

News from the participation council - December 2022

Dear colleagues, parents and others,

The participation council wants to keep the people it represents informed of relevant issues raised in the council's meetings. Below you will find information on a number of the topics discussed during the participation council meeting of 29 November 2022.

The joint participation council has now approved the **dates of the holidays** in the 2023-2024 school year. These are listed on the website.

The 2022-2023 Collective Labour Agreement for Secondary Education (CAO VO 2022-2023) contains agreements aimed at **reducing pressure of work**. Under the provisions of the Education Agreement, funds have also been earmarked to finance the relevant measures. These funds will be released in two components:

- an individual component under which each staff member's individual budget will be raised by 40 hours a year, based on a full-time job;
- a collective component. Under the CAO, expenditure of these funds must be decided within the smallest possible organisational unit in the school.

The participation council discussed at length how the two components of the agreement should be applied at the

Wolfert schools. The individual component must be applied in the same way at every school. The collective component will be fleshed out at each school by the Staff Advisory Council (*personeelsadviesraad*), and then put to the staff members for their approval. The participation council will monitor whether the schools act in accordance with the agreed procedure.

The central management team has drafted a **multi-school annual plan**, based on the [school plan](#) [in Dutch], setting out the school group's ambitions for the years to come in relation to teaching, staff and organisation. The participation council welcomes the initiative to define the school group's ambitions in this way. At the same time, we are constructively critical as to whether these are described in sufficiently concrete terms.

The school group's **budget** for 2023 was discussed extensively and was approved by the participation council. Matthijs Ruitenbergh will visit each school to provide interested parties with further information on the budget.

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For the Wolfert van Borselen
participation council