

## **SoIL Conference – Berlin, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### **Social Inclusion of Learners ERASMUS + K3 programme of the European Union “Inclusion as a chance to think the school new”**

#### **Day before Conference, September 28, 2017, Berlin**

The participation of the Bucharest Teaching Staff House members at the SoIL Conference in Berlin has a triple role:

- participation in project activities;
- initiating discussion with partners on issues related to reporting on the implementation stage at partner level;
- taking best practices highlighted in the conference seminars to be replicated at the forthcoming SoIL Conference in Bucharest, October 20, 2017.

Thus, on Thursday, September 28, at Heinz-Brandt Schule, we gathered in the school's Festive Hall where the latest preparations for the conference day were held. Finally, issues related to funding and reporting on the work of project team members present in Berlin were discussed.

#### **Conference Day, September 29, 2017, Berlin**

Starting from the fact that it is a good thing for a good job to plan and organize before, in relation with all resources (time, money, human etc), The Conference opening at 8.30 am, when the reception of the participants was ensured.

Students of the school ensured receipt from the entrance of the school yard, assuming the role of host.

Each participant received a map containing the required elements of the project description, conference agenda, participation diploma, as well as the list of participants with contact data, to facilitate the subsequent exchange of information and best practices on inclusive education and social inclusion.

Although the conference begun with plenary activity, the space for the debut of the conference was organized creatively and efficiently for group activity.

In accord with the theme of the project, the organizers have involved an example of success in implementing good strategies for social integration and self-esteem, introducing guests and presenting activities by Stana Schenk and a young woman who has been supported, succeeding, despite physical disability, to identify an optimal route under the given conditions.

The program was followed by presentations on general aspects of the project or on specific or local aspects of inclusive education and social inclusion, supported by Sybille Volkholz and Eveline Wiesenhofer.

Valerie Lange represented the local authority and, from this position, presented inclusion statistics on both the Länder and National.

Margret Rasfeld presented experiences in the area of educational alternatives applied at her school (private education, based on similar Montessori methods), not before making a statement of arguments to involve everyone in similar actions based on creativity, empathy and respect for diversity and alterity .

As a successful method is the learning-bureau - a method based on project learning, showing the structure of activities both hours, days, week.

Thus, the first hours of each working day (in fact, the first hourly interval) are reserved for meetings in the learning office, where teams are running in the projects; Thursday allows activities related to the activities outside the school, and Friday, the last time interval, is reserved for tutoring on the project, when teachers are verifying the status of projects and advising students.

An activity that involved group work at the conference meant the prior application of a Google questionnaire that gathered questions and suggestions of discussion topics from those who signed up for the activity (questionnaire applied before the conference date). Thus, there were 8 themes of discussion, under the name of activity **Inclusive School - 2020**.

The participants of the conference collaborated in flipchart recording of conclusions based on their own experience, broken down by weak points / threats, respectively strengths and opportunities.

The activity ended with the tour of the gallery.

After lunch, the work began with an attempo presentation, co-chaired by Klaus Candussi and Walburga Frohlich.

In the preamble, the presentation highlighted - into pragmatically and creatively manner –some weaknesses in education and the non-conforming results, especially in the area of transversal communication and literacy competence. In this respect, attempo has developed the **easy reading method**, which aims at developing the competence of using rewritten texts at different levels of understanding for meaningful reading.

An important activity was designed to be applied to three groups of participants, based on:

- Using educational tablet applications for those with special educational needs but with the possibility to be motivational for any educated, Austrian partner coordinator
- Learning bureau method, under the coordination of the German partner,
- Easy reading method, Austrian partner.

Participants were interested in methods, requesting information on the acquisition / transfer of best practices.

As an example of maximum interest and utility, the headmaster of the host school, in whose yard there is a building where a Protestant school operates, some of their students being vulnerable, together with the Protestant School Director will implement the learning bureau method in partnership.

The conference continued with a discussion panel attended by both partners of the Dutch partner's project, Berlin organizers and a young man who represented his own success of local and national strategies in the area of social inclusion.

At the end, participants were asked to complete an on-line feedback questionnaire, under the coordination of Stalin Schenck.

## **September 30, 2017, Berlin, after the Conference**

For the similar conference in Bucharest (October 20, 2017), we considered necessary to meet and discuss some of the activities that will be organized in Bucharest.

Thus, on Saturday, a working meeting was held between the representatives of CCD Bucharest and Stana Schenck and the following were established:

- the conference program will be similar (9.30-16);
- providing the internet both for efficient feed-back collection and for other activities;
- list of seminars - 2 or 3, one of which led by Karl, another led by Gosia, the third remains in discussion;
- constituent elements of the presentation map,
- completing the site of the CCD site dedicated to the Soil project with reports after the end of each major activity;
- better dissemination of information in the territory, participation of CCD representatives in events related to the theme of social inclusion, with a role of sensitizing the decision makers on initiatives in this area of intervention.

### **Conclusions:**

Soil Conference Berlin, September 28, 2017, has achieved its objectives, both in terms of the number of participants and, especially, through the diversity of participants - decision-makers, teachers, students, people belonging to vulnerable groups.

It is appreciated that an event of this magnitude could be organized at the level of a school, based solely on its resources.

As confirmed by the feed-back registration, the participants were interested in the topic being discussed, the methods and ways of intervention presented, simple (but not easy!) to transfer.

The interventions of people belonging to vulnerable groups, which demonstrated that integration is not a concept, but a reality, had a particular impact.

### **Note:**

[This report has Romanian version, where are the photos of the activity.](#)

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