



### **Minutes of the General Assembly of the Association of Parents and Friends of the French International School of Canton held on Thursday 29 September 2022.**

The quorum being reached, the General Assembly is opened.

Mr Ortiz, Chairman of the Board of Management, welcomed the members and introduced Mr Olivier Ngo, Scientific and University Cooperation Officer.

#### **1. Presentation of the association (by Mr Philippe Ortiz - President)**

The foundation of the school is based on an association in France. The legal structure under Chinese law is a WOFE whose investment vehicle is based in HK, and whose sole owner is the French association.

The school is governed by two bodies

- the Board of Management, in charge of administrative and financial matters such as budget, recruitment, campus and investments. It also manages relations with the school's supervisory authorities such as the AEFÉ\* on the French side and the BOE\*\* on the Chinese side. It is composed of 4 members elected each year at the General Assembly, as well as the management and the French Consulate General in Guangzhou.
- The School Committee is in charge of the pedagogical part. It meets every term in the presence of parents' representatives (three members elected at the General Assembly), teachers' representatives, students' representatives, the management, the French General Consulate, and the Board of Management.

\*The AEFÉ (Agence pour l'enseignement français à l'étranger) represents the French Ministry of Education to the school. It grants the approval of the levels after an annual audit of the school's operations and offers training for the staff.

\*\* The Chinese Bureau of Education manages schools in China, including schools for foreign nationals like the EFIC. It monitors compliance of the school's activity with the legal framework in China.

#### **2. Review of the start of the 2022 school year (by Mr Gregory Parellada - Head of School)**

##### **• Health aspect**

The health situation in the Asia-Pacific zone is greatly improving with the return to normal in classroom teaching, the resumption of AEFÉ courses with the possibility for trainees to go to the host schools and the holding of a seminar for the heads of schools in the zone (10 October).

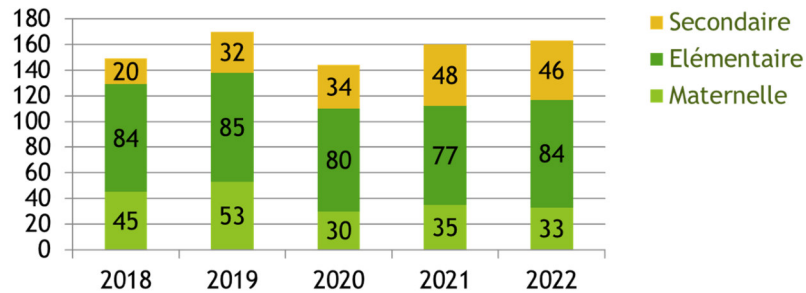
However, China remains in a class of its own, with constrained geographical mobility and the maintenance of a so-called "Zero Covid" policy.

Indeed, the health protocol is still in place at EFIC. It essentially takes the form of daily temperature measurements on campus, strict monitoring of sick students, mobility surveys carried out at the request of local authorities, PCR tests organised on campus several times a week.

The Head Teacher (HT) took the opportunity to underline the solidarity and resilience of the whole educational community, especially during the transition to distance learning from 11 to 22 April 2022. He also underlined the essential role of the parents' representatives.

##### **• Back-to-school enrolment**

As of September 29, 2022, 163 students were enrolled. The table below shows the evolution of enrolment over the last five years and the distribution between kindergarten / elementary / secondary). The forecast for 10 October is 170 pupils.



On 1 September, 130 families re-enrolled (79%). The school welcomed 33 new students.

130 enrolled EFIC new (21%).

34 students left, including 7 students in their final year.

Enrolment is stable or even increasing overall, returning to the highest levels before the health crisis in 2020. The kindergarten (MATERNELLE) is struggling to regain its numbers, while the lower secondary school (COLLEGE) continue to grow.

- Educational structure**

The pedagogical structure remains unchanged from last year, with multiple levels in kindergarten and CM. These double levels allow a good distribution of the number of pupils, taking into account the parity, the profiles and the needs of the pupils. They also allow for a better management of enrolments during the year.

The table below shows the number of staff per class:

MATERNELLE	
TPS-PS-MS	MS-GS
15	18

ELEMENTAIRE				
CP	CE1	CE2	CMA	CMB
17	17	16	17	17

COLLEGE			
6EME	5EME	4EME	3EME
10	17	2	13

LYCEE		
2 <sup>NDE</sup>	1ERE	TER
1	3	0

For the academic year 2022-2023, EFIC has two exam classes (3<sup>ème</sup> and 1<sup>ère</sup>).

