

Verein der Eltern und Freunde  
der John-F.-Kennedy-Schule zu Berlin e.V.

Society of Parents and Friends  
of the John F. Kennedy School Berlin e.V.



John-F.-Kennedy-Schule  
Teltower Damm 87-93 • 14167 Berlin

## Minutes of The Verein meeting

Monday, September 28th 2015

at: John-F.Kennedy-School, Teltower Damm 87-93, 14167, Hausmeisterwohnung

Present were:

Board: Susanne Volkmer, Katharine Doeringer, Klaus Hentges, Leah Hecker, Dagmar Hoppe, Marion Greeves, Vinh Pram-Beinhold, Marion Patt, Isolde Streit, Wendy Rohrbacher

Susan Brown, Katja, Gromis, Jo Anne Stuhr, Lynn Brinda, Regine von Kleist, Sabine Widmaier, Reinhardt Roth, Ted Anderson, Isaac Dye, Juliet Reichert

Meeting opened at 19:01 by the chair Susanne Volkmer

### 1. Approval of agenda

- FEIN Hofbegrünung is added to the agenda, Reinhard Roth adds info about the new Wilkommensklassen to the agenda.

### 2. Approval of minutes -of August 31<sup>st</sup> 2015

- Minutes are approved

### 3. Introductions

- Isaac Dye and Juliet Reichert introduce themselves as the new Student Council reps for The Verein's meetings.
- Susanne Volkmer welcomes them and gives a short overview of The Verein's most recent work.
- Susanne Volkmer thanks the FunRun organizers Dagmar Hoppe, Vinh Pham-Beinhold, Wendy Rohrbacher, Sabine Widmaier and Klaus Hentges.
- Reinhardt Roth thanks the FunRun organizers for a great job.
- He proceeds to explain that JFKS will be hosting three Wilkommensklassen after fall vacation. The classes will most likely be housed in the former Hort containers, details are yet to be determined.

### 4. Request: mindfulness project

- Ted Anderson explains that the administration is interested in the possibility of starting a school wide 'Mindfulness in school' project. To evaluate if this is something the school can benefit from the administration is seeking funding for a trial program, in which a Berlin based mindfulness teacher would teach a 10 hour mindfulness program to one 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade and one 7<sup>th</sup> grade. After this trial program the administration would evaluate the effectiveness of the program to decide if it is worth it to get teachers trained to give the program to the entire student body.
- Question: How can this program work for the entire school?
- TA: That has to be determined with the results of the trial.
- Q: Will there be recurring costs?
- TA: No, this request should only fund the pilot project to decide if this is something the school should pursue.
- Q: Are there alternatives to this specific program/teacher?
- TA: Not really – 'Mindfulness in school' is an established program and there are only 2 certified teachers in Berlin.
- The project was voted on at the end of the meeting: → **approved by 8/10 yes= 80%**

### 5. Recap FunRun

- Dagmar Hoppe thanks the FunRun team, the day went very well. There were 120 parent volunteers, more than 3500 sponsors, the students ran more than 11.000 laps.

### 6. Freiwilligenpass

- Lynn Brinda has a list with 28 names of students eligible for a Freiwilligenpass, 10 have sent their info in. Lynn negotiated that 12 kids rather than 5 can receive a reward on October 16th. Lynn suggests an award at JFKS.

- Reinhardt Roth suggests an article for the PN about the Freiwilligenpass.

## **7. Shop**

- Sales are going well. New merchandise has to be ordered. Susanne Volkmer asks for a better flow of information.

## **8. FEIN - Hofbepflanzung**

- On October 15<sup>th</sup> 15 bushes are to be planted. Volunteers are needed.

## **9. Thank you event**

- Dagmar suggests having a disco party.
- Potential dates are discussed.

## **10. Membership drive**

- Wendy Rohrbacher reports: a promotional letter about The Verein were sent out to all elementary school parents via the students.
- The ES assistants suggest a letter detailing what The Verein does to send out to interested parents.
- Data: currently The Verein has 773 members. The school has 1600 students, of which 1170 are members via their families.
- Membership reminder: The question arises if a reminder is sent out in case of late dues. It is.

## **11. Miscellaneous**

- Wiki/board directory: Leah Hecker asks all the board and supporting members to please check their information on the wiki's board directory.
- Susanne Volkmer proposes that The Verein buy a hannukah menorah to display next to the christmas tree. Leah has started research on where to buy such a display hannukiah. The board expresses interest in pursuing such a project. It is agreed that Leah will research more Hannukiahs and contact the Rabbi responsible for the jewish teaching in public schools. Susanne will research the possibility of having a carpenter custom build a hannukiah.
- The next meetings are scheduled for:
  - Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015, Hausmeisterwohnung
  - Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 2015, Christmas party, location tba
  - Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 2016, Hausmeisterwohnung

Meeting adjourned: 21.41

Minutes: Leah Hecker