



Constructing the Future School Community - A Scenario of an Interactive, Agency Building and Creative Learning Environment

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Time and space constitute the framework of learning. The space in schools should be seen to consist of physical, intellectual, social and emotional features. The present spaces do not necessarily support future learning. The future school should be a dynamic community that offers democratic, participative and collaborative spaces for creativity and learning. New architecture and technology will help in the construction of this community.

We have been developing a scenario of the future school in collaboration with teacher students, teacher educators and educational researchers at the University of Jyväskylä. This development work is a part of a Finnish university level educational development project "Interactive teaching and learning". In this scenario, educational system simulates the society and constructs possibilities to creativity, new community construction and agency building. This process includes also construction of networks with actors in different fields of society, participation in authentic problem solving in networks, reflection on both one's individual and group identities, and testing abilities in safety space of learning. Some of these ideas have been piloted in a teacher education course during the academic year 2011-2012. The aim of the course was to increase holistic welfare in the school by creative and interactive practices and through collaboration among class and subject teacher students, 6th grade pupils, and artists and experts in other fields.

This poster presents the key elements of the scenario. Theoretical views behind this model and research design will be introduced. In addition, preliminary results of the piloted course will be presented.