



European Schools

Office of the Secretary General
Pedagogical Unit

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Original

Highly talented pupils in Sports, Art or Music in the European Schools: possible measures

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Meetings on 15, 16 and 17 April 2015 – Prague

Proposal of modification of Article 30 of the General rules of the European Schools

I. Introduction

During the school year 2013/2014, the Office of the Secretary General has been asked if special measures were foreseen within the European Schools for highly talented pupils in the areas of Sports, Art or Music.

This issue was put on the agenda of the Board of Inspectors of June 2014. As the Secretary general considered it was difficult to establish one uniform rule for this kind of pupils, he proposed that a document should be prepared on this issue for the pedagogical meetings of October 2014.

It should be noted that general rules for the system of the European Schools concerning highly talented pupils are difficult to define very strictly because each case is different and could require different arrangements.

The Board of Inspectors Secondary of October 2014 came to the conclusion that more autonomy should be given to the school management to set up special arrangements which are manageable. In case of disagreement between the management and the legal representatives, the concerned Inspector should be consulted and give his/her advice.

Currently, article 30 of the General Rules of the European Schools which defines the rules regarding regular attendance at classes, does not foresee any arrangement for those highly talented pupils.

At the outcome of the Joint Teaching Committee of 9 and 10 October 2014, a new proposal to change Article 30 of the General rules taking into account the remarks made during the meeting was submitted by written procedure 2014/42. This version was not accepted unanimously and as a result, a second proposal to change Article 30 was proposed via written procedure 2014/48 which did not reach a consensus either.

As a result, a new proposal is submitted hereunder again for opinion at the Board of Inspectors and the Joint Teaching Committee.

II. Proposal to change Article 30 of the General Rules (version 2014-03-D-14-en-2)

In order to give the management of the European schools sufficient autonomy when dealing with requests of this order be it in the sports, music or art area, article 30 of the General Rules could be modified at point 30.2 'Dispensations'.

The modification would be added under point b) and the current point b) would then become point c). The proposed changes are presented hereunder in italics and bold.

[...]

Article 30

2. Dispensations

a) Physical education: text remains unchanged

b) Talented pupils

i. Highly talented pupils in sports, music or the arts, may exceptionally be excused regular attendance at classes by the Director, only upon request of their legal representatives (or themselves if the pupils are 18) and on production of certificates and/or formal requests from the relevant institutions stating that they need to be absent.

ii. In case of request for repeated absences, dispensation may be granted only on a termly basis, renewable on production of (an) additional certificate(s) and/or formal authorizations from the relevant institutions. [...]

III. Opinion of the Joint Board of Inspectors

As time was short, the Joint Board of Inspectors decided to discuss this item directly at the Joint Teaching Committee meeting.

IV. Opinion of the Joint Teaching Committee

The Joint Teaching Committee expressed a favourable opinion on the document and invited the Budgetary Committee to express its opinion and the Board of Governors to approve it.

V. Opinion of the Budgetary Committee

The Budgetary Committee expressed a favourable opinion.

VI. Proposal for the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is invited to approve the amendment of Article 30 of the General Rules with immediate entry into force.
