

Your issue/topic

Why is it important? What is happening? What is going wrong?

Students spend too much time on academic curriculum and individual work and don't build relationships with other high school students and lose opportunity to expand their world views while talking to others and seeing different perspectives. Being busy with every day life concerns and troubles, students don't think so much about political and social issues. They don't form an opinion and therefore they can not change the world even if they wish to - they need to exercise their minds and be informed about topics relevant in European / World society

Secondly - for students to be able to connect with each other and also themselves, they need a place to reflect and contemplate.

Results of the discussion

What was the outcome? What are possible solutions?

An opportunity for discussion between students should be encouraged and space for reflection, connection and contemplation should be provided.

Possible actions to make change

What are possible actions? What are the goals?

- 1) Create debates in school
- 2) Develop an idea about youth room at school
- 3) Participate in Fridays For Future school protest

Description of the action:

Describe your action idea (What materials/information are needed? Which places are suitable? How long does it take? What difficulties could occur? Who should be informed or involved?)

Latvian delegation had three main ideas:

- 1) Develop opportunities for discussion by organizing debates
- 2) Create personal space for teenagers in the school
- 3) Participate in Fridays For Future school protest

Debates:

The aim for debates were to gather students from grade 9 to 12 and give space for a discussion within a theme they are themselves interested in.

How to achieve the goal: With the help of Adazi Free Waldorf School headmistress 3 debate lessons were organized. It was presented as "month of debates" and the initial idea was to organize one debate lesson each week. Student hall was suitable for such a student gathering.

People that were involved were the headmistress of Adazi Free Waldorf School, English teacher who had extra training in organizing debates and Sabine Vilcina, teacher who participated in European Youth Forum.

Difficulties that were expected: Students who organized the debates were concerned that participating students will not like the themes provided for discussion.

Solution: In social media "Instagram" a poll with initial themes was created. Students voted on many provided themes and one with the most ambiguous results, closer to 50:50 was chosen for each debate lesson.

When students came to the hall, they were once again introduced with the debate topic and they were asked to express their opinion. They could express their opinion standing either on one or the other side of a line, based on whether they agree with the statement or they don't. agree ←----->
disagree

Concern No. 2: students who organize the debates will not be able to get other students to participate.

Solution: Students who organized debates based their debate lesson on all the other debates they had experienced either in Youth Forum or they consulted teachers who gave advice on how to organize such a lesson.

Personal space for teenagers:

All students from grade 9 to 12 were informed that they have an opportunity to develop an idea about a future room for teenagers. In 2020, Adazi Free Waldorf school plans to complement school territory with a new building. In this building students could have a room for themselves. Students were asked to gather all ideas they have and leave them in a box.

Concern: School will not be able to carry out all ideas students have

Solution: Prioritize on the most important ideas regarding visual appearance of the room and activities inside the room.

Protest:

Create posters and take action!

Documentation of the action.

How do you plan to document your action?

Photos were taken from the debate process and also posters were made to inform about debates and teenager personal space idea.