



**SO ECO GREEN**  
**Liceo Scientifico Statale Bruno Touschek**  
**GROTTAFERRATA (Rome, ITALY)**

**4<sup>th</sup> COMENIUS MEETING, PIETARSAARI, FINLAND**  
**28 January -1 February 2014**

**Students' participation in the school**

**Class Representatives**

In our school, at the beginning of the year, generally in October, each class votes **two** students who work as representatives of the entire class. The vote may be open or secret; in the first case, the names of the candidates are written on the blackboard and they are voted by show of hands; if it is secret, each student is given a card on which he has to write the names of two candidates. Once elected, the representatives must be always very active and up to date on the news of school life. They are renewed every year.

After the election every month, from November to May, a **two-hours' class meeting** is formally requested by the two new elected students to the teachers during the curricular timetable in the morning. The teachers generally agree, give them their permission and leave the classroom and let the students all together discuss in class on their problems and needs. The role of the two representatives is essential because, after these meetings, they take part in the **class councils**, which are summoned almost every month and the members are the class teachers, two representatives of parents and the headmistress or a deputy teacher, generally the coordinator teacher (or tutorial teacher) of the class. The task of the two students is to inform the teachers about the topics discussed with their classmates and they have the responsibilities to report the council's decisions to all of them.

The delegates with the other class delegates also take part in extraordinary meetings called by the headmistress every now and then.

## **The Student Representatives at the School Board of Administration**

They are **four students** annually elected by all the students of our school. They attend the decision-making meetings during the year. They take part in the school council, made up of:

Headmaster, President of the school council, Representatives of teachers, staff and parents.

The representatives of students have a key role, they have to convey issues, initiatives, proposals and requirements of their own school at the Council.

They are the speaking voice of students, they must assert their rights.

## **Students' Committee**

It is a student association, completely run by students; it is a kind of "parliament" and it is for this reason that a great number of students strongly desires and believes in it.

It is not politically oriented and its main purpose is to organize social activities. It is a place for discussion and debate, in which students discuss about school life, they speak of school problems, suggest initiatives and establish projects to be pursued.

The Committee's proposals must be approved by the School Board.

The Committee is composed at least of two students of each class (normally, but not necessarily the elected class representatives) and any other student who spontaneously decides to join it.

This year one of the main purposes of our Student Committee is to edit the school magazine, *Touché*, which printed its first issue some years ago, but stopped its publication last year.



## Students' participation in the community

### Political and social actions

#### **Student Representatives in the Provincial Board ( CPS Consulta Provinciale degli Studenti)**

The Students Provincial Board is an institutional body of student representation, consisting of **two students** from each high school in the province, directly elected by all the students in all the schools. The elected representatives will hold office for two years. Each of the 110 Italian provinces has its own Provincial Board.

The Provincial Board of Rome is composed of more than 400 members, elected from 203 schools secondary high school in Rome and its province .The meetings are held periodically, generally every month.

The functions of the CPS are:

- ensuring the most extensive link among students of all high schools in Rome and the province;
- optimize and integrate networked extracurricular activities;
- make proposals that exceed the size of the individual institution;
- enter into agreements with local, regional , voluntary associations and organizations in the world of work and employment;
- make suggestions and express opinions in collaboration with local authorities about issues relating to territorial problems;
- set up an information desk for students , with particular reference to supplementary activities, guidance and implementation of the Statute of the students;
- plan, organize and implement activities between different nations.

The representative students in our school this year are **Marco Alivernini** e **Gabriele Collatina**, voted unanimously.

#### **The City Council of young people**

The city council of young people at Grottaferrata promotes youth participation in political and administrative life of our area, in compliance with the European Charter, adopted by the Council of Europe. The council consists of 16 elected members among young people aged from 15 to 25.

