



KUNSKAPSSKOLAN NEDERLAND CONFERENCE AUDIENCE

KED

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INTRO BY CECILIA FÄLLGREN

From Inspiration to Implementation

by Madelief Keyser
Business Director, Kunskapsskolan Nederland

Fort Voordorp, built in 1867–1871 as part of the New Dutch Waterline, offered a beautiful venue for the Kunskapsskolan Nederland Conference 2016. The Fort was built with the purpose of keeping foreigners out. In mid-March, it warmly hosted foreign visitors from Sweden, the UK and Saudi Arabia to share knowledge and experiences with Dutch school leaders, team leaders and teachers. A lot can change in 140 years.

Now we find ourselves in the privileged circumstance that more than 35 schools in the Netherlands have already started working with the KED Program in one way or the other.

For this reason, the event was divided into two days; one day for newcomers and another for schools that have started working the KED way.

Some 170 newcomers attended the conference on day one, and 75 KED members on day two. Visitors appraised the program for being both inspiring and practical.

The theme of the conference was “From inspiration to implementation”, inviting the audience to understand how KED’s concepts of personalised learning fit into their schools. Each day offered four rounds of sessions, similar to those offered through the KED Program: lectures, lab sessions and communication sessions. Visitors could choose their individual learning path through the conference, picturing personalised learning in its essence.

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I have the privilege in my job of being frequently amazed. Today, 20 teachers from the Netherlands visited Kunskapsskolan Uppsala, because they are interested in adopting the KED Program in their Dutch schools.

Elias and his friends in Year 9 explained to us (in fluent English) how a school with 599 students and 599 individual learning paths towards high goals can be this peaceful and quiet. Not even the sound of a bell to direct students.

In a short time, the KED Program has become the hottest trend in Dutch education. We are delighted to welcome these new student and teacher buddies into the KED Network.

Connecting with other KED schools is the best way to develop your understanding of Kunskapsskolan's model for personalised education. A personal link to another KED school can be your entrance to a new world of teaching and learning, and now is the time to apply to KED Teacher Exchange 2016/17.

In the following pages, Komal, Tulio and George show us how contacts within the global KED Network are making their students grow.

This is our KED Greenhouse.

Cecilia Fällgren
KED Network Director



Sessions were led by a mixture of foreign and local KED experts. Kerstin Larsson, Principal at Kunskapsskolan Uppsala, and Dejan Urukalo, Principal at Kunskapsskolan Enskede, travelled from Sweden to give lectures. The visitors appreciated the opportunity to exchange thoughts and views with these school leaders on KED topics such as leadership of cultural change and personal coaching.

Kenneth Nyman, Senior Academic Director at Kunskapsskolan Education, explained that personal coaching should always be viewed as teaching. This was an AHA moment for several teachers, who had not figured out how they would have time for coaching on top of their regular teaching. A shift in mind-set is all it takes.

The conference established a special award in honour of the great contributions made to the KED Program by its much-admired originator, Birgitta Ericson, who recently passed away. The Birgitta Ericson Award acknowledges outstanding accomplishments in KED schools. Raymond van Kerckvoorden and Tycho van den Born, board members of Kunskapsskolan Nederland, presented this award to RSG Slingerbos in Harderwijk (Saskia Heukelbach and Bart Jan Olthuis) and to Mariëndael in Arnhem (Netty Sommeling). Both schools are making great progress in implementing personalised learning and are true representatives of Birgitta's 'there is always a way' philosophy.

Below, two short video clips capture the highlights of the conference. Here, you will also learn the useful lesson how to compare education to a fruit stick:

Day 1:

https://youtu.be/w_-soQSZF18

Day 2:

<https://youtu.be/ZAZeFrqYqJo>

Learning Outside Class

by Georgios (George) Tsarsitalidis
Teacher of English Language, Kunskapsskolan Uppsala

It all started when Georgios (George) Tsarsitalidis, teacher of English Language in Kunskapsskolan Uppsala, attempted to establish an international connection with a school in England. At the same time, John Baumber at Kunskapsskolan UK was looking for a few Swedish students and teachers to represent Kunskapsskolan in a small conference with KED inspired British schools. These schools are on the way to adopt concepts of the KED Program and its ways of organisation.

they were able to discuss and focus on important historical facts. To be honest, it did not feel like teaching for the students since it was a moment of fun.

