



Lycée Français International Denis Diderot Année scolaire 2023-2024

Compte Rendu CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION – Minutes Board of Directors' meeting MARDI 26 SEPTEMBRE 2023 /TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2023						
NOM DES PARTICIPANTS/ NAME OF PARTICIPANTS	FONCTI	ON/FUNCTION	Prés.	Exc.	Abs	
Arnaud SUQUET	Ambassadeur de France	2		X		
Denis SAINTE-MARIE	Conseiller de coopératio (COCAC)	on et d'action culturelle	x			
Jean-Baka DOMELEVO ENTFELLNER	Conseiller des Français de l'Etranger			x		
Bruno MARIS	Proviseur		X			
Laura MARLIERE	Directeur administratif et financier		X			
Claire KARADI	Directrice du primaire		X			
Christelle ADJAGBA	Représentante du personnel administratif		X			
Frédéric GRAZIANA	Suppléant du représentant du personnel enseignant secondaire		x			
Mildred N PITA	Présidente CG /Resp. Commission RH		Online			
Emilie GASC	Vice-Présidente CG/ Resp. Comm. Hygiène/Cantine		X			
Armando M SIROLLA	Trésorier CG/Resp. Con	nmission Finance	X			
Josie WANG	Secrétaire CG /Resp. C	ommission Communication	Proxy EO	Х		
Carlos SHYIRAMBERE	2ème vice-trésorier CG		Proxy AS	Х		
Esryne ONGOMA	Membre du CG /membre Commission RH		X			
Ebby GATAMU	Membre du CG /membre Comm Communication		Proxy EO	Х		
Judy KAGURE	Resp de la Commission Maintenance /Sécurité		X			
Anne-Laure HOUSPIC	Membre du CG / Membre Comm HR & Comm		X			
Nassira BAUCHAMP	Membre du CG / Membre Comm Canteen & Maint.					
Marie-Noëlle SENYANA-M	Chargée de mission auprès de l'APE		X			
Invités / Autres participants :		Diffusion version publique: tout le staff et tous les				
		membres de l'association des site internet	s parents o	d'élève	via le	

Annexes : Notes d'aide à la décision

AGENDA (A change has been made to the agenda in French under Human Resources.)

- 1. Quorum CG Approval of the minutes of Board of Directors meeting of 15/06/2023 and of the extraordinary BoD of 13/07/2023
- 2. Words from the French Embassy
- 3. Pedagogical Highlights
- 4. Financial Situation- Finance Committee- Votes
- Cash-flow situation
- School fees recovery rates
- AEFE : Debt 2021 reimbursement / Invoices 2023
- Follow up of priority works and equipment
- Updates on incentives measures for school fees payments in Euros
- Canteen credit notes 2022-2023 for exams week (Brevet-BAC)
- Modifications on Financial Rules

Votes CA

5. Human Ressources Committee – Votes

- 1. Termination process VOTE
- 2. Urgent recruitments VOTE
- 3. Probation period approval for 2 staffs VOTE
- 4. Request of extension of retirement date for 2 staffs VOTE
- HR Priorities year 2023-2024: (contracts templates/Salary grid and classification of jobs categories...) VOTE
- 6. Hygiene & Canteen Committee Commission: Updates: Canteen cold room
- 7. Maintenance & Security Committee: Updates: Firewall contract
- 8. Communication Committee : Updates

AoB:

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING: SPECIAL BUDGET 2024: WED 8 NOVEMBER: 8h15-10h15

The meeting began at 10.25am. The APE Vice-Chairman greeted everyone, invited everyone to introduce themselves and welcomed the new members. M DOMELEVO is excused for travel reason.

1. Quorum: The quorum was reached with 7 members of the Board including the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer (6 in person and 1 online) and the 3 excused members had given their proxies: Josie and Ebby gave their proxies to Esryne and Carlos to Armando.

The total votes will be counted out of 10.

The minutes of the last Ordinary Board Meeting of 15/06/2023 and the Extraordinary Board Meeting of 13/07/2023 were approved by 10 votes out of 10.

The Chairperson gave the floor to the representative of the French Embassy.

2. Words from the Embassy

Mr Denis Sainte Marie welcomed the new Administrative and Financial Director and the new members of the Management Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting last June. He was pleased to note that the school's enrolments are now comparable to those in the pre-Covid era. He points out that, at the same time, a new French school has been set up in Runda (Ecole Francaise de Runda EFR) and has started with 40 pupils.

