

Year Report

Salto International PTA 2021/2022

This report is a brief overview of the accomplishments of the PTA of the Salto International School during the 21/22 schoolyear. This report is meant for everyone to read what the PTA has achieved and still desires to do.

The 21/22 schoolyear has been the first full year of operation for the PTA, meaning that we are still getting to grips with both our own as well as the external processes of the school.

Despite this and various PTA staffing changes, we feel that we've had a productive first year.

Salto International School Directors

Context

Since its inception, Salto International School has undergone a huge transformation from an idea, to a concept to a fast growing and, more recently, thriving school. This transformation has required great effort from all the people involved and has been very successful to this day. The fast growth has required most resources and attention being focussed on simply getting the school up and running, ranging from staffing to location management and classroom materials to application processes.

Naturally this means that some activities were delayed or had to be postponed. Three of them were of particular interest to the PTA since they form the foundation of the school

- Internal Organization
- Schoolplan
- Schoolguide

Internal Organisation

When the PTA was founded at the end of the 20/21 school year, the organizational structure of the Salto International School was incomplete and some positions were either unclear, unfilled or mismatched.

During the 21/22 school year, the PTA has been working with all the stakeholders within the organization to make sure that

- The organization internal structure was properly put in place
- Both locations got their own dedicated director

As a result the position of the Salto International School within the bigger SALTO organization is now clear and well defined in terms of administration, finances, registration and its relation to the other schools.

Furthermore, both the RISE and I-St@rt locations now each have a dedicated school director with all relevant responsibilities.

With these milestones achieved, the PTA feels confident that the school can continue to grow and function going into the 22/23 schoolyear and beyond.

Schoolplan

Without a proper schoolplan a school cannot function, since this is an essential plan to outline the direction of education the school wants to work towards.

Together with the management of the school, the PTA has set the outlines of the schoolplan which later have been filled by the school.

Upon completion, the PTA has reviewed the schoolplan and given the go-ahead for implementation.

The schoolplan will be reviewed by the PTA periodically to make sure that the school stays on track or makes adjustments where needed.

Schoolguide

The schoolguide is a crucial reference document for both parents of current students as well as parents that are considering application.

Outlining the basic principles of the school, explaining procedures and providing insight into the workings of the school are just a few examples of topics that are covered in the schoolguide.

The unique double role of catering to both staff as well as parents makes the PTA the perfect source of feedback for the school to make the schoolguide as relevant as possible for all stakeholders.

This is very much a first version of the schoolguide, so it will be updated yearly with the latest information

COVID

Unfortunately, COVID has played a big part in the 21/22 schoolyear and will probably continue to do so in the years to come.

In many ways, the school simply follows the rules and guidelines it gets from the Ministry of Education. But of course there is a certain degree of “freedom” within these rules to make and implement policies within the context of the school.

Throughout the entire school year, the PTA has been an important partner of the school management to help form policies, evaluate decisions and generally make sure the interests of the people we represent are taken into account.

Website

In order to be both transparent as well as findable, the PTA is now permanently represented on the websites of the Salto International School.

On this web page we share meeting dates as well as meeting minutes (in summarized format) and of course our contact data.

PTA Staffing

The PTA consists of a body of 3 parents and 3 staff from both locations for a total of 12 permanent representatives.

There is 1 chairman (Peter) and 1 vice-chair (Jojanneke) and in the future there will be a dedicated secretary.

The directors of both locations are important stakeholders as well as partners of the PTA and will be invited to the meetings most of the time. However, they are not officially part of the PTA.

Over the course of the 21/22 schoolyear the PTA has undergone a few staff changes due to pregnancies, availability and a natural in- and outflow of people.

We have discussed the option to bring the permanent members back to 2 staff and 2 parents from each location, but have concluded that due to availability, there will always be people absent from the meetings and in order to be representative, we need enough people attending to produce relevant votes.

With a few new members going into the 22/23 school year, we are confident that both staff and parents are well represented.