

Teachers : fundamental protagonists of the chance inside “the Continuity”

We often talk about “continuity” at school because it is the one of the most important aspect to assure the school the success in the learning process of their students.

But it is really difficult to promote continuity inside the school system because of the different teachers’ outlook in the compulsory school and secondary school.

First of all it is important to describe the situation of teachers: in the Nursery and Primary school, teachers have to face a flexible management of the curriculum so they develop a curriculum based on interdisciplinarity and personalization; they manage the curriculum in its whole and consider the students’ local dimension. On the other hand, their colleagues of middle school and secondary school work in solitary habits as they teach subjects and it is rare that they meet to discuss about the pupils considering their learning in a integrated and global way.

Today the role of teachers is fundamental for the success of the school system modification; teachers have to be the protagonists of the reforms and they must be allied not hostile.

One of the best strategies, I think, is to increase the establishment of school nets to organize regular meetings, to build study teacher clubs composed of voluntary groups, (at the beginning), self managing groups who meet with the purpose to examine the matter of continuity, to share problems, to research solutions and try out them at school, evaluating the results to promote improvement in the learning process of the students.

In this way there is also a reinforcement of teachers’ authonomy, fundamental for improving their professionalism and sense of responsibility.

Pupils’ behaviour are different according to their age, anyway, in this difference-“discontinuity” the school have to find the “continuity” in order to let the students acquire study and work methods, cognitive strategies, right group interaction , both transverse competences and competences relative to each discipline.

What I have been saying can be summarized in four main concepts:

- ⇒ Research action
- ⇒ School net
- ⇒ Collaboration with the University
- ⇒ Self- evaluation

In order to promote the research on “ continuity” into the school system, correlated with the evaluation of the attempts related to:

- The growth of pupils
- Horizontal and vertical integration of teaching
- Common evaluation

To sum up I think that “**continuity**” is one of the main aspect to guarantee the quality of education in the Italian and European school systems.

The European cooperation, the exchange of experiences among schools, learning from each other, can help schools to promote equity and efficiency in the education system all over Europe .

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