The French Embassy considers that there is room for two French schools in Nairobi and that this is in line with the expansion strategy of the (AEFE) Association of French Schools Abroad.

He congratulated the Management Committee and the Direction for finalising the conversion of the salary scale from Euros to Kenyan Shillings, thus reducing the risk linked to the Euro-KES exchange rate, following the devaluation of the KES.

He stressed the importance of continuing social dialogue throughout the coming school year.

The LFIDD remains an attractive school, notably because of the quality of its teaching, its school projects and the wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer. It is also the only school to offer a bilingual programme (English-French). The added value of the Lycée français can also be seen through the MUN programme and the Cambridge certification centre, and the Lycée must find solutions to continue these programmes.

Areas for improvement include: the age of the infrastructure, even though some work was carried out during the summer, but unfortunately the renovation of the auditorium has been postponed due to a lack of budget.

In the future, it will remain essential for the Lycée to increase its self-financing capacity, which will only be possible when the repayment of the 2021 debt to the AEFE is completed in October 2024.

Once this has been done, the Lycée will be able to request a "State Guarantee Plan" from the AEFE to implement its property improvement and development project.

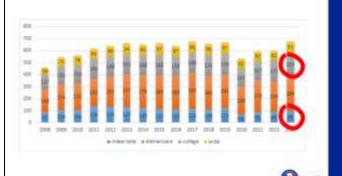
It should also be noted that there are still agreements to be renewed:

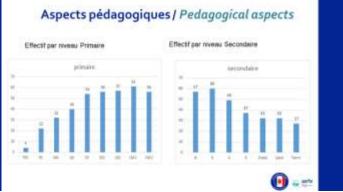
- The occupation agreement for the land on which the Lycée is located expired at the end of May 2023.
- The AEFE-APE agreement, which expired on 18 September, could be renewed by means of an amendment for a period of one year, allowing time for discussions on delegations of power to continue.

The headmaster presented an update on the back-to-school survey, a document that lists all pupils as at 25 September 2023 and that will be shared with the AEFE. The current figure is compared with the 2008 back-to-school survey.

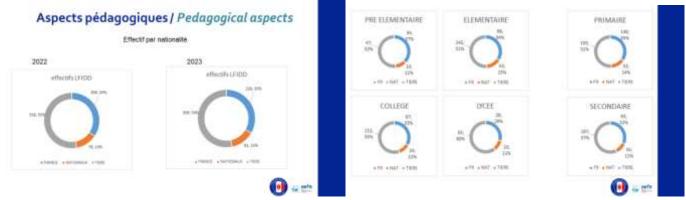
On 25 September 2023, the school had 676 pupils, the highest figure it has ever had. It should be noted that this figure may still vary depending on the number of new students joining the school during the year, as was the case last year. It is on this basis that the AEFE invoices the Lycée's contribution to the network.

This 13% increase in pupil numbers represents the biggest rise for 10 years, and especially since the drop-in numbers due to Covid. The Lycée is now back to its 'usual' pre-Covid level of 670 students.





Enrolment by level: The Lycée is back to its usual level of 87-90: around thirty pupils per level. Elementary school enrolment has returned to its 2016-2019 level. On the other hand, college enrolment has never been so high (15% growth). The delta is in kindergarten, which is 20 pupils short of its peak level (120 in the 2010s).



Enrolment by nationality is relatively stable: 14% Kenyans /33% French / 53% foreigners.

There was a slight increase in the number of Kenyans at primary level, but a decrease at secondary level. On the other hand, there are more non-French nationals at secondary level. The number of French students declines mainly from secondary school onwards, in Year 1 and Year 12.

Q: Is there a survey on the reasons for leaving elementary school?

A lot of students left for international reasons, as exchanges resumed after the Covid years. It should be noted that there is a very large international community in Nairobi and therefore a very mobile school population.

The effect of the rise in small elementary cohorts since Covid continues. Kindergarten enrolments are a little lower (down 15%): it's hard to say whether this is because of school fees or of commuting time between school and home?

The current configuration is excellent in terms of the quality of care: (classes of max 24 pupils in primary and 22-23 in college) given our infrastructure. We have reached a threshold number of pupils that can only be exceeded by adding facilities to increase capacity.

There is also a high turnover of students in the elementary school (1 in 4 pupils is new). The number of new students has risen from 150 last year to 260 this year, probably due to the return of a number of families to Nairobi after the Covid years and teleworking.

