

Minutes ESCPH Board Meeting

Date: Thursday 19 February 2026
Time: 16:30 – 18:30
Venue: 214, 2nd Floor, European School Copenhagen
Members: Kira Peter-Hansen (MEP and External Member), Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen (External Member), Andreas Manville (EEA and External Member), Margo Rachat (ESCPH Parent), Laure Conte (ESCPH Parent), Johan Lindell (ESCPH Staff), Rasmus Hornecker (ESCPH Staff), Eva Hatting (ESCPH Student), Øzkan Güleriyüz (Director ESCPH)
Guests: Helle Bjerre Degn (Deputy Director)
Apologies: Helene Kristensen (ESCPH Staff), Hella Helvig Jensen (Head of Administration), Stéphanie Horion (ESCPH Parent), Luna Nova Solhave (Copenhagen City Council and External Member), Christen Bagger (ESCPH Parent), Rosa Bukowy-Duving (ESCPH Student)
Minutes: Helle Bjerre Degn

ESCPH Board Meeting

Agenda:

1. Approval of the agenda (decision) – 1 min.

Annex 1.1 - Agenda ESCPH Board Meeting 20251211

Decision:

The board approved the agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the ESCPH board meeting 25 September 2025 (decision) – 1 min.

Annex 2.1 - Draft ESCPH Board Meeting Minutes 20250925

Decision:

The board approved the minutes.

3. 2025 accounts for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care (orientation) – 10 mins.

Annex 3.1 – 2025 accounts for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care

Purpose: To inform the board about the 2025 accounts for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care.

The board took note of the accounts.

4. 2026 budget for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care (decision) – 10 mins.

Annex 4.1 – 2026 budget for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care

Purpose: Present the 2026 budget for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care to the board for review and approval.

Considering the substantial surplus observed in previous years, management has decided to recruit more teachers for both Primary and Secondary. The focus remains on not establishing too many long-lasting expenses. Additionally, part of the expected surplus for this year will be allocated towards the redecoration of the canteen and other common areas.

Decision:

The board approved the 2026 budget for Primary, Secondary, and After School Care.

5. Board election 2026 – 20 mins.

Annex 5.1 – KK - Visual timeline for board election

Annex 5.2 – KK - Timeline for board election

Annex 5.3 – Preliminary timeline for board election at ESCPH 2026

Purpose: The board must discuss the upcoming board election for parent representatives.

Øzkan Güleriyüz presented the preliminary timeline for the 2026 election of parent representatives to the board.

There are no plans to arrange a specific information meeting. The board will inform parents of the election on the parents' morning at the end of February.

The school will inform the Parent Councils, all parents via Aula, and the Upper Secondary parents via direct e-mail.

6. Overall objectives 2026-2029 (presentation) – 15 mins.

Annex 6.1 – Overall objectives 2026-2029

Purpose: The board is briefed on the finalised overall objectives for 2026-2029 that incorporates the board's amendments.

Øzkan Güleriyüz presented the final version of the overall objectives for 2026-2029 where the board's feedback has been incorporated.

Kira Peter-Hansen pointed out that the overall objectives set the larger framework for the school's direction in the strategic focus points.

7. Evaluation of board workshop on 11 December 2025 (discussion) – 25 mins.

Purpose: The board will evaluate the workshop held on 11 December 2025 and discuss insights that can be applied to future board initiatives.

The board spent 15 minutes evaluating the workshop in groups.

Evaluation

- Overall, the board agreed that it was a good workshop.
- It was suggested that the board will invite Frank Edelmann Christensen in again once the new parent representatives are elected. This will ensure a common framework for the board's work.
- It was suggested that the board decides on a theme for each meeting with a topic to discuss.
- Ideas for themes: Recruitment for Upper Secondary, well-being for students, well-being for staff, development of the French section.

8. Various updates and information – 15 mins.

Information from students

Upper Secondary

- The students have worked on exams in December and January
- There has been a successful joint CoSEEA meeting with discussions of initiatives: fundraising for Ukraine, a joint newspaper, and visibility of CoSEEA
- ESCPH students are getting more involved in EU events
- The Upper Student council will have an assembly next week

Information from staff

Primary and Secondary

- Working on allocation of hours
- There is a good atmosphere among staff
- We are looking forward to welcoming new colleagues next school year

Upper Secondary

- Working on grading pre-Bacs
- Orientation Evening in January was very successful, and everyone did a great job. It was the highest number of visitors so far
- 70 students visited us during Taster Days
- A new model for conversion of grades has been introduced

Information from management

Recruitment for Upper Secondary

- 7 S4 students are applying for Upper Secondary as their 1st priority
- Hans Bolvinkel will inform the board about the new conversion of grades when more information is available
- Currently waiting for the final number of applicants after the deadline on 1 March
- More students have already been screened than in previous years
- 2nd priority applicants in May

European partnerships

- The S5's are on a trip to Hamburg
- The S6's are on a trip to Strasbourg
- A group of students from Upper Secondary are attending EuroSports in Bruxelles
- Secondary has an Erasmus project in Berlin
- Management is attending a European School Management conference in Varese in March

Other updates

- There has been a hearing regarding the traffic situation around the school. The conclusion is that it will be postponed to the next budget year, 2027.
- Screenings for Nursery students are held next week.
- Management is working on including the school in the municipality's administrative co-operation (Administrativt Fællesskab). A new secretary has been hired to be our contact person for the joint administration.

9. AOB – 5 mins.

Laure Conte would like board and management to focus more on communicating anti-bullying initiatives to parents.

Margo Rachat suggested reports to the board regarding bullying cases.

Rasmus Hornecker emphasised that there is a high level of well-being among students in our school.

Kira Peter-Hansen pointed out that it is a discussion that is important to have if it preoccupies the parents. The discussion could be with a starting points in the municipality's guidelines or in a well-being survey.

There was a wish for updates on the school's physical environment, including playground safety and space for Upper Secondary students. Øzkan Güleriyüz will give the board an update when there is something concrete to present.