- New staff**

The start of the 2022-2023 school year was completed with a full staff, despite the constraints of geographical mobility. This year, EFIC is experiencing a low turnover of teaching staff, which fully benefits the stability of the teams in place.

In order to support the development of the EFIC, two positions have been created for the start of the 2022 school year: an administrative manager and a physics and chemistry teacher. The new staff and teachers are :

- Mr. Antier Guillaume (Mathematics)
- Mr Buravant Mathieu (EPS)
- Mr. Nibert Didier (PC-technology)

Ms Lin Caroline (Administrative Secretary)

Ms Ma Crystal (Administrative Manager)

The headmaster would like to warmly thank CCI France and the diplomatic mission for organising the summer charter flights between France and China, which allowed the arrival of the new staff to be secured at a reasonable cost.

### 3. Pedagogical overview (by Mr Gregory Parellada - Headmaster)

#### • In primary school

Since 2018, the primary school has seen many pedagogical innovations. The Parcours Aménagé et Renforcé en Langue Etrangère (PARLE, English and Mandarin) is coming to maturity. It involves all the teams in its implementation and a significant training component, in particular for foreign language colleagues who are now in charge of the Teaching of a Subject Integrated with a Foreign Language (EMILE). This linguistic offer responds to the expectations of families and contributes to the attractiveness of EFIC, which educates beyond the French and Francophone community of Canton.

EFIC is welcoming 17 students under the neo-French-speaking scheme at the beginning of the school year. This scheme has been in force since the start of the 2019 school year. It allows for the internalisation of neo-French speaking pupils. This system has been presented to other schools in the Asia-Pacific zone. It is considered to be a model. It is fully in line with the inclusive approach desired by the Ministry of Education and the AEFÉ.

The mastery of the French language is a priority. It begins in kindergarten with, in particular, the setting up of language workshops allowing explicit teaching of oral language in significant daily volumes.

Fundamental learning in mathematics has been the subject of a national plan (2019). At EFIC, this mathematics plan leads to the implementation of a new method (called the Singapore method). The good results of the students in the positioning tests and in the national evaluations (CP, CE1, 6<sup>ème</sup>) confirm us in this choice.

All these pedagogical innovations cannot be considered without a training component for teaching staff. This training component is notably provided and shared with the other schools in the area, under the authority of the AEFÉ.

The year 2022-2023 is intended to be a year of stabilisation after major developments and evaluations of the various schemes put in place.

#### • In secondary school

The main novelty lies in the fact that the school has been granted an extension of accreditation to cycle 4. This approval is granted after an inspection of several days, carried out by the AEFÉ, concerning the teaching practices, the functioning of the authorities and the material resources of the school. It testifies to the quality of the teaching provided and its full compliance with the national education programmes.

The headmaster wishes to congratulate the work accomplished by the teaching team. He also reminds us that this mark of confidence obliges us for the future. During the inspection, one point of improvement highlighted concerned the teaching of science. The recruitment of a new teacher in physics and chemistry and the complete renovation of the science laboratory are the result of this observation.

In the examination classes, all candidates were successful. The two students in 3<sup>ème</sup> obtained their Diplôme National du Brevet (DNB) with honours. The seven Terminale students obtained their baccalauréat with honours.

In a context of sanitary emergency, the events were held in Canton as an exception. The School Committee wishes to thank the French Consulate General in Guangzhou for its help in organising and holding the events.

#### • Trajectory of our graduates



EFIC provides guidance to high school students. The list below shows the universities and schools that our students will be entering at the end of the 2022 session:

University of Lille - Law degree  
Montpellier business school  
University of Lyon 2 - Bachelor's degree in information and communication  
University of Bordeaux - Law degree  
Université de Perpignan - Statistics  
Montreal - UQM - visual and media arts  
China (GUT) - International Economy

- **Communication with families**

The school is constantly concerned to foster dialogue with families and to facilitate communication within the educational community. In this logic, and in accordance with the school project, a Digital Working Environment (ENT) has been deployed in all primary classes, as of the beginning of the school year 2021. At the beginning of the school year 2022, 71% of parents will be using this ENT.

A Wechat "administration" is now available. During working hours, you can exchange information with our secretariat *via* this social network.

The Board of Management underlines the importance of the parents' representatives, who are a real link between the school and the families. It also recalls the central role of the bodies. A School Committee takes place every term, as well as class councils for the secondary school. In addition, four parent-teacher meetings are held throughout the year. The ordinary general assembly meets in accordance with the school's statutes.