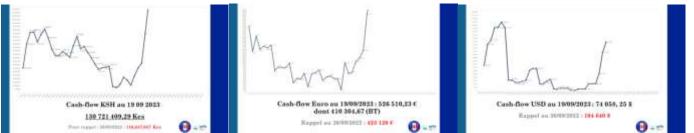


During the second week of September, the Lycée hosted the Language Assistants seminar (ALVE): 70 kenyan students, who will participate on an exchange programme in France for the first time, were trained in LFDD for 2 days. This year will see again 120 Kenyan ALVE spread across a number of primary and secondary schools throughout France for a period of eight months.

4.Financial Situation

The current Administrative and Financial Director, Mrs Laura MARLIERE, thanks Mr Frédéric ROURE, the previous AFD, for the work done under very difficult financial conditions, and ensures she will continue his work with the existing tools.

4.1. Cash flow situation



Regarding cash flow in KES: the graph shows a large variation since January 2023. The dots indicate the weeks, as the cash position is monitored very closely to ensure that invoices are paid on time. A clear upturn can be seen from July onwards following the sending of annual invoices and the new breakdown of quarterly revenue (40%-30%-30% instead of 40%-35%-25%).

We currently have 130,721,409 million KES which is higher than in September 2022, partly due to the fact that parents preferred to pay invoices in KES rather than Euros, following the devaluation of the KES.

Regarding cash flow in Euros, we have a total of €526,510, of which €410,304 is with Banque Transatlantique and the remainder with NCBA, compared with a total of €423,126 in September 2022. However, this slight increase is below expectations.

Regarding cash flow in US dollars: fairly stable compared with last year.

4.2. School fees collection rate



An excellent collection rate of 98.73% for the 2022-2023 school year, with outstanding debts of KES 9.39 million (1.44%). Thanks to the firm measures taken by the Lycée, only 3 families who were re-enrolled at the start of the school year were in arrears and 14 families who did not register for this school year.

4.3. 2021 AEFE Debt and 2023 AEFE invoices



Debt 2021: Currently 49% of the amount has been repaid and a suspension of payments agreed by the AEFE between April and July 2023, to be offset by the end of December by monthly instalments of €39,600 from August to December. The entire debt must be repaid by the end of October 2024.

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AEFE 2023 invoices:

The invoices received in February 2023 correspond to an amount of 945,000 Euros, from which an amount of 52,000 Euros has been deducted, corresponding to the AEFE bursaries awarded, which are returned to the institution for payment. This is a legal measure for offsetting debts against receivables.

The remaining balance of 893,000 Euros was to be paid in three instalments in February, May and October 2023. The first two instalments have not been paid. We will therefore not have sufficient funds to pay these invoices.

In addition, there is a sum of around 35,000 Euros for teachers' overtime, as well as 1% of the total HR costs, i.e. a sum of around 5 million KES, for staff training (pooled for the Johannesburg training centre). For this amount, we may not be obliged to pay in Euros, but in dollars, but this has yet to be confirmed.

By 31 December 2023, we should have paid around 1 million euros. Instead, we will be 600,000 euros short of our debt to the AEFE. Knowing that the KES is devaluing, the current exchange rate from KES to EURO is 164 kes, with a possible negotiated rate of 156 kes. This money has not been provisioned.

Management will be making an appointment with the AEFE to discuss this situation. We are not the only school to be having problems getting payments in euros via the local currency (also in the West African region and Angola). The Finance Committee will be working on various proposals and measures to be presented to parents at the General Assembly.

4.4 Estimated budget for priority works and equipment



The total budget voted for investments was KES 41.5 million. The budget considered as investment is different from the operating budget. An unspent balance of KES 33,612,052 could exceptionally be used to cover expenditure that exceeded the budget (payroll).

4.5 Incentive measures for paying of school fees in Euros

Mesures incitatives	Résultats de la mesure : En terme de chiffres : 31 familles ont réglé en « au 31 août 2023 soit environ 361 600 « représentant 38% de la facture due à l'AEFE pour l'année 2023.			
paiement en €	Informations utiles :			
Eté 2023	En 2022, 82 familles payaient en euros entre le 07 juillet et le 20 septembre 2022			
	Au 20/09/2023 : 69 familles ont payé en euros sur la même période.			
-15% sur le paiement annuel des frais de scolarité 2023-	En terme de communication :			
2024 si versés avant le 31/08/2023 à un taux de conversion fixe de 127 (décision AG du 26/06/2023)	Il persiste une incompréhension des familles sur le taux fixé à 127 : il faudra donc établir une communication claire lors de la prochaine AG ?			

