



LA FONDATION ÉDUCATIONNELLE SOCRATE
THE SOCRATES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΩΚΡΑΤΗΣ

January 21, 2020

Mr. President, Dear Andy,

On October 23 of 2019 I wrote to you with a request for a meeting in my new capacity as president of the Socrates Educational Foundation (SEF) in order to explore with you the role of the SEF. I also let you know verbally that I wanted to explore the possibility of having one single entity under the HCGM umbrella that would be responsible for the fund raising activities for the benefit of the École Socrates-Démosthène school. We finally had that meeting on December 17 in the presence of Voula Neofotistou as the board member responsible for the schools, and Constance Karvela, board member and interested observer.

I put forward the proposal that, rather than continuing as is presently the case where both the Fund Raising Committee of the HCGM and the SEF raise funds for the benefit of the schools of the HCGM, we establish a common goal of unifying these fund raising efforts. I explained that the SEF, with the cooperation, support, input and involvement of the HCGM could operate under the umbrella of the HCGM as **its** Foundation for the educational mandate of the HCGM. I explained that I believed that such a result would be both more efficient in raising funds by combining efforts and also send a message of inclusion and welcome from the HCGM to the broader community.

As things now stand, the past impossibility to find common ground with the HCGM has confined the SEF to a rather marginalized role that is more akin to a philanthropic organization than the Foundation for the promotion of trilingual education which it is.

I made it clear that the SEF Board was prepared to explore all possibilities that would satisfy any concerns the HCGM might or could have about control, destination of funds, identification of needs, or any other issues. I was certain that if there was a willingness to proceed, the details of this new relationship could be worked out.

As the new president of the SEF, meeting with a new president of a new Board of Directors of the HCGM, I was convinced that we could get over the previous mistrust and suspicion that had characterized the relationship between the SEF and the HCGM for many years.

Throughout the many years of my public career, I had the opportunity to concretely demonstrate my commitment to the HCGM and specifically to its schools on numerous occasions. In your person, as the new President of the HCGM who was not directly involved in the past acrimonious relationship, I saw the hope that we could find common ground.

representing 50% of that commitment in advance of the agreed upon date in May. The rest will be sent as originally agreed with the HCGM, in May 2020.

Any requests for 2020-2021 funding we receive or have received from parents will be redirected to you to deal with as you see fit.

With sincere regrets,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CS', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Christos Sirros President,
Socrates Educational Foundation