

Parents' and teachers' expectations of the home-school co-operation in reducing the pupils' underachievement at school**Kala, Ulve* and Kraav, Inger**.** *Tallinn University, Estonia, **University of Tartu, Estonia

Underachievement at school, which quite often leads to dropout from school, is the concern of parents as well as teachers. It is expected that supportive contacts between home and school might help an underachiever. The paper analyses the expectations what do both agents – parents and teachers – expect from one another to reduce the child's underachievement. Also the reasons of underachievement and mutual activities to improve the co-operation are discussed. The presented statements base on the analysis of the answers of the questionnaire carried out in 2004. Among the respondents there were also parents (N=944) and teachers (1061) of the graduates of the basic school pupils in Estonia. Good contacts between home and school were evaluated by teachers as the second of essential factors in improving achievement; teachers also have the opinion that parents are not interested in their children's success at school. Parents, in their turn, care of the children's success at school but as they are not always informed about the rapid changes in curricula, the requirements of a school etc., then they feel themselves unable to help their child.