As the students said afterwards, this was a life time experience since they learnt how to walk and stand in the tube as well as to behave in a huge metropolis while talking in English.



In a short period of time, George and his colleague Veronica Sandberg selected four students and booked the flight tickets and hotel in London. They met the students' parents and made packing lists. During the Swedish midterm break, the big day arrived and they were on their way to London with two boys and two girls in Year 6.

The meetings between the Swedish and British participants focused on the teaching formats of the KED Program that support independent learning. After the hard work as ambassadors, the Swedish group had the chance to visit interesting attractions like Madame Tussauds, The London Bridge and The London Dungeons, while at the same time walking in Oxford Street, Regent Street and Covent Garden. During those moments

After this interesting experience, Kunskapsskolan Uppsala stays in contact with KED inspired Caedmon College Whitby in North Yorkshire. The two schools are already planning for new exchange projects in order to help the students understand the importance of English language outside the school environment.

Sometimes it takes a lot of teacher's effort and time to organise something interesting and exciting for the students, though the joy of passing on the knowledge to future generations is amazing.



Upper Secondary Students Prepare for an International Future

by Tulio Capriles

Teacher of Business Studies, Kunskapsgymnasiet Malmö

KED schools in Sweden and the UK teamed up this school year as students from EWS Academy and Kunskapsgymnasiet visited each other in a project to encourage entrepreneurship and international networking among the youth. Participating in this year's edition of KED Business Buddies, as the project is called, are about 25 students from EWS Academy in Milton Keynes, north of London, and Kunskapsgymnasiet schools in the Swedish

cities of Gothenburg, Malmö, Norrköping, Stockholm, Uppsala and Västerås

One important goal of KED Business Buddies is to make international linkages a natural part of everyday teaching and learning. We came in contact with a different culture, said Jack Walker-Appleton, student at EWS Academy and one of this year's business buddies. That gave me a wider understanding of the world and I can use that in my

university application. The English and Swedish students met for the first time in November 2015, as a buddy group from EWS Academy visited Sweden. In Stockholm, the students participated in team-building activities and field trips to local companies. In March they got to complete the project with similar activities in Milton Keynes. This was more inspiring than sitting in the classroom, said Selma Hashi, business buddy at Kunskapsgymnasiet in Gothenburg. The visits to companies like Spiltan, Investor and John Lewis showed us how business works in real life.

Stockholm based Kunskapsskolan Education is the owner and developer of the KED Program — a coherent and proven program for personalized education.

Do You Know Your 4 R?

by Cecilia Fällgren

One recent Monday morning, the Swedish students in base group 4:1 at Kunskapsskolan Västerås got a Skype call from their younger Indian buddies in base group Kindergarten B at Kunskapsskolan Gurgaon. The KED buddies shared ideas how to help improve the environment.

"We talked about recycling things, waste management and what we do with our rubbish in Sweden," the Swedish students said afterwards, continuing excitedly:

"It was cool to speak to our buddies in India. They are very far away!"

"But we are all in the same school," replied one KED buddy in Kunskapsskolan Gurgaon.

The Kindergarten students in India initiated the discussion as part of their theme called "4R" – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse. Via Skype, they showed colourful posters they had created in class together with a bag that they made from old T-shirts.

The learning? With some imagination, it can be both easy and fun to recycle!

"It has opened many possibilities for the younger ones to feel one with the outside world and be more confident in expressing their thoughts. Their interest in the environment has grown and they feel it has more relevance because everyone is thinking about it," says Komal Malik, base group teacher for KG B in Gurgaon.

"It was cool to speak to our buddies in India. They are very far away!"

