

## MINUTES OF AAGE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 29, 2015

18:00-20:30

### PARTICIPANTS

Chair, Christian Schacht-Magnussen

Vice-Chair, Anders Ostergaard

Member, Flemming Dahl

Member, Niclas Kvernrod

Member, Klaus Solling Rimmen

Member, Kelly Pacheco

Member, Susan Ambaek

Member Elisabeth Jensen

Guest, Pernelle Fau Clausen

Guest, Charles Hanna

Guest, Nicola Woodvine

Guest, Cree Snyder Schmidt

### REGRETS

Member, Michelle Roborg-Sondergaard

Member, Rune Kilden

Member, Svend Hylleberg

1. ATTENDANCE: Christian Schacht-Magnussen called the meeting to order at 18:00. He welcomed Elsebeth Jensen from VIA University as a new member of the Board who replaces Eric Hygum. Cree Snyder Schmidt was also welcomed as the new teacher representative replacing Gene Aidam. An "Admissions Update" for October 2015 as well as the updated "AAGE Organizational Chart" accompanied the invitation to this meeting.
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: The meeting's agenda was approved, as presented.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The Minutes of the AAGE Board Meeting held on 24.09.2015 were approved.
4. REPORT FROM PROJECT MANAGER: Mette Skautrup first reviewed the plans for the renovation of the Dalgas Skole building which will be used to temporarily relocate classrooms for AAGE students enrolled in the MYP programme. She also asked the Board for the financial approval of the costs to break down the wall between PYP7 and MYP3 so as to create a larger classroom as there were additional students on the waiting list to be accepted into PYP7. The cost was approved pending final review by the PYP coordinator. Second, she shared the floor plan drawing of the classrooms of the Fjord Skole showing the additional classrooms which will become available to AAGE once that school moves out of the building in summer 2016. Finally, Mette Skautrup summarized the format of the workshop held previously by architects from Cebra for the AAGE teachers which was an initial step in the process of planning for the new building program. Anders Ostergaard pointed out that the playground and outside areas should receive the same quality of attention as the areas inside of the new building. Based on the discussion which followed, it was felt that other schools should also be visited so as to gain insight and gather further input which AAGE might want to consider in the planning process. The amount of DKR 300.000 was approved to cover the architects' fees for the planning process. A separate amount of DKR 180.000 was approved if and when the final project which Cebra has yet to propose is also approved and the building project goes forward. In an unrelated comment, Flemming Dahl informed the Board that he was still awaiting a response

from the Ministry of Justice regarding an insurance issue pertaining to the damage of school property, an area the Project Manager also oversees.

5. BUDGET AND TUITION: Aage Witthoeft together with Klaus Solling Rimmen presented their findings following a lengthy review of the annual budget performance and overall financial health of the school. This year's projected deficit, which has been calculated within the financial recovery program for AAGE, will be exceeded as of December 2015 if the level of expenditures continue at the current rate. These findings need immediate attention by the Board together with the school's administration as otherwise, the long term planned financial recovery plan for the school will be placed at risk. Once the school has had an opportunity to look into the situation further, a meeting with the Board's Finance Committee should take place so that a recommendation as to how this situation can be resolved can be presented at the November Board meeting. For the time being, no further school employees may be hired without specific Board authorization.
6. STAFF RETENTION: Discussion centered around aspects which need to be addressed if the school is going to be in a position to retain and attract the kind of faculty and staff members needed in the future to maintain a quality educational program. Members of the Board's subcommittee on Human Resources will need to meet to further discuss this topic so as to be able to report back their findings at November's Board meeting.
7. CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION: Information pertaining to this agenda topic can be found under the Project Manager's report (item No. 4, above).
8. SPONSOR STRATEGY: Niclas Kvernrod made a presentation to the Board regarding "Sponsor Strategy" which called for an expanded program of initiatives and an increase in the composition of the Advisory Board whose membership consists of sponsors. The aim of this strategy is to achieve closer cooperation with sponsors in order to "assure the necessary support for both the daily operation as well as future growth of the school so that AAGE has a solid financial foundation with freedom to fulfill its ambitions." The proposal was accepted by the Board which now provides the mandate necessary for the Advisory Board to implement these plans accordingly.
9. SCHOOL REPORT (MAP Assessments; IB MYP/PYP Update): Pernelle Fay Clausen summarized the results from the external MAP assessments administered in September. Generally speaking, AAGE students are in line with the international norms. While results from the MYP students tend to be more reliable, there are variances among the younger PYP students in light of factors such as test familiarity and the use of computers for testing. These initial MAP results now provide AAGE with a baseline which can be used to compare student individual and group results when the assessment is re-administered in spring 2016. In the meantime, student MAP results can be used to set goals for individual students, identifying those areas in need of improvement and developing plans accordingly. In regard to the MYP/PYP update, the recent IB MYP Verification Visit went well and the school will be notified officially within a month as to whether "Authorization" of its MYP programme from the IB has been granted. In preparation for the PYP Verification Visit in spring 2016, an IB consultant will visit AAGE (Dalgas and Bushojvaenget) on November 11-12 to review the progress in the development of the PYP programme and identify what yet needs to yet be accomplished prior to the formal visit in the spring.
10. LEGAL MATTERS: The rental contract for the parking lot next to the Bushojvaenget school will not be renewed in light of the disproportionate costs and demands by the property owner.
11. MISCELLANEOUS: There were no topics mentioned for discussion under this agenda item.
12. ADJOURNEMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 20:30.

Submitted by  
C. Hanna