

24/04/2017

Let's remember what we have agreed upon...

We are happy to see that our project activities are progressing well and there are plenty of them for everyone: for both the teachers and the students. Very soon we will have the election of the most civic-minded teacher and the most civic-minded action, while the time for the implementation of the project is running out, yet it does not apply to the implementation of ideas.

In order to see and evaluate all the activities equally, let's remember what we started from and what we agreed upon ☺. Therefore, here's **THE MODEL FOR EDUCATING CIVIC-MINDED LEADERS** presented in a brief and, hopefully, clear manner for everybody to understand.

Why we want / do not want to be civic-minded or INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MOTIVES FOR PARTICIPATING IN CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Internal motives	External factors
Appreciation, satisfaction, greater confidence, need for social interaction, self-expression, pleasure, intellectual stimulation (learning experience, sharing knowledge)	Reward, privilege, encouragement, avoiding penalty, pressure from the community, improvement of abilities, orientation towards norms, established reputation, feeling of duty to contribute, support.

Based on Tījūnaitienė, 2009, Nikartas 2012

What is self-expressive participation?

One of the most significant motives of civic-minded activity is self-realization or self-expression. When performing actions, of which we are certain, we feel the freedom of choice rather than the pressure from the external powers. Internal motivation for civic activity manifests itself when we feel autonomous, there is room for making choices, when we are competent and capable of performing activity, when we are in a good relationship with those beside us.

But how do we distinguish between self-expressive citizenship and its education?

Self-expressive citizenship is revealing one's experience, abilities, skills, and potential skills in civic activities. Civic education is creation of environments enabling to make decisions and to assume responsibility for one's own life and the life of community (Leighton, 2011). A civic-minded individual makes a decision to participate in public life independently.

And how do civic-minded teachers work?

Civic leadership of teachers can be understood as civic-minded behaviour inside and outside school. It is a voluntary behaviour of teachers which is expressed through helping colleagues, autonomous activity, execution of non-binding duties in order to achieve school's goals, efficient use of working time, guidance for students, sustainable use of school's resources, sharing ideas, positive representation of school.

AND OUR PROJECT'S CIVIC EDUCATION MODEL IS THE FOLLOWING...

Civic education is

- Based on values: focusing on values declared by the school;
- Participating and self-expressive: providing students with the possibility to control their learning;
- Active: the emphasis on learning by doing;
- Interactive: methods of discussions and debates are applied;

- Suitable: focusing on actual problems in life facing children and teenagers, and the society;
- Critical: encourages critical evaluation and reflection;
- Collaborating: learning in groups and collaborative learning.
- Inclusive: rightful to all students, irrespective of their abilities, social status, gender, etc.

Dimensions of civic education by encouraging self-expressive participation

- ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND ADVENTURES (groups, organizations, projects, actions, working bees, entertainment and other events).
- WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS (being accepted, respected, safe, enjoying time at school and considering it meaningful).
- SENSE OF COMMUNITY (membership, unity, sharing, taking care of others, help, obligations).
- SELF-MANAGEMENT (consulting each other, initiation, approval and implementation of solutions, creating school life).

Activities of civic education

- Participation in school's self-government
- Activity in extra-curricular activities
- Interest in public affairs
- Provisions on environmental sustainability
- Assistance to surrounding people
- Personal ethics
- Patriotism

To put it in schemes...

