

**WHERE IT ALL BEGAN**

In 1983 a group of Berliners came to New York City and visited City As School. Jens Schneider is on the left and Ingrid Boehm is on the right. In the middle (in shirt and tie) was the principal and founder of CAS, Fred Koury.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thanks to Merce and the INEPSERS from Vilafranca for this article. We look forward to more such contributions from all of you. Send your pieces to the Newsletter to: [bschles36@aol.com](mailto:bschles36@aol.com)

## IDAP introduces Productive Learning Modules in all public Secondary Schools of Vilafranca, Spain



"Productive Learning in Secondary Education" is an educational program, which is developed by means of MAP modules in secondary schools. These modules are addressing disadvantaged students in risk of scholastic failure and social exclusion. IES Milà i Fontanals was the first schools where IDAP applied Productive Learning during the year 2003-04 obtaining very good results due to the fact that students acquired professional competencies in different fields and the possibility of certifying at this level of compulsory education. From that moment, when everything seem lost for them, more than 40 students got their careers and lives back on course. Considering the evolution of PL in this school and the support of the Catalan Educational Administration, two secondary schools of Vilafranca were added to the program "Productive Learning in Secondary Education" starting with a MAP module this year 2006-07. They were IES Eugeni d'Ors and IES Alt Penedès. Therefore, 36 students, 15-16 years old, are learning in a different way, simultaneously assisting 36 firms in several economical sectors such as carpentry, electricity, mechanics, hairdressing, aesthetics, children education, sports, veterinary, building, etc.

Productive Learning is going to be more and more relevant because the Educational Department of the Generalitat of Catalonia is allowing the development of our method in its schools in a slow but safe form. The last month of June, for example, this department organized in Vilafranca a PL seminar addressed to promote the methodology as a good model among teachers for all Catalonians who are working with disadvantaged students. In this seminar nearly 30 teachers participated from 15 secondary schools. They were fascinated.

And now... we have only to wait and see what will happen in the near future! Meanwhile we are continuing to work in Vilafranca for the benefit of our young people.