Aims and actions:

- cultivate relationships with the youth associations ; assess the impact on youth of the choices made by the municipality and any other institutional actors whose effects are felt throughout the municipality ;

- collect and disseminate information about the condition of young people in all its aspects. The youth council has the function of :
  - promote participation of young people in political and administrative life
  - develop and propose projects
  - follow the implementation of programs aimed at young people

## Extracurricular Activities



### FREE and ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

LIBERA is an association which coordinates more than 1,500 groups territorially devoted to build political and cultural synergies capable of spreading the culture of legality. The law on the social use of property confiscated from the mafia, education for democratic legality, commitment against corruption, education against mafia, projects on employment and development, activities against usury are some of the concrete commitments of this organization. Its main purpose is to make young people realize the terrible consequences of the phenomenon of crime, of the horrors of war and the violation of human rights, and to stimulate the growth of civic consciousness.

During the school year, almost every month in the afternoon, , students have the possibility to join lectures planned in our school by this association; they deal with the culture of legality and with conscious and active citizenship. Their intent is to honour and remember people and great events of our history; this year the main subject matters are: the Holocaust, with the exceptional participation of some of the victims of Shoah and Mafia; women in the Resistance during the Second World War (anti-fascist and anti-Mafia ); songs of the Italian Resistance; debate of some main articles of the Italian Constitution. The students learn about meaningful events of yesterday and today, which serve to stimulate civic consciousness and to promote the value of equality, solidarity, justice and legality.



The Bands of Trousseau Ironcave and Nightmare participated with great enthusiasm at the concert organized by LIBERA and sponsored by the Province of Rome, held at Stazione Birra in Ciampino, on December 21<sup>st</sup> 2013.

All the profit of the evening helped to finance projects of the association in the schools of Rome and its province.



## **FINESTRE: LA SCRITTURA NON VA IN ESILIO: Windows-Writing doesn't go into Exile**

The problems of our country are also addressed in our school, with very interesting projects and initiatives, such as "La scrittura non va in esilio." Participants have the opportunity to write a story which will then be judged and rewarded. This project introduces the students in a harsh world, brings them closer to the difficulties of life and brings them in contact with new realities, not always happy but brings them closer to the issues of country, in fact it deals with the issue of immigration, asylum and interreligious dialogue.

The initiative is promoted by the Centro Astalli. This is a reception centre in Italy that gives hospitality and defends refugees in our country. It is situated in Rome and it works hard to ensure everyone fundamental human rights like food, shelter, medical care and a job. It has a canteen that distributes more than 400 meals in a day, a surgery, three reception centres, an Italian school and others services.

Centro Astalli and our school:

Our students met some refugees from African countries at war, they were political refugees and told their tragic stories and experiences in a foreign country. As a follow up some of our students put themselves into the refugees shoes and invented stories with which they took part in a writing contest and our student Claudia Compagni was awarded an important prize.

### **Project "Liceo Tauschek STANDS WITH MALALA"**

For two years we have been engaged in a campaign in favour of Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani teenager activist who has been fighting for girls education and human rights, since she was shot by the Taliban and survived the attack. A group of students is presently engaged in supporting her ideas and projects, they have opened a Facebook page in which they campaign to involve other people in petitions and direct involvement in her cause, as well as to foster reading as a way of opposing the violence of Taliban. This is their page "High School B. Tauschek Stands with Malala".

Furthermore they regularly publish their works on a Pinterest page dedicated to Malala

<http://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=girlwithabook>.

# Volunteering

There is not a general school project of social volunteering, but individual initiatives are authorized by the headmistress.

Being asked about their dedication in volunteering actions, here are some activities some students of ours do with the municipality or the parish church of the town they live in :

- during the summer they help in summer camps to take care of children whose parents work
- weekly or monthly, they help to serve food, offered by the Church, to homeless
- they help injured, sick or abandoned animals
- they help to preserve traditions and costumes in the small towns where they live (for example, in Marino The Shield of Lepanto is a cultural association, born in 2010 by a group of young volunteers, with the intent to promote and disseminate the historical origins of their town: they are flag-wavers and drummers. They organize parades during traditional festivities such as Marino Grapes Festival).
- Blood donation campaign: Blood collection from voluntary students is aimed at granting sufficient blood supply in our area. This year for the first time 70 students were recruited by Giulia Cristiani and Daphne Sorrentino, two of our students whose parents serve in our local hospital.