



## **Progetto Comenius: "School Utopias"**

Il nostro I.C." B. Lorenzi "è istituto partner del progetto COMENIUS (Multilateral school partnerships) School Utopias - Imagining a school of the future"

## Istituti partner:

- -GEORG-BÜCHNER-GYMNASIUM SEELZE (Coordinatore)
- -LYCÉE MATHIAS- CHALON- SUR- SAÔNE
- -COWLEY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE ST. HELENS
- ISTITUTO COMPRENSIVO B. LORENZI
- -BURSA POLICE KOLEJI MUDURLUGU

**Durata:** biennale (2012-2014)

estratto da **Application form**:

#### Summary

The basic concept for this project is to develop utopian ideas in selected areas of school as an institution and a place to live. This comprises the idea of learning and teaching for a future life whilst not exactly knowing what the problems of the future may be, since school today is faced with enormous technological and global challenges. Subjects and methods that are currently taught often still date back to 19th and 20th century requirements which do not always meet the questions and problems our students and societies face in a globalized world. Thus, the participating schools have decided to set a focus on the topics

- "Preparing for Future Life (Utopia)",
- "Teaching and Learning Standards / Methods",
- "Creating Surroundings Overcoming Barriers (in Architecture and Design)", and
- "Learning in Motion (Physical Activities Enhancing Wholehearted Learning)".

The topics will continually be discussed and reflected in five project meetings and in classes inbetween the meetings (see also attached working plan). Among the aforementioned topical focuses we will also motivate the participating students and staff members to consider environmental issues (sustainability) in their project.

The meetings are going to follow guiding questions which establish the scaffolding for the respective following workshop: Starting with an assessment of the status quo at each partner school and finding examples of "good practice", participants will then try to find - through experiments and hypotheses - new ideas and solutions for both simple and complex everyday situations at school. The two aims we wish to accomplish will be to present a utopian vision of what a future school could be, while at the same time trying to apply a set of concrete changes to our respective schools.

### **Project objectives and strategy**

The concrete objective of our partnership is to invent an idea for a future school which reflects those aspects of the participating nations' different learning and teaching approaches that seem most fit to create a successful learning environment. Thus we will begin by assessing each other's own schools in order to find examples of good practise which can be integrated into our students' and teachers' vision of a "perfect school". It must be clear, however, that this will probably be quite paradoxical an approach since we will not always be able to affect the respective systems in which we teach. As a result we will need to take a broad and very utopian view and yet retain a firm grip on everyday down-to-earth practices.

The four specific topics were chosen because they offer the possibility to address the question from various different angles which all affect the way schools work: the learning environment, teaching and learning methods, aspired goals and skills and options to enhance the standard curriculum. Within this framework of topics different teachers at each school (see appendix) will work on one of the main topics. Among the participating teachers and students we will establish work connections they can use to prepare workshop presentations.

During the project meetings we will share our results and focus on the following aspects:

- 1) School realities today standards and best practise;
- 2) School tomorrow Utopia;
- 3) Schools today and tomorrow creative surroundings;
- 4) Future learning a threshold to life and society.

The focuses are set on developing ideas and measures on

- A) understanding utopian ideas by learning from good practises and standards that are presented by each school
- B) teaching and learning standards / methods (also regarding the European framework for education)
- C) the school surroundings / creative places and spaces
- D) supporting wholehearted learning through physical activities

Ideas for good practices will be extended by visits of regional educational institutions. The topics will be worked on in between and during the project meetings which will be prepared beforehand by distributing homework assignments. Among other materials we agreed to deal with the following inspiring and controversial videos: Karl Fish, "Shift Happens"; Ken Robinson, "Changing Education Paradigms" (both available online). The collected ideas will be evaluated in practise and revised to meet the challenges of reality.

# CONTACT PERSON OF PARTNER: I.C. "B. Lorenzi" Ins.M. Meneghelli

Il collegio dei Docenti ha deliberato il piano strutturale e organizzativo di applicazione e svolgimento didattico del progetto concordato e condiviso dagli insegnanti dei consigli di Classe sui quali il progetto stesso è disseminato e inserito nei curricoli (programmazioni) educativi-didattici. Per motivi di continuità didattica il progetto, di durata biennale, nell'anno scolastico 2012-2013 è ufficialmente operativo nelle classi seconde medie.

Gli incontri di progetto sono momenti di coordinamento in corso di progetto durante i quali **una delegazione** di studenti e insegnanti, in qualità di rappresentanti e portavoce attivi delle diverse scuole europee partner condividono attività programmate di verifica in itinere e confronto attivo e partecipe del percorso progettuale svolto nelle diverse realtà scolastiche. I parametri oggettivi di riferimento per definire le delegazioni (studenti e insegnanti) sono condivisi e determinati in funzione agli obiettivi di progetto e alle finalità e condizioni poste dal programma LLP- Comenius.\

1° incontro di progetto: I.C "B. Lorenzi" Fumane-ITALIA

dal 14 Ottobre al 19 Ottobre 2012

2° incontro di progetto: Cowley International College – St. Helens REGNO UNITO

dal 10 Marzo 2013 al 15 Marzo 2013

3° incontro di progetto: Georg-Büchner-Gymnasium- Seelze- GERMANIA

dal 10 Novembre al 15 Novembre 2013

4°incontro di progetto: Lycèe Mathias Chalon-sur-Saône-FRANCIA

Data da definire (entro giugno 2014)