

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF RIGA

Summary for School Council meeting in May 2024.

On May 27th, 2024, a regular School Council (SC) meeting took place.

Ingrida Kirse (IK) opened the meeting by welcoming all members, confirming quorum, and announcing the agenda. The SC meeting minutes from April 8, 2024, were reviewed and approved.

Amanda Romey (AR) presented the Director's report, highlighting key updates on staffing and ongoing training. Training for MYP and Toddle is progressing, though technical issues with transferring IOs and EE components are causing delays. Solutions, such as temporary Google usage, are being implemented.

AR also reported on the successful visit from CIS, confirming progress on projects for the July 1 deadline. Updates included a new assessment policy, the implementation of the Kiva program for grades 1–9, and a Red Cross initiative on non-aggressive communication for older grades. Efforts to improve SEN/EAL processes and transitions for Grades 5–6 were discussed, alongside staff support initiatives and events like the back-to-school BBQ, CEESA tournaments, and graduation celebrations.

Notable achievements included ISR's participation in the World Scholars Olympiad, becoming CEESA associate members, and successes in volleyball and middle school tournaments.

Kristine Daktere (KD) provided the Operations Director, Admissions and Marketing reports. Admissions updates included 230 returning students and 43 new admissions, with some departures due to employment relocations. Marketing efforts were successful, including Google Search campaigns and the launch of ISR's podcast Riga Edu-Cast.

The Operations Director reported on the ongoing negotiations with the owners of Skanstes 27 regarding the potential relocation of the secondary school to the first five floors of the office building under a 5-year lease agreement. This move is being considered as a mid-term solution to address critical capacity challenges at the secondary school, while the School continues to pursue its long-term goal of a unified campus. KD emphasized the details of the negotiation process and noted that the Finance Committee will convene to analyze and approve a comprehensive 5-year financial plan, including the transition from the current premises at V9 and V3 to Skanstes 27. Negotiations are ongoing, and further updates will follow once a response is received from the property owners.

The Facilities Committee shared updates on obtaining permits and plans for summer maintenance tasks at K118 property. These efforts focus on ensuring operational continuity and improving school infrastructure.

The Governance Committee addressed the approval process for the school's bylaws, with SC members agreeing to allocate more time for thorough review. Updates included revisions to the Director's job description and strategic changes such as transitioning from the IGCSE curriculum after the next school year.

The Governance Committee also finalized parent/student handbooks and approved the admissions policy, underscoring their commitment to upholding the school's educational standards and organizational effectiveness.

The meeting concluded with updates on key initiatives, ensuring strategic progress across all operational, academic, and administrative areas.

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

Thank you!