

## **INTERPARENTS Meeting at the European School, Frankfurt 4 – 5 December 2011<sup>1</sup>**

INTERPARENTS met at the Frankfurt European School, Sunday afternoon, 4 December 2011 and Monday 5 December 2011. All 14 Parents Associations were present. Chair: Ana Gorey, President of Interparents.

The Sunday afternoon session was spent discussing the **European Parliament Resolution on the “European school system”** and analysing how best to make use of the recommendations therein. The Resolution underlined the basic principles of the system (obligation to community staff, European dimension, quality education and Baccalaureate, model multilingual/multicultural approach, mother tongue) and highlighted areas where **governance** (legal basis, autonomy, member states cooperation, more EU competences, opening up), **finances** (viability, budgetary constraints, secondment, cost sharing, non-fulfilment of obligations) and **pedagogical aspects**, (teachers, evaluation, training, languages, repeat rates, learning support, special needs, alternative certificate) needed improvement. It was decided to write to thank Mr. Cavada, with the Culture and Education Committee members in copy, and to refer to the Resolution recommendations whenever appropriate.

The Monday meeting was spent on the preparation of the **Board of Governors on the 6, 7 and 8 December 2011** where agenda items included: reports by Slovak presidency, reports on the 2011 European Baccalaureate and BAC Reform working group (ECTS and the transversal project), situation of seconded posts (86 unfilled), reduction of class size from 30 to 28, analysis of the linguistic structure of the Brussels schools, admission of other organisations to the European schools, administrative costs of accredited schools, career guidance hours and university application fee of 160€ for parents, repeat rates, PIZA, alternative certificate.

The most important issue was of course the UK presidency proposal regarding **cost sharing** – i.e. the contribution of Member States in the form of secondment of teachers equalling 21% of budget (5 million €). Jose and Fritz reported on the Budgetary Committee’s debate which resulted in the revised proposal now before the BoG. A long discussion ensued on the possible implications not only financially but also with regard to recruitment and the system’s overall legal basis. Interparents would insist on their presence in the proposed working group and also in any eventual High Level Group.

The **Management team** updated everyone on the legal, financial and organisational situation especially in view of our February General Assembly. Maitre Orlandi is following our case with the Ombudsman as well as advising us on other issues, including the Biology Baccalaureate changes and the proposed 160€ careers guidance fee. Members were asked to finalise their accounts, send agreed 150€ for legal costs and 100€ for Europea Alumni and propose candidates for the three free positions, President, Treasurer and Secretary, up for election or re-election. They were also asked to propose candidates to assist with the IP website which needs content updating on a regular basis. With regard to the working groups, more order and involvement of all PAs is required as well as regular updating of the IP position on the site. All welcomed Jutta Weber’s as coordinator of the SEN working group.

In our regular roundtable where members inform all on their school’s main issues, the **SWALs situation** led to a general discussion on the complexity of languages and today’s multilingual European landscape. Next meetings: General Assembly on 6+7 February 2012, Brussels II and Alicante for April 2012.

Rapporteur: Ana Gorey.

N.B. This Webreport is issued for quick information of the member Associations under the responsibility of the Chair. It is not the Minutes of the meeting which will follow in due course after being approved by the participants.

