

Secondary Education Council – Thursday 11th of March 2021.

Please find hereafter a summary of the topics discussed during the Secondary Education Council held on 11/03/21 and attended by your APEEEL2 representatives:

Prebac: Fortunately, all Prebac examinations could be held in situ for all S7 students in December 2020 and January 2021. Congratulations to S7 students who reached the best ever Pre-bac average results (average 8.06) for our School.

End of school year: No clear decision has been taken yet. Last year, secondary pupils had lessons until 03/07/20 as baccalaureate exams were cancelled. Usually, secondary pupils finish school around 20/06 when bac orals examinations take place. As they are cancelled this year, we can expect a last school day for S1-S6 on 02/07/21. The school will inform parents and students as soon as the decision is made.

Pupils at risk of non-promotion: For the first time this school year, an individual follow-up is put in place for pupils at risk. It started early this year first for S7, S6 and S5 pupils and is now in place for all secondary levels where pupils have individual meetings with the advisor and the assistant of the Deputy Director. APEEEL2 representatives welcomed the new initiative. For many years, we noticed that the highest repeat rate was in S4/S5 and we are happy to see that something is done to decrease this rate. Mrs Soekov confirmed that there is a big jump between the 2 cycles S1-S3 and S4-S5 as the number of subjects significantly increases between those 2 cycles as well as the work to be done.

Projects in the school: Even though many prevention workshops or extra-curricular projects have been cancelled due to the sanitary restrictions, some projects can still be organised and are part of the school efforts to improve pupils' well-being:

- **Sex education workshop in S6:** It was a request from the Pupils Committee, so these workshops (2 periods) were given by Planning Familial Luxembourg in the presence of the school psychologist. APEEEL2 welcomed this initiative, especially as it was a request from pupils' representatives. However, we reminded the school of the importance to also have a first workshop on this topic earlier in secondary (it used to be organised in S2).
- **S5 Mental Health Workshops:** This was also a request from the Pupils Committee. It has been decided to have it in S5 as a pilot project. The objective is to create awareness regarding depression and to promote suicide prevention.
- **School Kindness day:** This project is a whole school project to boost morale and foster school spirit. Each pupil receives the name of a pupil in his/her year level for whom he must do an act of kindness. This will take place in April with a colorful dress code.
- **Future projects:** There are projects about racism, LBGTQ, drugs prevention which are under discussion and not finalised yet.
- **Facilities:** 5 new Ping Pong tables have been added in the playground for secondary pupils (rackets and balls are available from advisors). A whole school Ping Pong Tournament will be organised.
20 picnic tables have been installed for outdoor dining, they are close to the canteen and hugely popular during good weather.

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- Miscellaneous: Letters of congratulations and/or support are sent to S7 pupils. Some new Play and Learn activities are offered (gardening in S1). The new supervisors are encouraged to propose play and learn activities, they also offered some homework assistance to pupils during the scenario 1 week (from 10/03 until 16/03/21).
- Kiva Project: KiVa is an evidence-based program to prevent and reduce bullying (developed at the University of Turku in Finland). More details about the KiVa project in secondary will be soon published on APEEEL2 website.
- Peer mediation: Peer mediation is a service that the pupils can use to resolve conflicts that they may have with some other pupils. More details about the Peer Mediation project in secondary will be soon published on APEEEL2 website.

Mandatory work experience in S5: The deadline for S5 pupils to return the signed contract for their work experience has been extended to 26/03/21. We can remind S5 parents that the School is particularly flexible this year regarding the location of the work experience, and the dates: it can take place from 22/06 until 03/07, from 28/06 until 09/07 or from 05/07 until 15/07.

As APEEEL2 understands the difficulties faced by S5 students in finding work experience during the current pandemic situation, we insisted and supported the School in finding alternatives for students who will not secure any place. This is still under discussion with one of our APEEEL2 Periscolaire instructor (who delivers entrepreneurship activity in Primary and in Secondary) and with the Luxembourgish association “Jonk Entrepreneuren”. More information will follow.

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