



NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PRODUCTIVE SCHOOLS ★★★★★

This is the first of what we hope will be many profiles of INEPS Schools and Projects

Boarding Lyceum of Natural Sciences

The **Boarding Lyceum of Natural Sciences** of Saratov State Agrarian University named after N.I. Vavilov (BLNS) carries out a targeted training of school students towards their entry to an university (more than 95 % of BLNS's graduates are admitted to universities).

Children from the city and remote rural areas of Saratov Region study there. The majority of students live in the hostel and go home to see their parents only for holidays. These teenagers have no possibility to contact their parents permanently that is why a part of responsibility for their learning success is borne by the pedagogues of our lyceum. Due to a specific character of our educational institution we are in charge not only for teaching our students but for upbringing them as well. It is important for us that they have a motivation for independent learning, active search for necessary knowledge, achievement of personally important targets. At the lyceum there functions a scientific society of learners, the members of which carry out individual and team research projects under pedagogues' supervision. ... The students present the products of their scientific work at the scientific and practical conference "Your first research, lyceum student". Various out-of-school activities allow our students to realize their creative abilities. The learners participate with interest in the Lyceum's creative workshops: of variety dance, ball dance, dance miniature, acting technique, vocal studio, thematic drawing, computer graphics, theatrical sitting-room, press centre; clubs: "Health", "Nature and We", "Traditions of the World's Peoples".

In 1999 at the Lyceum there was created the fashion theatre "Ariadna". Its members do not simply demonstrate cloths models made by themselves basing on the sketches of their artistic directors, but they also organize theatrical performance with the show elements, songs, poems, dances united by a common theme. ... BLNS's pedagogues actively implement a project-oriented method of learning into an educational process. Working on a project in a specific subject area, learners acquire new knowledge from other fields. Usage of interdisciplinary projects allows studying each subject not autonomously but as one of the key links necessary for a student to perceive the surrounding him/her world as a whole. ...

In March 2006 at BLNS there was held an international conference "From a school project towards professional career", in which both the students who presented their educational projects and teachers of different educational institutions took part.

Being a participant of the productive learning laboratory RAE created on the basis of the Pedagogic Institute of Saratov State University, the Lyceum studies possibilities of using productive learning in its educational activity. ... Besides, today BLNS is a resource centre of Saratov Region. It solves the problems of improving a comprehensive training of rural learners.

Already in 1998 on the basis of rural schools there was created a system of specialized lyceum classes in 24 regions. BLNS renders assistance in providing these schools with necessary learning and teaching materials and realizes a distance interaction project. BLNS's teachers regularly visit rural schools for counseling and delivering classes for school children, rendering assistance to pedagogues in training students towards the Centralized Testing for entering Russian higher education institutions. ...

At present, together with the lyceum classes we have begun implementing the projects aimed at surveying the employment market in these remote areas of Saratov Region (which professions are in demand in this or that region and which additional training for this is needed for students of lyceum classes), as well as projects, aimed at preservation of Russian rural traditions and cultural heritage.

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GETTING YOUR SCHOOL OR PROGRAM IN PRINT

If you wish to put your school or project in the INEPS Newsletter all you have to do is send the editor your materials you exhibited at the INEPS Congress either of two ways:

by snail mail to: **Bret Schlesinger**
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