

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF RIGA

## **Summary for School Council Meeting in August 2024**

On August 6th, 2024, a regular School Council meeting took place.

Ingrida Kirse (IK) started the meeting by welcoming all members, confirming quorum, and presenting the agenda. The minutes from the May 27, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved.

Amanda Romey (AR) followed with the Director's report, providing updates on staffing, curriculum, resources, and upcoming events. AR introduced several new hires, including Anna as Primary Principal, Fraserr as Secondary Assistant Principal, and others filling key teaching and support roles. Concerns about secondary school space constraints were addressed with plans for a six-day rotation schedule to better distribute classes and avoid conflicts.

Curriculum updates included the continuation of the Math curriculum pilot for primary and MYP training for secondary staff. New Math textbooks were acquired to establish a consistent school-wide program. AR also shared details about recent IB results, noting a 65% pass rate with some exams under review for remarking. Upcoming events include New Student Orientation, the first day of school, and the back-to-school barbecue.

Kristine Daktere (KD) presented updates from the Facilities Committee, focusing on capacity challenges and solutions in light of a projected influx of 200 students from the Canadian Armed Forces by 2026. Options include modular classrooms at K118 for primary students and relocating the secondary school to Skanstes to increase capacity. Long-term construction at K118 was also discussed as a permanent solution.

AR emphasized the importance of maintaining ISR's language balance while accommodating new students, particularly in integrating English as the primary language and providing French instruction where necessary. Updates on facility improvements, such as parking lot upgrades and addressing building issues at K118, were also shared, though some plans are delayed due to capacity concerns.

The Finance Committee provided a general update, focusing on the Extended Day Program (EDP). Historically offered free of charge, the committee is exploring options to introduce fees to cover program costs while remaining affordable for parents. A decision on the EDP fee structure will be finalized within two months after benchmarking similar programs at other schools.

The committee also discussed financial considerations for modular classrooms versus long-term construction. Modular solutions are less costly but temporary, while new construction requires greater investment but aligns with long-term strategic goals. The Skanstes project's lease agreement is being drafted, with careful attention to clauses safeguarding ISR's interests.

The meeting concluded with updates on operational planning and strategic initiatives to address current and future challenges in staffing, facilities, and financial management.

Please feel free to contact us at school.council@isriga.lv in case of any questions or comments.

Thank you!