APEEEL2 Canteen Committee

Report of the Parents' Canteen visit of 23/09/2024

As a standard practice parents from the **APEEEL2 Canteen Working Group** visit the school canteens in order to observe and verify various issues reported and to check the overall quality of the service offered by Sodexo and the school.

On Monday 23/09/2024 *Mrs. Enza Petrone*, *Mrs Silvie Gregorova*, *Mr Stefan Wunderlich* and *Mr Suzuki Navarro Saiyi* visited the school canteens: the primary the secondary and cafeteria.

The visit was announced to Sodexo and the school on the same day and it took 2 hours. The following observations were made:

1. Nursery

1.1. NA due to time constraints, we did not visit the nursery.

2. Primary

The menu for primary was 'Lentil Salad, Pasta with tomatoes sauce ratatouille'. The dessert was: yogurt with fruit.

2.1. (+-) the pupils globally appreciated the menu, the pasta is always welcome with little children

2.2. (+) P1&P2 are now throwing their leftovers at the bin buffet like all other pupils, this is working very well.

2.3. (-) the children had no second choice

2.4. (-) the 'lentil salad' starter had no success, they were not well cooked, and most of the pupils did not take it from the buffet, same as the beets at our last visit.

2.5. (-) the big screen next to the buffet is still not showing the picture of the food they will serve

3. **Secondary**
   3.1. (+) The taste was overall good
   3.2. (+) The vast majority of children opted for the vegetarian pasta dish which was good. In particular, the pasta we tasted was perfectly cooked.
   3.3. (+) The fish option was good too but not appreciated by the children
   3.4. (+) The vegetarian option was a Risotto and despite the fact that it did not look so good at first glance it tasted excellent
   3.5. (-) The lentil veggie soup was not well cooked, and the taste was somehow strange.
   3.6. (+) The queue overall was quite fluid.
   3.7. (+) All buffets offer diversity.
   3.8. (-) At the first buffet next to the fish menu, the salad/fruit stand was empty at 1pm (there was no salad buffet as usual next to the main dish on the right side).
   3.9. (+) The second salad/fruit buffet was very good but much less than what we have observed before

4. **THE FOOD TRUCK DISH**: *PANINI WITH SALAD*
   4.1.
      4.1.1. (+) There was a little queue but with reasonable timing
      4.1.2. (-) The menu was too expensive for a sandwich (7,25 euros)
      4.1.3. (-) The 5 euros deposit for the new plates is still not clear for the students and the announcement is only in French at the food truck
      4.1.4. (-) the new plates are not from recycled plastic, and they don't look appetizing

5. **The cafeteria**
   5.1. (+) a big variety of sandwiches and salads are offered
   5.2. (+) the new wraps with spices are appreciate
   5.3. (-) at 1:15 pm there were no sandwiches anymore, they were all sold out

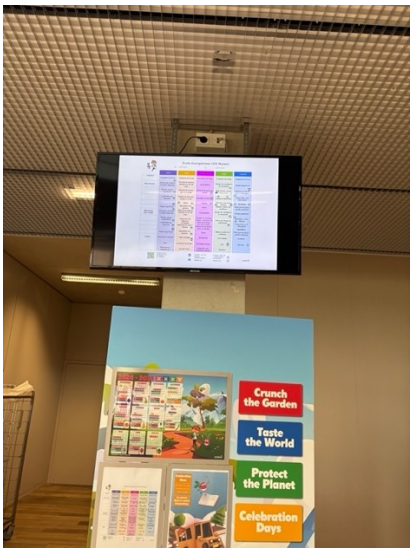
The option of gluten free dishes was discussed with Sodexo representative.

We will propose following topics related to our observations:

Nursery:

- Together with Sodexo we discussed about giving the option to the teachers if they prefer to serve the little pupils in traditional plates and can serve when and how they prefer instead of serving the steamed plates.

Primary:



- The screen is still not displaying the plates, despite repeated requests for a long time. Additionally, the written menu on the screen is barely legible for adults.

- We suggest displaying an example of both meal options to allow pupils to see the dishes and make a choice. Even on veggie days, pupils should have the option to choose between two different plates.

- We recommend adding "lasagna with tomato sauce" to the Wednesday menu, so all primary school pupils, including those not attending the CPE, can enjoy this popular dish.

- Please refrain from serving cold lentils, beets, or Macedonian salad as starters, as these are generally disliked by the pupils.

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Secondary:

- We noticed some empty buffet stations at 1 p.m., and no one was able to provide an explanation.
- The fish dish was very dry, though the flavor was excellent. We suggest adding olive oil to the vegetables and more sauce to the fish for improved texture.
- The €5 deposit for the plates from the food truck was not communicated properly. Many students are unaware of this and are leaving the plates on the tables. Our APEEEL2 group of parents collected some plates from the trays and returned them to the food truck. However, many other plates were still left on the tables. Additionally, the announcement at the food truck is only in French.



- One option would be to place the plates on the trays, as is done with the other buffet items.

- Could you please consider offering sandwiches in the vending machine? This would help reduce the queues at the cafeteria. In the past, the committee decided to stock more sandwiches in the vending machines, but since switching providers, this has not been done, which has impacted the cafeteria's efficiency.

Overall, the food quality is good; however, once again, we have noticed changes made without the Canteen Committee's consent, such as the €5 deposit in the food truck. We would appreciate it if significant changes like these were discussed during canteen meetings, so that everyone can approve them and could weigh the pros and cons.













