



Schola europaea

Office of the Secretary-General

Brussels, 20 April 2020  
2020-04-LD-21 GM/ab

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE EUROPEAN SCHOOLS AND THE DIRECTORS OF THE ACCREDITED EUROPEAN SCHOOLS**

Dear Directors,

**Subject: Decisions of the Board of Governors concerning the consequences of COVID-19 on the European Schools**

The Board of Governors has discussed at its meeting on 15 – 17 April 2020 the consequences of COVID-19 for the system of the European Schools and agreed on several measures to deal with the risks linked to COVID-19.

Some aspects required an urgent decision of the Board of Governors.

With this letter I share with you the proposals which have found the necessary support of the Board of Governors. They mainly concern the primary cycle and the secondary cycle including the European Baccalaureate session 2020.

The proposals approved by the Board of Governors read as follows:

- 1. The Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 57 of the General Rules and to approve that every pupil in the **primary cycle** will be promoted, with the exception when his/her legal representatives and the school agree on the repetition of the school year.*
- 2. The Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 59.5 of the General Rules and to approve that in **year 4** the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester B tests will be suspended and that the 1<sup>st</sup> semester B marks will be replicated to establish the final B marks.*
- 3. The Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 59.5 of the General Rules and to approve that in **year 5** the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester harmonised exams will be suspended and that the 1st semester B mark will be replicated to establish the final B mark.*

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Office of the Secretary-General of the European Schools  
Rue de la Science 23, 1040 Brussels - Belgium  
Telephone: +32 (0)2 895 26 11

<http://www.eursec.eu>

E-mail : [OSG-SECRETARY-GENERAL@eursec.eu](mailto:OSG-SECRETARY-GENERAL@eursec.eu)

Moreover, the Board of Governors recommends that these European Schools should organise – exceptionally - harmonised 2<sup>nd</sup> semester exams in year 6.

4. The Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 59.5 of the General Rules and to approve that in **year 6** the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester B tests will be suspended and that the results of 1<sup>st</sup> semester B tests will be doubled to establish the final B mark in the subjects concerned.

Moreover, the Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 59.5 of the General Rules and to approve that in **year 6** the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester examinations will be suspended and that the results of 1<sup>st</sup> semester examinations will be doubled to establish the final B mark in the subjects concerned.

5. The Board of Governors approves for the **EB session 2020** that the marks to the written and oral exams will be cancelled and the final mark awarded based on A and B marks.

Moreover, moderation will intervene whenever the difference in the distribution of final marks in comparison to previous years is statistically relevant.

Finally, the Board of Governors mandates the Office of the Secretary-General to amend the 'Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate' applicable for the European Baccalaureate 2020 accordingly and to submit the amendments to the Board of Governors for approval by written procedure.

6. The Board of Governors agrees to allow candidates to request to sit the written and oral exams in total in autumn 2020. Once starting these exams session, the previously obtained final mark will not be any longer valid.

Alternatively, the candidate may request to repeat the year 7.

The Board of Governors mandates the Office of the Secretary-General to amend the General Rules and the 'Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate' applicable for the European Baccalaureate 2020 accordingly and to submit the amendments to the Board of Governors for approval by written procedure.

7. The Board of Governors approves for the 2019/20 school year a derogation from Article 12.2 of the Service Regulations for Locally Recruited Teachers with respect to contracts of Locally Recruited Teachers supposed to be transferred into contracts for an indefinite period at the end of the current school year and to derogate from the requirement of an evaluation of a national inspector.

Some of the measures approved by the Board do require amendments of the 'General Rules of the European Schools' and/or the 'Arrangements for Implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate'.

These amendments will have to be approved by the Board of Governors by Written Procedure and I will keep you updated on this process.

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I kindly invite you to share this information with pupils, parents and teachers at your school and I will inform you about further developments and decisions in due time.

Finally, I wish you and the members of your school community all the best for the continuation of the school year.

Yours faithfully,



Giancarlo MARCHEGGIANO  
Secretary-General of the European Schools

cc: Members of the Board of Inspectors

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