

EU vocational training network meets digitally - 2nd network meeting on September 26, 2020

On Saturday, September 26, 2020 a new chapter in the digital era started at 9:00 local time at the Berufsbildenden Schulen I Uelzen. Due to the current situation, our partners in Tartu / Estonia organized a video conference in which colleagues from Valetta (Malta), Graz (Austria), Florence (Italy), Hanover and other interested project partners participated.

Andrei Atskasov, the coordinator for International Contacts in Tartu, had arranged a program for ~ 4 hours with his team and the principal Raini Jöks. The central topic of the conference was the digital structure and the application-oriented integration of digital methods into learning at a vocational school. It quickly became clear that the vocational school in Estonia is very well equipped. Mr. Silver Püvi gave us an impression of the extensive IT infrastructure and the possibilities of using it to design lessons. Terms such as e-learning, digital lessons, hybrid learning and blended learning are currently also being discussed here. At the end of the conference, Stefan Nowatschin, principal of BBS I Uelzen, presented the concept for the planned sustainability-oriented school building - BBS Campus in Uelzen. He focused on the aspect of sustainability according to the 17 goals of the UN and a planning and execution oriented on excellence criteria.

Overall, the project team from Tartu had prepared the conference excellently. Small technical problems were quickly solved and the reaction of the participants was mostly positive, although it was also clear that the online format cannot replace a face-to-face conference.

The video conference was part of an extensive Erasmus+ project of BBS I Uelzen, which includes the development and discussion of "digitally supported and sustainably oriented centers of excellence in VET" in Europe. In the period from 2019 - 2021, the partners in the different countries meet to develop a common concept and thus contribute to the current discussion and the own focus in the countries. The aim is to present and discuss the jointly developed results at an international conference in Hanover in September 2021.

The first three-day conference had been organized from 01 to 03 November 2019 in Uelzen still as a present event with 40 participants.

During the video conference on September 26, 2020, the further procedure was also discussed and planned. Since the current pandemic situation does not allow traveling and face-to-face conferences, we will organize the next meetings in Graz and Florence, as well as other topic-related meetings also digitally.