- **A new presentation brochure**

A new EFIC presentation brochure has been produced. It gives an account of the evolution of the school, both pedagogical and material, over the last four years. Initially in French, this brochure will be translated and distributed in English and Mandarin. Composed of a main 6-page leaflet, it includes sheets dedicated to kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school.

- **Extracurricular activities**

Extracurricular activities are an integral part of our educational offer. Extra-curricular activities (AES) include, for the first quarter of 2022, 20 activities. 60% of the pupils are enrolled in at least 1 AES. For its third edition, the summer camp (Open School) welcomed 82 pupils (including 16 from outside) for a fortnight. Concerning the school canteen, which has evolved towards a buffet, 90% of the pupils are registered. For this new school year, a new service organisation is being tested in order to reduce the number of pupils attending the canteen at the same time, in order to offer a more serene meal environment.

- **Campus works and developments**

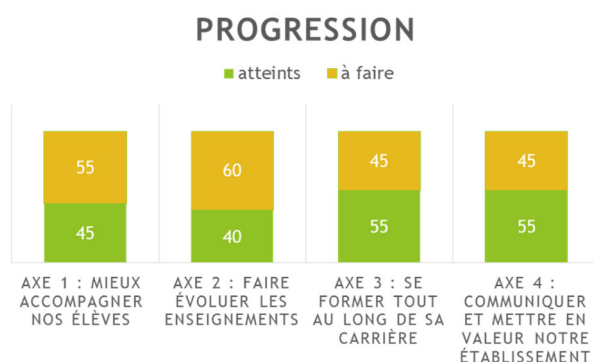
Many improvements and investments were made during the past year and during the summer. The visit proposed by the Board of Management prior to the General Assembly allowed parents who wished to do so to see this. The list below shows the main points:

- An FM partner and full time maintenance staff
- Courtyard shading system
- Change of floors and furniture in kindergarten

- Administrative refurbishment
- Exterior painting and roof insulation
- Installation of a fire prevention system
- Refurbishment of the science laboratory
- Refurbishment of the staff room
- Development of a space dedicated to artistic practices

- **The 2021-2024 school project**

The school project is available on the school's website. It presents the guidelines for EFIC's development over the next three years. It is regularly evaluated. Progress reports are submitted to the School Board. The graph below presents a macro-progression of the completion of the priority actions of this project.



#### 4. Financial report (by Mrs Laure Desmonts - Treasurer)

- Report of 2021-2022

	Estimated budget	Result
Income	19 008 064	19 299 298
Expenditure	16 623 253	16 882 751
Net result	1 984 330	1 811 819

Our association has a positive net result of Rmb 1,811,819 as at 31 August 2022. Our accounts in China are kept by Mazars and our accounts are audited every year.

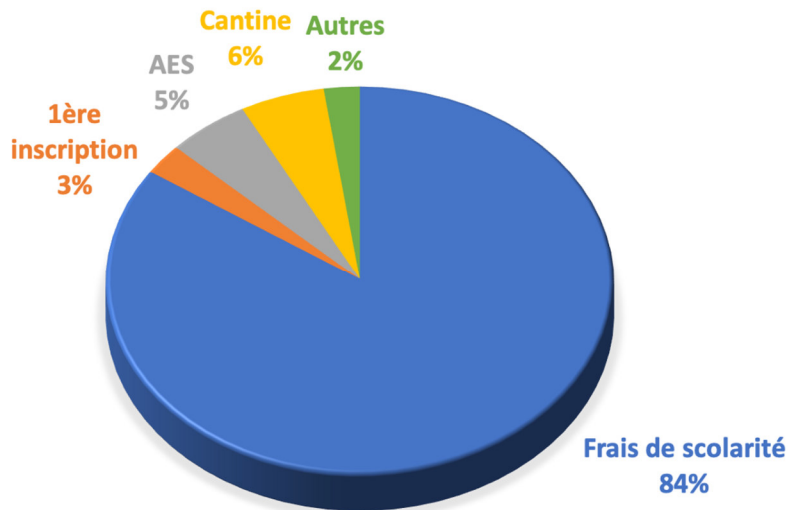
EFIC is a non-profit association, and any profits are fully reinvested in the school and placed in reserve. The statutes of our association require us to have a reserve equivalent to 3 months of operation of the school, i.e. approximately 4.5 million Rmb.