Incentives for the annual payment of school fees in euros were voted on at the General Assembly in June 2023 but have not had the desired effect. Only 31 families (51 invoices) had paid their annual school fees in Euros by 31/08/2023, corresponding to 38% of the AEFE 2023 Invoice. At 20/09/2023, 69 families had paid in Euros compared to 82 families at 20/09/2022.

Approximately 1.2 million to be paid in Euros (AEFE and SOFIP). Without the conversion of the salary scale from Euros to KES, the Lycée would not have been able to pay the invoices and would have had to declare

bankruptcy. We have therefore limited the amount to be paid to the AEFE to 600,000 Euros. We are therefore going to ask for this amount to be spread over fourteen months (February 2025 the latest).

We must put forward proposals that will have to be adopted today and voted on at the General Assembly Meeting on Thursday. All the indicators suggest that the devaluation of the KES will continue.

If we are to continue to receive payments in euros, our prices must be attractive. Most families convert from Euros to Kes, which is more favourable.

We need to get back to the balance we had before, i.e. payments in Euros allowed us to pay our bills in Euros, payments in KES allowed us to pay our local expenses and payments in USD constituted a foreign currency reserve.

The Finance Committee meeting on 21 September made the following proposals:

1. To have the General Assembly Meeting vote on a KES-EUROS conversion rate based on the chancellery rate (between 156 and 164) to express School Fees in Euros for the 2nd and 3rd terms of the 2023-2024 school year.

The current economic situation in Kenya is not good, with the increase in taxes, the devaluation of the KES (25%), the listing of Kenya as a country at risk of money laundering, with tighter controls on bank accounts and therefore a probable drop in private investment.

As a school under agreement with the AEFE, we are obliged to **vote a budget in local currency** using the chancellery rate (more stable) valid on 1 September of the current year, for the year N+1. Potential measures to be taken:

- Have the GA vote on tuition fees in the three different currencies (KES/EUR/USD).
- Include a provision for exchange rate losses in the budget.
- Negotiate a good rate with a bank when buying back euros with the KES.

Avoid a too great differential between payments in different currencies, so that parents are not tempted to pay in KES but in the currency in which they are paid.

Other measures proposed by the Finance Committee:

- 2. Buy Euros towards the end of September/beginning of October at a negotiated rate.
- 3. Set tuition fees for 2024-2025 in the 3 currencies, not to mention exchange rates.
- 4. Make provision for the loss due to the KES/Euro exchange rate.

With regard to school fees for 2023-2024:

- either we cancel the invoicing voted at the June 2023 General Meeting based on a rate of 127 and we will have to re-invoice all parents who have already paid and issue them with credit notes,

- or leave the measure in place for annual payments already made and amend the invoices for Quarters 2 and 3 using an updated rate.

We could also issue credit notes to parents who have paid annually for the 2nd and 3rd quarters.

Q: Would it be possible to get parents to sign a commitment at the beginning of the year to pay in one currency throughout the year?

Another suggestion is to reduce the discount offered to Kenyans and French from the current 30% to 20%. **Votes to be proposed at the GA:**

1. For the invoicing of 2nd and 3rd term tuition fees in Euros for the 2023-2024 school year, the Board recommends using the KES-EURO chancellery rate on the day of invoicing.

2. For the invoicing of tuition fees in USD for the 2nd and 3rd terms of the 2023-2024 school year, the Board recommends using the EURO-DOLLARS chancery rate on the day of invoicing, based on the price expressed in Euros.

The two recommendations were approved by 10 votes out of 10.

For the 2024 budget, we will use the same principle, but we will talk about it in the coming weeks.

4.6. Credit notes for Canteen fees

Previously, the invoicing service was considering the examination periods at the end of the school year when the school was closed, and credit notes appeared on parents' invoices at the 1st term of the next year. At the end of last school year, this was not done automatically but only at the request of parents. Furthermore, this should only be done at the parent's request, in order to have proof of the credit, or else it should appear in the half-board regulations, which the school does not have. Some parents requested this at the beginning of the year.

The Board's proposal is therefore to develop a set of half-board regulations providing for these automatic payment measures, for example for week-long school trips or during exam week, which could be adopted at a forthcoming meeting.

For example, the refunds or credit notes issued to parents who have requested them at the end of the 2022-2023 school year totalized an amount of KES 404,600 for exam periods alone.

