

EXTRA**DIE STADT ALS SCHULE THREATENED WITH CLOSURE**

Dear Inepers,

We just received a call from our colleagues at Die Stadt als Schule in Berlin that the educational authorities want to close it down. This is the oldest institution of Productive Learning in Europe having just celebrated it's 20th Anniversary in 2007. They have called on us to help save them. Even after all these years the concept of Productive Learning is little known or understood by the traditional educators and authorities. Time and again we have seen pilot schools in other cities and countries closed down or under constant threat of extinction. Unfortunately at this point in our history we have only one weapon with which to counter these traditional authorities ... our voices of protest.

If we do not collectively lift our voices in protest and make ourselves heard then when the local authorities come to threaten us there will be no one left to come to our defense. When one is in danger we are all in danger.

This is what we must do. Take a moment of your precious time and write your support of Die Stadt als Schule and E mail it to:

Juergen.Zoellner@senbwf.berlin.de (This professor is the senator and the highest ranking politician in Berlin concerned with education) and as well:
monika.herrmann@ba-fk.verwalt-berlin.de (city council of Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg)

Some background of Die Stadt als Schule:

Die Stadt als Schule was founded in Berlin 1987 as a dropout prevention project. It was modeled on the American City As School which was created back in 1972 and still exists in New York City. After several years it was granted diploma granting status and became a recognized school where students may achieve a MSA (middle school degree). It has served as a model for the concept of Productive Learning which is based on the principle of learning by doing.