

## January 2026 Board Meeting

**Date:** Thursday 22 January 2026 from 19h00-22h50

**Location:** Teacher's canteen and online (ZOOM)

**Present:** BATTU HENRIKSSON Virginie - FOLKMANIS Janis - GESQUIERE Pim - GHEZZI Alessia - GIL Joana – KÖGLER Peter - LACROIX Nicolas (arrived at 20h00) - MADEIRA Jose - MARTIN Rüdiger - MIOLATO Virgilio - NOTARRIGO Pascale - PANIZZA Andrea - PETRAITIENE Elita - RÄDLER Albert - SEMMELRODT Anja - VON PFALER Jan - WIDEFJÄLL Lena

**Zoom:** BATISTA COUTINHO Vanessa (left at 22h00)- BECKER Anne - GRGIĆ Andrea - LACROIX Nicolas (until 20h00) - LEMAIRE Soraya - SAJARA PAES MOREIRA Inês - PERSSON SVENINGSON Carin - PEYREDIEU DU CHARLAT Johanna - SKARAITIS Mindaugas

All related documents were sent to the Board members before the meeting.

The outgoing Chair presents the agenda. Some Board members do not agree on the sequencing of the point of communication on Board 2025 closed files, arguing it should be taken after the elections for the bureau and other roles. The Chairperson proposes that first there is the communication on closed files, outside of the agenda of the board meeting, and that the agenda will be discussed afterwards, and Board members accept.

### Appointment of the Secretary a.i.

The Board is proposed to vote on an ad interim Secretary for the meeting (to host the meeting and to do the minutes). Elita Petraitiene volunteers and is approved by acclamation.

**Decision: The Board appoints Elita Petraitiene as ad interim secretary for the meeting.**

### Info point on the Board 2025 closed files

[Confidential due to privacy and data protection legislation]

## I. Agenda points

### 1.1. Approval of the agenda.

Agenda approved by acclamation.

**Decision: the Board approves the agenda.**

### 1.2. Approval of the Board report 16-01-2026

The 16-01-2026 Board report is approved by acclamation.

**Decision: the Board approves 16-01-2026 Board report.**

## **II. Items for discussion and decision**

### **2.1. Election of the president, VP & Bureau members.**

The outgoing Chair presents briefly the roles of each position and invites members who wish to be candidates for President position. The Board members vote anonymously using Zoom platform. The chair presents the upcoming files and proposes that the Board discusses first, as a block, the candidates' key positions and motivations for taking on the respective positions. The majority in the Board disagreed with this approach and proposed that like every year the vote should be position by position starting with the chairperson.

Virginie BATTU HENRIKSSON, Pim GESQUIERE and Pascale NOTARRIGO stand for the position of chairperson of the Board for the year 2026 and take the floor to introduce their candidatures. Virginie BATTU-HENRIKSSON outlined four main strands of work she would like to see the board working on: (1) Fostering trust of the parents' community, (2) upholding a strong and constructive relationship with the school, (3) Ensuring that our Board enables its members to advance on projects (board as enabler), (4) Thriving for solid, reliable and future-proof services (complete message in Annex 1). Pim GESQUIERE highlighted the challenges of the year added, driven by the move to Evere and by the on-going transformation on the organisation of the APEEE. He underlined the importance of continuing the work started by the Board in 2025 and of continuing to deliver to ensure readiness on many fronts, including the IT projects and the canteen. Pascale NOTARRIGO highlighted her ability to build bridges and find middle ground between disagreeing parties. Relying on her professional competences in the field of mediation, she would be available to help bringing sides with different views together to work constructively. She further added that she has the flexibility and time that are necessary to be committed to such a demanding task as is chairing the APEEE.

**Decision: Virginie BATTU-HENRIKSSON is elected chairperson with a 71% majority (17 votes for Virginie BATTU-HENRIKSSON, 6 votes for Pim GESQUIERE and 1 vote for Pascale NOTARRIGO, 1 abstention/no vote).**

The newly elected chair takes over chairing the meeting and invites members to stand for vice chairpersons' positions.

Anne Charlotte BECKER and Elita Petraitiene stand for the position of vice-chairperson for pedagogical affairs of the Board for the year 2026. Both present their candidatures.

**Decision: Anne Charlotte BECKER is elected vice chairperson for educational matters with a 68% majority (17 votes for Anne Charlotte BECKER and 8 votes for Elita Petraitiene).**

Nicolas LACROIX stands for the position of vice-chairperson for administrative matters of the Board for the year 2026 and presents himself.