The school's assets are limited to our equipment and materials. We have no real estate assets, for example. EFIC has no debts.

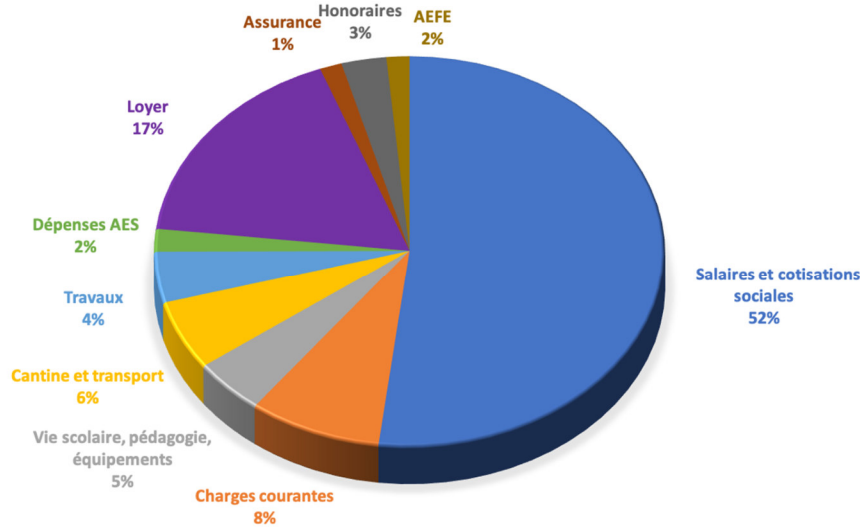
The amount of unpaid bills remains under control this year. The treasurer insists on respecting the financial regulations and the payment deadlines. In case of difficulties, contact Eric Liang and the Board of Management without delay to find a solution.

### Distribution of revenues 2021-2022



Income is Rmb19,299,298 and has increased compared to 2020/2021 due to increased enrolment, more students in secondary school and the success of the AES and Open School. The school did not receive any subsidies from the French state this year.

### Breakdown of expenditure



Expenditure amounts to Rmb 16,882,751. The majority of these expenses (52%) are for the salaries of our teachers and staff, which is normal for a school. Work expenditure was higher this year with the installation of a fire fighting system and the renovation of part of the school. We also continued to invest in equipment, notably furniture. The AEFЕ charges (2% of school fees for children from kindergarten to 6th grade) have returned to normal after a year of partial exemption.

A parent asked about the increase in the EFIC rent. The rent increases every year by 5% as foreseen in the lease contract. It should be noted that the landlord had given us two half rents in 2020 at the beginning of the COVID crisis.

Another parent asked us about the content of the fee expenses. These are expenses related to bookkeeping, audits, lawyers' fees and the fees of our IT provider. These expenses are stable.

- Estimated budget 2022-2023

Based on an enrolment of 160 students, the projected budget for 2022 - 2023 is slightly positive. Revenues are stable. Expenditures are on the other hand on the rise for the following reasons:

Creation of a Physics-Chemistry teacher and an administrative secretary position at the beginning of the school year 2022;

Increase in AEFЕ charges. With the approval of the collège, the 2% contribution concerns all students from kindergarten to grade 3<sup>ème</sup>.

The rent continues to increase by 5% per year.

Other investments are planned, in particular the development of the science laboratory. However, the work is expected to be less extensive.

Forecast 2022 - 2023 in Rmb		
Income	19 367 660	Stable On the basis of 160 pupils

Expenditure	17 699 119	On the rise : > HR budget > AEFÉ expenses > Rent > Computer Science > Equipment: lab, furniture
Net result	1 002 190	

#### 5. Election of the Board of Management for the year 2022/2023

The following are elected to the Board of Management for the school year 2022-2023

Chairman: Mr Philippe Ortiz,  
 Vice-Chairman: Mr Christophe Bilde  
 Treasurer: Mrs. Laure Desmonts  
 Secretary: Mr Jean-Christophe Roinné

#### 6. Election of parent representatives to the School Committee

The following are elected to the Governing Board for the school year 2022-2023

Kindergarten :  
 Mr Sevag Baroudjian (titular)  
 Ms Lucie Bilde Hui (alternate)

Elementary :  
 Mr Savary Antoine (titular)  
 Ms Jinling Pan (alternate)

Secondary :  
 Mr Ning Mi (incumbent)  
 Mr Benjamin Rojo (alternate)