

The Eureka Transnational Partnership Meeting 25th-27th April 2017 Athens.

Introduction

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The Eureka Project Transnational Meeting in Athens was evaluated in 2 ways by the project coordinator. The rationale behind the evaluation was to ascertain whether the transnational meetings are addressing the expectations of delegates and whether there are recommendations which can be made for future meetings.

All delegates completed a Pre- Meeting Report Questionnaire and afterwards a “Final Report Form”. The meeting was hosted by ELLINOGERMANIKI AGOGI S.A. who put together a programme including a school visit and an introduction to projects and an exhibition in the school.

ELLINOGERMANIKI AGOGI S.A. also advised on accommodation and travel arrangements.

The following is the expectation from the Transnational Partnership Meetings as outlined in the project narrative.

Transnational Partnership Meetings

“There will be 6 project steering group meetings, 2 of which will take place during the evenings of the training events in Birmingham and Zlin. Two persons from each partner institution will attend all project steering group meetings. All partners will devote management/administration time to the project. They will organise programmes for hosting meetings and training events. Additional staff will attend transnational project meetings dependent on their organisation size/expertise to contribute to resource and training development through a series of interactive workshops and activities with partners”.

The feedback from the evaluation is as follows:

Expectations from Delegates. Pre-Meeting Reports

Here is a synopsis of delegate expectations:

Czech Republic

We want to gain information about the project activity and forthcoming events. We want to discuss the Czech Rep training activity and find out about project website development.

We want to find out about systems of support in our partner school in Greece.

We intend to publish a press release after the event and inform Czech partners through meetings and other methods of communication.

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Titan

Progress update and information on the forthcoming training session.
Feedback to Senior Managers and judge what support is required from Titan by partners.

Ireland

An update on progress to date and future planning for website, directories, and training.
Interested in how the host school deal with gifted children in terms of resources and methodologies.
Observing best practice.
Visit a school.
I am happy to share current practice in the Irish educational system.
I want to see best practice first hand and see how it can be adapted and utilised in Ireland.

BCU

Find out about other partner roles.
Look at how the host school differentiates the curriculum for advance learners.
We intend to begin our wider dissemination afterwards.

The Overall Evaluation

Delegates completed a detailed Final Report covering evaluation at the end of the meeting.

Here is a synopsis of what they said:

- **What impressed you?**

Clarity of Presentations.
Good examples of activities with advanced learners.
The EA tour and their involvement in STEM activities.
Stephanos's organisational skills.
Thought provoking discussions.
The School Director did a nice presentation on work with Gifted and Talented.
The discussion around existing practice in the partner countries.
Exhibition in the school regarding STEEM and its practical application.
Differentiated learning.

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Excellent organisation and discussion.
Open Discovery Space.
The collaboration of the project partners.
The Science Expo.
Partners were all keen to influence, discuss and shape the project.
Very nice hospitality.
Impressive venue.
Good clarity around the project delivery.
The discussion around partners roles.
The organisation and the input from the director on advanced learner teaching.

- **Where your expectations fulfilled?**

Expectations on website, training plans and information sharing all fulfilled.
All issues were dealt with appropriately.
Yes.
Yes, the programme fulfilled all expectations with regards to project status, updates and training events.
All expectations achieved.
A great forming session for partners to develop their ideas. It was very successful.
Yes, our partners hosted us with great kindness. We have a clear rationale and next steps.
Yes, I feel on track.
Yes, I have a clearer understanding of the aims and objectives of the project.

- **What will you do next?**

Use Basecamp it is really good.
I would like to support schools on some strategy in the STEM field to increase students interests in STEM careers based on enquiry orientated learning.
We will have meetings around our learning and promote activity on our website.
Try and replicate some of the methodology and exhibition.
We could implement the enquiry based education strategies at GTI.
Encourage all staff at GRETB to register, use and share practice on the Open Discovery Space.
Develop the STEM activity where the opportunity arises.
Brief colleagues for the training event in the Czech Rep.
I would like to pursue Open Space and the Science exhibition further as I liked how it motivated students.
Some interesting examples for the teaching of science I would like to pursue.

Summary

From the analysis of the evaluation there is no doubt that delegates enjoyed and learnt a significant amount. All the feedback was positive. The actual management meeting achieved a tremendous amount in terms of planning and shaping ideas. The key players all seem satisfied with their role. The elements added to the agenda such as the Science Exhibition, the input from the Director, the input from Stephanos on Open Discovery Space and the school tour were all well received and valued. All delegates felt the visit was very well organised and the agenda pertinent.

There is no doubt from the evidence in this feedback that delegates were appreciative and learnt a lot. This could be a really strong partnership. It is new and as a result partners are getting used to each other's approaches and styles of working. However, at all times colleagues worked well together and respected each other's views. Everyone was keen to learn from others, to hear other views and were receptive to new ideas. The atmosphere was relaxed and professional.

Schedules were adhered to, the pace seemed right. It was a full programme. Questions and discussions were encouraged. A lot was covered.

Delegates seemed to appreciate the efforts very much the organiser made to provide activities beyond the formal programme including a restaurant visit.

The model has been set for future Transnational Partnership Meetings. This approach and style of agenda worked well and there are no amendments or improvements to make.

B Martin

Project co-ordinator

05/07/2017