

**Citizenship Education as the  
Responsibility of the Whole School:  
Three Examples**



Tallinn  
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# Key Challenges

- Cognitive **and** affective
- Knowledge **and** skills, attitudes
- Complexity **and** cohesion
- Past **and** future
- Diversity within **and** diversity across

# A significant paradigm shift

## **From:**

### **Education about Democracy**

- features of democratic systems in social studies
- history of democracy
- elections for student council

## **To:**

### **Education about, through and for Democracy**

- experiencing democracy in school life
- deliberate development of attitudes, skills and knowledge for active citizenship

# Settings for Learning

- From instruction to active learning
- Citizenship education as a socialisation process
- Values not taught but incorporated in the process of learning
- Content and process
- Emphasise bridging rather than bonding (Putnam)

# Two Strands

## **Democratic Communication**

- Deliberation in class
- Weekly class council based on school-wide standards
- Deliberationforum

## **Responsible Agency**

- Responsibility and accountability in the classroom
- Service in and for the school
- Service in and for the community

# Primary School

## **Setting:**

- weekly class council meeting
- children's rights/global citizenship
- every child „boss“ in charge of a communal task

**Values/Skills:** responsibility and accountability, diversity of perspectives, human rights, democratic deliberation, social cohesion

# Lower Secondary School

**Setting:** Service Learning

Students as individual mentors for migrant students of a neighbouring primary school.

**Values/Skills:**

responsibility/accountability,  
civil society, empathy, solidarity

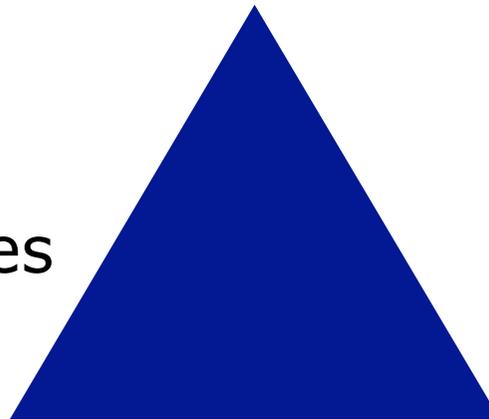
# Service Learning

Working for others

Developing oneself

## **Service**      *and*      **Learning**

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- Solve specific problems
  - Provide services



- cognitive learning
- skill development
- personality growth

# Mentors in Reutlingen



# Upper Secondary School

## **Setting: Deliberationforum**

- Organised by students for students
- Two-day public deliberation on a controversial issue (chosen by students)
- Involving experts and politicians
- Plenary and small group deliberation
- Pre- and Postsurvey

**Values/Skills:** Public deliberation, change of perspectives, critical analysis of information, reflecting on and rephrasing opinions

# A Deliberative Forum in Ettlingen



# Citizenship Education: A Whole School Task

- Building a culture of cooperation and cohesion
- Promoting collective inquiry
- Enhancing self-efficacy of students (and teachers)
- Actively challenging boundaries
  - between students of different backgrounds
  - between school subjects
  - between schools and communities