**Decision: Nicolas LACROIX is elected vice chairperson for administrative affaires with a 71% majority (17 votes for yes and 7 votes for no, 1 abstention/no vote).**

The chair invites members to stand for the Board Secretary position.

Joana GIL stands for the position of secretary of the Board for the year 2026 and presents her candidature.

**Decision: Joana GIL is elected secretary with a 80% majority (20 votes for yes, 4 votes for no and 1 abstention/no vote).**

The chair invites members to stand for the Secretary of Information position (the position also includes Communication WG coordinator position).

Andrea PANIZZA stands for the position of Secretary of Information of the Board for the year 2026 and presents his candidature.

**Decision: Andrea PANIZZA is elected Secretary of Information with an 80% majority (20 votes for yes and 5 votes for no).**

The chair invites members to stand for the Treasurer position.

Albert RADLER stands for the position of Treasurer of the Board for the year 2026 and presents his candidature.

**Decision: Albert RADLER is elected Treasurer with an 75% majority (18 votes for yes and 6 votes for no, 1 abstention/no vote).**

The chair invites members to stand for the Bureau member without a portfolio position. The member is also Health Safety and Security WG coordinator.

Vanessa BATISTA COUTINHO and Mindaugas SKARAITIS stand for the position of member without a portfolio of the Board for the year 2026 and present their candidatures.

**Decision: Mindaugas SKARAITIS is elected member of the Bureau without a portfolio with a 67% majority (16 votes for Mindaugas SKARAITIS and 8 votes for Vanessa BATISTA COUTINHO, 1 abstention/no vote).**

## 2.2. CEPM and CEES coordinators election

The chair invites members to stand for CEES (Conseil Elargi d'Education Secondaire) and CEPM (Conseil Elargi Primaire et Maternelle) WG coordinators positions.

Pascale NOTARRIGO and Lena WIDEFJALL stand for CEPM WG coordinator position and present their candidatures.

**Decision: Lena WIDEFJALL is elected a CEPM WG coordinator with a 63% majority (15 votes for Lena WIDEFJALL and 9 votes for Pascale NOTARRIGO; 1 abstention/no vote).**

Anja SEMMELRODT and Elita PETRAITIENE stand for the position of CEES WG coordinator and present their candidatures.

**Decision: Anja SEMMELRODT is elected a CEES WG coordinator with a 58% majority (14 votes for Anja SEMMELRODT and 8 votes for Elita PETRAITIENE; 3 abstentions/no vote).**

The chair decides to postpone the election of the coordinators of the other Working Groups to the next Board meeting.

## 2.3. InterParents, CEA, WAB and other representatives' election

The chair invites members to stand for delegates and observers at InterParents positions.

Janis FOLKMANIS and Virgilio MIOLATO stand as delegates, Johanna PEYREDIEU DU CHARLAT and Anne Charlotte BECKER stand as observers, and present themselves. The Board votes for the team.

**Decision: Janis FOLKMANIS and Virgilio MIOLATO are elected as delegates and Johanna PEYREDIEU DU CHARLAT and Anne Charlotte BECKER as observers at InterParents with a 88% majority (21 votes for yes, 2 votes for no and 1 vote for abstain; 1 abstention/no vote).**

The chair invites members to stand for CEA (Central Enrolment Authority) representatives' positions for Woluwe and Evere sites (1 main and 1 substitute for each site).

Andrea PANIZZA stands as main representative for CEA position at Woluwe site and Andrea GRGIC stands as a substitute at Woluwe site. The Board votes for the team.

**Decision: Andrea PANIZZA and Andrea GRGIC are elected as CEA reps from Woluwe site with a 96% majority (22 votes for yes and 1 vote for abstain; 2 abstentions/no vote).**

Soraya LEMAIRE and Pascale NOTARRIGO stand as candidates for the main rep for CEA Evere site position and present themselves.

**Decision: Soraya LEMAIRE is elected as main rep for CEA Evere site with a 57% majority (13 votes for Soraya LEMAIRE and 10 votes for Pascale NOTARRIGO, 2 abstentions/no vote).**

Pascale NOTARRIGO and Alessia GHEZZI stand as candidates for the substitute representative for CEA Evere site position and present themselves.

**Decision: Pascale NOTARRIGO is elected as a substitute representative for CEA Evere site with a 54% majority (13 votes for Pascale NOTARRIGO and 11 votes for Alessia GHEZZI, 1 abstention/no vote).**

The chair invites members to stand for WAB (Wellbeing Advisory Board of EEB2 Secondary) – 2 positions.

