

Authors/Autoras: Johansson, Gunilla (gunilla.johansson@ltu.se) and Kristoffersson, Margaretha. Umeå University, Sweden

Title/Título: Parents in education in the Nordic countries

Los padres en la educación en los países nórdicos

Topic: Policies and actions to ensure effective and democratic co-operation and dialogue among social actors to promote home-school-community links

Políticas Educativas y Sociales que promueven una efectiva y democrática cooperación y diálogo entre los actores sociales para estimular las Relaciones entre las familias, los centros docentes y las entidades y servicios sociales comunitarios

Presentation time/Día de presentación: Session in English. Friday 16, 12:15-1:45 p.m. Room 5, Third Floor

Sesión en Inglés. Viernes 16, 12:15-1:45 p.m. Sala 5, Tercer Piso

Abstract

In the Nordic countries a lot of changes have taken place and new possibilities for collaboration between home and school have become more obvious. Teacher training programs have gone through changes concerning structure and content. Families are finding new forms in the society. Policymakers stress the needs and interests of the society defined at macro level and also in the educational sphere. Decentralization with both responsibility and authority in order to increase involvement and participation in decision-making at micro level for pupils, parents and teachers are considered relevant. Important questions still are: Why is it difficult to communicate with parents? What is an open and equal dialog? Cultural sensitivity as well as increased interest in the use of information and communication technology in open networks between pupils, parents and teachers have an impact in home school collaboration. These quite new forms for information and collaboration between different involved actors are to be investigated. One of the purposes in this project was to get an insight about what kind of research and research networks are conducted concerning home and school. We particularly made efforts to involve the teacher training area to this field of research. What options could we find in a Nordic project involving doctoral students and well established researchers? Five Nordic countries, students and researchers have participated in this course. Research networks have been built between doctoral students and researchers in this area in the Nordic countries.