If we were to apply this measure to the 262 pupils concerned, it would represent a larger sum.

It should also be noted that the canteen service currently has a deficit of KES 2.5 million. The canteen service is a special service whose income should cover its expenses. The board and management need to think about a better control system to prevent children who are not registered for the canteen (on Wednesdays and Fridays) from eating there and to ensure that children's absences for school trips are systematically reported to the canteen service provider in good time.

COCAC gives the example of the "Food for Education" project financed by the French Cooperation, a project to subsidise canteen meals for children in slums, which is monitored through plastic watches. The Lycée could draw inspiration from this model.

A board member also tells us about a fingerprint system that was used at the Lycée in Lagos. **VOTES:**

The Board recommended that no retroactive reimbursements be made for 2022-2023 and that a set of halfboard regulations be drawn up, which could be adopted at a forthcoming Board meeting for 2023-2024 school year.

The recommendation was approved by 10 votes out of 10.

Modification of the financial rules

The General Assembly's vote to change the rate used to convert tuition fees into euros contradicts the financial regulations, which stipulate that the rate used must be the chancellery rate for the 1st month of payment, whereas the rate voted is a yearly rate. Therefore, in order to comply with the decision voted at the General Meeting, the financial regulations must be amended.

The amendment proposed by the Finance Committee is as follows:

"The conversion rate used for tuition fees in Euros and USD is the chancery rate used at the time of the invoice date, subject to a decision to revise the rate at the General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting."

The amendment was approved by 10 votes to 10

5.HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

5.1. Process of termination:

A brief reminder of the process was given: amendments were proposed to the contracts of all local staff to change from a salary scale expressed in Euros to a salary scale expressed in KES with a conversion rate set at 134 kes. Of the 11 staff still to be paid in euros, 4 refused to sign the amendment. On 9/08/23, the HR manager sent them letters by email to warn them that the process of terminating their contracts had begun. By 29/08, 3 of the 4 employees made an appeal against termination. The 3 people were heard on 15 September by an ad hoc committee made up of the HR Manager, members of management and members of the board. The arguments were presented by the three people, and they were then given additional time to sign the amendment as is, without modification, to be consistent with all the other amendments signed

by all the staff. At the end of the period allowed, none of the three staff had signed the addendum, and so at an extraordinary HR Committee meeting held this morning before the Board meeting, it was decided to resume and finalise the termination process.

Vote: Following the recommendation of the extraordinary Human Resources Committee meeting held on on 26 September 2023, the Board validated the HR Committee's decision to finalise the contractual termination process for 3 staff members.

The recommendation was approved by 10 votes out of 10.

5.2. Urgent Recruitments and other HR matters:

Before moving on to emergency recruitment, the Embassy representative would like to thank all those who have supported the family of the teacher who passed away in Nairobi, at this difficult time and who have sent messages of condolence and wreaths of flowers.

SES teacher: Following the death of the resident teacher, this post has been declared vacant and frozen for this school year. A local contract has been recruited for 1 school year until the CCPL confirms this seconded post for recruitment in March 2024.

A person has been recruited for one school year for SES. In the allocation of services, there were 15 hours of SES and 3 hours of History/Geography. The decision aid note takes account of this double recruitment: 1 teacher for SES and another one for the 3 hours of History/Geography.

SVT teacher: The incumbent refused to sign the addendum but did not appeal against termination. The post was advertised but no applications were received. A short-term contract has been offered to the former incumbent until 19 October 2023, and we would like to thank her for her commitment, despite the fact that she is in breach of contract. We will be looking for candidates via our EMCP2 colleague and the Association des Enseignants de SVT.

Primary teacher: FLE teacher and pool of substitutes: One unsolicited application was received: 1 couple, one of whom could fit the FLE profile and the other be part of the pool of English and French substitutes, as this person is bilingual. We currently have only one substitute in FLE, but she will not be available after the All Saints' holidays.

Educational Assistants: to hire for 1 Educational Assistant who was not replaced and 1 who will be in maternity leave.

The MUN post is now vacant and could be replaced by the staff teaching 3 hours History/Geography for 6 months. This is an additional service, not a full-time position. This is a transitional year, and we won't be able to benefit from the expertise such as that of the former incumbent.