Pascale NOTARRIGO and Alessia GHEZZI stand as candidates for WAB representative position and present themselves. Board votes for the team.

**Decision: Pascale NOTARRIGO and Alessia GHEZZI are elected for WAB representative position by acclamation.**

The chair invites members to stand for BAC Unit contact person position (a main member and a substitution).

Elita PETRAITIENE stands for the BAC Unit contact person position and presents her candidature.

**Decision: Elita PETRAITIENE is elected as BAC Unit contact person by acclamation.**

The chair invites members to stand for School Mobility Program contact person position.

Albert RADLER stands for School Mobility Program contact person position and presents his candidature.

**Decision: Albert RADLER is elected for School Mobility Program contact person position by acclamation.**

The chair invites members to stand for ESSS (European Schools Science Symposium) contact person position.

Elita PETRAITIENE stands for ESSS contact person position and presents her candidature.

**Decision: Elita PETRAITIENE is elected as ESSS contact person by acclamation.**

The chair invites members to stand for ICT WG coordinator position.

Rudiger MARTIN and Virgilio MIOLATO stand for ICT WG coordinator position and present themselves. The Board votes for the team.

**Decision: Rüdiger MARTIN and Virgilio MIOLATO are elected for ICT WG respectively as coordinator and deputy coordinator by acclamation.**

The Board discusses the upcoming Administrative Board meeting. The chair and vice-chairperson for administrative matters confirm their attendance at the meeting. As a back-up for the meeting the Board agrees on Albert Radler to attend the meeting.

The Chair thanks candidates. The date of next Board meeting will be communicated by email as soon as possible.

The Board meeting ended at 22h50.

## Annex 1 –

Candidacy for Chairperson – Virginie Battu-Henriksson

*(indicative, adjustments may have been made upon delivery)*

As you know, I have never been in the board before, I have never been involved until September. I believe our association has reached a decisive moment. I am well aware that this [Chairperson role] is a great responsibility, and for me, this comes with a strong duty of **accountability and transparency**.

I will highlight four stands of work that I see as important for our board:

- Fostering the trust of the parents' community
- Upholding a strong and constructive relationship with the school
- Ensuring that our Board enables its members
- Thriving for solid, reliable and future-proof services

### 1. Fostering trust of the parents' community

The APEEE exists for parents. This means clear and timely information, and real transparency on finances, decisions and processes, towards the parents' community. And of course, in respect of the law. But we need to ensure that our approach is in line with our responsibilities and not let restrictive approaches to rules, go against the basic goals of our association. In this context, ensuring a way that share the **class list representatives** should be the top priority to restore the trust of the parents' community.

Parents do not need to agree on everything. But they must be able to understand what is being done in their name, with their money, and for their children.

### 2. A strong, constructive relationship with the school — especially during the move to Evere

The move of the nursery and primary cycle to Evere is one of the biggest changes our school has ever faced. It affects logistics, finances, pedagogy, staff and families. In this context, the APEEE must be a **reliable and professional partner** of the school.

This does not mean blind agreement. It means structured dialogue, mutual respect, and a shared focus on what matters most: the continuity, quality and wellbeing of our children's education and daily life.

As Chair, I will work to ensure that the APEEE speaks with a clear, united and credible voice, and that disagreements — when they exist — are handled in a way that protects parents' interests without damaging the long-term relationship with the school.

### 3. A Board that enables

The Board should be an **enabler**. This is how I want to conduct our work. Ensure that board members feel empowered to develop ideas and projects.

Our collective role is to set direction, ensure good governance and create the conditions for all to work effectively.

This is particularly important if we want to make space for what truly gives meaning to a school community: the work on **pedagogy** and on projects for the future, such as **greening** the school or our services, and the general well-being of our children.

#### **4. Thriving for solid, reliable and future-proof services**

Parents rely on the APEEE every single day. Buses must run. Meals must be served. Activities need to be organised. Our services must be financially sound, professionally managed and resilient to change — especially with the move to Evere.

This requires proper financial oversight, mid and long-term planning, clear procedures, **solid but caring management** in the Secretariat, as well-being of the staff is key to ensure the functioning of our services.

A transparent and well-governed association is the only way to guarantee that our services remain affordable, reliable and sustainable.

**In conclusion**, I am standing not against anyone, but **for a way of working**: one that is transparent, accountable, open, respectful and focused on results.