floor to ask, following animosity in the Board, if all candidates could during their presentation inform how they would improve the Board dynamics. Others also invite the Chair to ask Board members with a two-year mandate to take the floor and provide possible improvements.

The Assembly agrees that the matter could also be discussed under point 3 of the agenda – exchange of views on transparency.

The Chair invites, in alphabetical order, the candidates to take the floor to present their candidacy. The parents that stood on the spot will be invited to take the floor in order of candidacy. Ms Carin Persson Sveningsson is absent and is represented by a Swedish parent.

The Chair invites members to cast their votes, informing the Assembly that due to having fewer candidates than the available mandates, all should be elected (requiring 1 vote per candidate).

The election results will be shared at the end of the meeting, to allow the Electoral Office to confirm the results.

3. Exchange of views on transparency.

The class representative that reached out to the Board to add an agenda point is invited to take the floor and introduce the point. The representative asks the Board and Assembly to allow parents to be observers in the Board setting, in a livestream setting, sending the link to connect and the agenda in advance. To allow parents to listen and engage, as due to time constraints, Board communications are inconsistent. Stating that as the parents pay 57€, they should play a more active role, adding that it could improve the atmosphere in the Board and if the Board digresses, parents can remind the Board of its role.

Participants ask for transparency in the APEEE finance and the role of the outgoing Treasurer, as well as remind the Assembly of the importance of the wellbeing of the permanent staff, suggesting an anonymous survey of the wellbeing of the staff and report back to parents.

The Chair invites the Assembly to an information session to be scheduled mid-March on the item of transparency. However, the Assembly requests a vote on the livestreaming mentioned prior.

A member raises the concern of the Treasurer taking over and producing the documents on which he, as a Board member, is asked to vote and defend his position of Treasurer to the Board. The Treasurer



states that the APEEE Director asked for his help, following the Board's discussion that the hiring of such a position should be done through the Board and not by the Director.

The Assembly proceeds to a vote on the proposal to livestream and revert to the Assembly mid-March with technical details during the information session.

The members vote on: The APEEE Board meetings will be livestreamed to all parents (except for confidential issues) the technical details will be presented for discussion latest mid- March 2025.

Decision: the vote is approved by 67.79% majority (9.61% no 22.6% abstain).

4. Financial report.

The Chair gives the Treasurer, M. Jan von Pfaler, the floor to introduce the Financial Report. Following the presentation of the report, the Treasurer invites parents to ask their questions. An information session was organised in January 2025 and, all documents are available on the APEEE website.

Due to the high amount loss in the APEEE's finances linked to parents not paying their invoices, participants suggest inquiring about direct debit and interest amongst the parents to prevent the loss.

Class representatives bring up the financial situation of the APEEE and the missing financial manager, following the departure of the previous two managers and the newly hired recruit.

The APEEE Director addresses the Assembly to highlight the challenges faced by the APEEE staff over the past year, citing low morale driven by insufficient IT tools, inadequate support from the Board, and staff members experiencing burnout. The Director emphasizes that APEEE staff are in direct contact with the children and consistently go above and beyond to deliver daily solutions despite these difficulties. The Director calls on the Board and Assembly to prioritize staff wellbeing, warning that the situation will deteriorate further without effective solutions or support. The Director receives a standing ovation and is thanked by the staff for her intervention.

A Board member asks to cover the Social Fund, however, due to lengthy discussions regarding the financial situation and alleged conflict of interest, the item could not be discussed and the Chair agrees to have the topic discussed during the information session of mid-March.

The members vote on Resolution 4: *The GENERAL MEETING approves the submitted 2023-2024 annual accounts and the allocation of the results to the corresponding funds.*

Decision: Resolution 4 is approved by an 62.43% majority (6.78% no, 30.79% abstention).

The members vote on Resolution 5: *The GENERAL MEETING gives full discharge to the Auditor for her mandate in the past financial year.*

Decision: Resolution 5 is approved by 67.71% majority (0.28% no, 32.01% abstention).

The members vote on Resolution 6: *The GENERAL MEETING approves the budget 2024-2025*

Decision: Resolution 6 is approved by 60.51% majority (6.25% no, 33.24% abstention).



The members vote on Resolution 7: *The GENERAL MEETING sets the annual contribution per family for the financial year 2025-2026 as equal to 57 euros, out of which 6 euros per contribution paid is allotted to the Social Fund.*

Decision: Resolution 7 is approved by 64.2%% (9.94% no, 25.85% abstention).

5. Annual report 2024.

The Chair takes the floor and states an information session was organised in January 2024 and all documents are available on the APEEE website. Following a delay in the agenda, the Assembly proceeds to the vote on the annual report. A participant suggests having the annual report discussed at the beginning of the next AGM, as it is the APEEE's core business. The school curriculum and school clubs (for pupils) are mentioned.

The members vote on Resolution 8: *The GENERAL MEETING approves the annual report for the year 2023-2024.*

Decision: Resolution 8 is approved with an 62.09% majority (5.37% no, 32.54% abstention).

The members vote on Resolution 9: *The GENERAL MEETING gives full discharge to the outgoing Administrative Board for 2023-2024.*

Decision: Resolution 9 is approved by 60.62% majority (4.92% no, 34.46% abstention).

The Chair announces the results of the elections with the support of the Electoral Office.

- Célia ALVES RODRIGUES
- Vanessa BATISTA
- Sabrina FASOLI
- Andrew Janis FOLKMANIS
- Alessia GHEZI
- Joana GIL
- Sanjee GOONETILAKE
- Andrea GRGIC
- Ute HAMMERSFAHR
- Bruno LARANJEIRA
- Carin PERSON SVENINGSON
- Elita PETRAITIENÉ
- Johanna PEYREDIEU DU CHARLAT
- Myriam PINI
- Fabrício SANTOS
- David ZELINGER

Have been elected as Board members for the Board 2025.

Meeting ended at 23h15.