CAMBRIDGE certification: We need a centre to organise certification sessions and a teacher who is trained and accredited by CAMBRIDGE to give the exams. For the time being, certification will have to be provided by another centre. In principle, it is a language colleague who can follow the certification. For the time being, we have not spoken to the teachers about this, pending the Board's decision on the procedures under way. To replace the English teacher who was terminated, hours were added to the other English teachers who were not working full time to cover the position.

Sick leave of an English teacher: replaced by a casual contract full time temporarily.

Confirmation of probation period for two staffs: 1 AESH and 1 maintenance assistant: no question

Requests from 2 staff for an extension of the retirement date: According to the terms of the HR manual applicable to the school's staff, employees must retire at the age of 60. The HR Committee recommends that no exceptions be made.

The Board approved the HR Committee's recommendation not to accept the extension request by 10 votes out of 10.

HR priorities for 2023-2024: Improve and harmonise contract templates /Optimise the shilling salary scale/clarify certain articles of the HR Manual and develop explanatory memoranda to explain them.

COCAC stresses the importance of defining a frequency for re-evaluating the KES salary scale in line with inflation, while taking into account our cash flow and the priority work to be done to modernise the Lycée and keep it competitive. We need a clear mechanism in terms of frequency and method of calculation. This will be studied by the HR Committee.

Consideration is to be given to possible discounts on school fees for staff who have their children at the Lycée.

In the medium/long term, a debate should be held on the adoption of a new salary scale to be adopted for all new contracts, setting ceilings for benefits.

It should be noted that we are awaiting the results of the benchmarking study carried out by a private company which surveyed several other international schools.

CA validates the following recommendations of the HR Committee by 10 votes on 10 :

1. To Act urgent recruitments of secondary teachers:

- SES Teacher : 18H
- Hist/Géo Teacher : 3H
- Replacement SVT Teacher : till 19/10/2023
- Replacement English teacher due to sickness of the incumbent.

To Act urgent recruitments of primary teachers :

- 1 FLE teacher
- Replacement English/French (pool) : 1 teacher
- 2. Recruit two Educational Assistants to replace a vacant post and a replacement during maternity leave
- 3. Propose a part time contract of 6 months for MUN to the Hist/Geo teacher
- 4. Confirmation of trial periods for two staffs.

5. Refusal of the requests to extend the retirement dates of two staffs.

There are no votes to be taken on the other committees:

It should be noted that for the Maintenance Committee:

- SOPHOS, the partner identified to strengthen IT security, refused to propose a payment plan that would separate the cost of purchasing the software from the cost of technical support for three years. As a result, the contract has not been signed, and the Maintenance Committee has recommended reissuing a call for tenders targeting four SOPHOS partners (1 Platinum and 3 Gold). The bids will be examined on Thursday 28 September.

For the **Communication Committee**:

- Launch of the tender process for a communications and marketing strategy

AoB :

- COCAC: Mr Stephen Jackson, the Resident Representative Coordinator for the United Nations in Kenya, who is perfectly bilingual in English and French, has expressed his availability to meet pupils

and talk to them about sustainable development or meet parents on other topics, and he could be a sponsor of the MUN.

- Mrs Delphine Leclerc-Toure from the office of Mr Jackson, a technical expert on finance and green finance (recently released by France), is also available to give talks to students or parents.
- From next year, the European Commission could launch an EU model like the MUN.
- The idea of labelling this school as a Rift High School is being pursued. 5 French archaeological missions are in Kenya. The ambassador is currently visiting one of them in Turkana. Last year, a pool of three teachers was formed around Mrs Sonia HARMAND to bring the idea of a Lycée du Rift to life. This should result in school projects that take advantage of this multidisciplinary expertise. It remains to be seen how the management can implement such projects. The auditorium could also be fitted out to house a frieze relating to these projects.
- The final point: monitoring of the worksite behind the Lycée and the installation of double glazing, as proposed by the company.

REMINDER: The Annual General Meeting will be held in person. A zoom link will also be available but will not allow participants to vote. They will therefore have to give their proxies. They will be able to ask questions, but not chat.

- A proposal was made to set up a committee for Extra Scholar Activities (AES), as none of the current committees dealt with them.
- The Board recommended the creation of an AES Committee by 10 votes out of 10.
- Renewal of the expired AEFE agreement: Either sign a one-year addendum sent to all schools related to changes in the terminology (art. 6 and 12), which does not correct the agreement itself.
- Or the 5-year agreement which reviews the delegations and details the role of the CFO and which must be discussed.

The chairperson thanks all participants and closes the meeting.

The meeting ended at 11.35am