

The role of school events in improving the school climate and strengthening the school community

Post-soviet Lithuanian school constantly experiences reforms. The protracted reorganisation of education system has revealed the gap between the policy and practice of education. The understanding that the school is an institution that **educates** and predetermines **social experiences** of students still remains a problem. How can we create a work-friendly climate and avoid negative and destructive atmosphere in the school community?

In my report I will share my experiences of organising school events in one of Lithuania schools - Vilnius Lyceum. Based on my rich experience in this field, I can state that school events help the integration of both the class and the community of school. They also develop management and organisational skills of students, create opportunities to integrate socially inactive students into common activities. Moreover, the organisation of school events strengthens the relationship between students and teachers and creates positive climate at school.

The following practical aspects will be discussed in this report:

1. **The idea and contents of school events.** Educational mission of the school obligates us to pay attention to moral and aesthetic aspects while choosing the material for a school event, as we educate a young personality, we form his/her views and tastes. Unfortunately, in the modern world the school has to be strong enough to compensate for the chaotic values of modern society.
2. **The character and thematic aspects of school events.** The strength of school community is reflected in its traditions. New students perceive the organisation of school events as a natural obligation for the school community. This especially educates personal engagement for the collective. All school events of the year can be grouped according to the theme (the list of groups will be presented and discussed), where each group reveals a particular aspect of school life, such as respect for classical idea of the school, the ability of school community to change, respect for national and state culture, finally, the diversity of students' life and interests.
3. **Management and methodological peculiarities of organization of school events.** In the process of organisation of the events the role of class, students' self-government or another existing social group increases. The structure of school community, the interaction of various social groups, is revealed, as well as the roles of class manager, teacher, representative of school administration.

The experience in organising school events gives the possibility to see development of the school community. It would be a great achievement *per se* if students willingly participated in common activities, showed initiative, felt secure and needed in their own school. The modern society is full of brutality and destruction that do not allow constructive development. School events as motivated and well-organised activity can strengthen morale, values and prevent destructive tendencies of students.