

From: **UCC DIRECTOR** UCC-DIRECTOR@eursc.eu [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Open letter from APEEE President on the proposed Half Days of School in June 2021
Date: 2021. Apr 26. 17:05
To: APEEE UCCLE [REDACTED] info@uccparents.org
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Dear [REDACTED],
Dear all,

Thank you for your mail and the points that you have raised.

As we have discussed, this decision has been taken by the four schools in Brussels in recognition of the strain on staff of this extraordinary school year. The staff and indeed the students have been under extreme pressure and we have taken this decision in an effort not to add to this stress by compelling staff to attend class councils after 16:00 which in many cases can and do last until after 21:00 in the evening. This timetable has been adapted so that class councils can be organised every afternoon. During these councils, the teachers will take time to discuss and plan the measures that will need to put in place from September to remediate any issues that have arisen due to the last 2 school years during this pandemic.

Students from S4 to S6 will finish after their formal classes after their last exams. The exams have been arranged at the latest possible dates to allow for corrections and for S5 and S6 to sit the exams in the exam room that will also be used by the S7 students for their Baccalaureate. We need time after the exams to arrange for their correction and to organise that students of S4, S5 and S6 will have 2 half day sessions of feedback after the correction of their exams. We believe it is important that the students have the opportunity to have this feedback.

M1-P5 together with S1, S2 and S3 students will finish at 12:30, like on Wednesdays, from the 22nd of June until the 1st of July 2021. Our colleagues in the APEEE Services will arrange school transport as it would be organised on a Wednesday throughout this period and our colleagues in OIB will offer their services over these days again similar to Wednesdays. This will allow parents enrolled with OIB to avail of childcare for the afternoons if they so wish.

We do understand that these are extraordinary measures but we hope for your understanding in these extraordinary times. It is clear that we will need to be creative in the next school year to address the specific needs for students, pedagogically, socially and psychologically. We hope that families and staff will have the possibility to meet again with family whom they may not have seen for some time and reconnect with their old lives. Obviously the opportunity for the whole community to relax and recharge themselves over the summer is also of vital importance. We hope that the restrictions that we have endured for the last 14 months will not exist or be significantly reduced in the next school year so that we can begin to get back to "normal".

Kind regards / Sincères salutations / Met vriendelijke groeten / Mit freundlichem Gruß /
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