## **Optimist International School**





| Minutes of Meeting         |                           |                |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Date:                      | 20/09/2023                |                |
|                            |                           |                |
| Subject :                  | OIS Participation Council |                |
|                            |                           |                |
| Chair :                    | Peter Mihm                |                |
|                            |                           |                |
| Attendees :                | Anne Marie van Holst      | Peter Mihm     |
|                            | Angelique Podstavnychy    | Kevin Lobbezoo |
|                            | Bethan Chewter            | Denisa Stoican |
|                            |                           |                |
|                            |                           |                |
|                            |                           |                |
|                            | 1                         | 1              |
| Absent with<br>Apologies : |                           |                |
|                            |                           |                |

| Agenda |   |
|--------|---|
| 1      | Introduction<br>Peter (chairman) initiated the first session of the year by expressing<br>gratitude to all attendees. Parents have already engaged in discussions<br>among themselves and set a goal for the Participation Council (PC) to<br>be more active and involved compared to the previous year.<br>This year, our emphasis will be on engaging in more focused<br>brainstorming within our group and developing concrete action plans!<br>Our goal is to add one more teacher to the PC group. A staff member<br>has already applied, and she will participate in the next session as an<br>observer. We are hopeful that she will officially join us afterward! |



| Participation Council |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 2                     | School Year Plan<br>Sick Leave: Denisa inquired about the goals concerning sick leave.<br>Floreer is currently addressing this issue at a board level, seeking<br>advice from external companies to restructure sick leave policies with<br>the aim of reducing the numbers. The PC has decided to request HR to<br>provide semi-annual updates on sick leave statistics.   |
|                       | <b>LearningLadders:</b> Parents expressed a preference for the previous report format, finding it clearer. The plan is to make the LearningLadders portal available throughout the year, starting from November 1st. It will be reopened twice more during the year. The objective is to ensure clarity in the system for both parents and teachers, facilitating collaborative work on the system. To inform parents of this update, it is advisable to include it soon in a newsletter. |
|                       | <b>School Holidays:</b> The PC inquired once again about the possibility of altering the chosen dates for holidays and study days. Anne-Marie clarified that these dates are firmly established and will not be subject to modification.  |
| 3                     | Any Other Business (AOB):<br>Music Teacher Status: Kevin inquired about the status of the music<br>teacher. Regrettably, there is no dedicated teacher this year. The school<br>has sought alternatives and enlisted an external provider to handle<br>music lessons throughout the school year. Additionally, teachers will<br>cover music lessons during the regular IPC Unit. Parents have<br>expressed the hope that a dedicated music teacher can be budgeted<br>for next year.      |
|                       | <b>Play Yard:</b> In the previous year, the PC requested significant improvements to the play yard, particularly for the younger children. Unfortunately, progress has been hindered by the municipality's reluctance to approve the upgrades. Floreer is actively engaged in discussions with the municipality, striving to persuade them to reconsider their stance and support the improvements.   |
|                       | <b>Visibility of PC:</b> Our objective for this year is to enhance the visibility of the PC and collect feedback extensively from both parents and teaching staff. Denisa suggested that we arrange meetings with volunteer parents to foster a stronger connection and gather additional input. Furthermore, we plan to provide an update in the newsletter to introduce the PC and explain its functioning.   |
| Nevé Ferre            |   |
| Next Forum :          |   |
| 1st of<br>November    | Onsite at OIS   |