

Thank you, all nice people that I met at the LTN conference! This is what I said at my presentation:

Hello

My name is Tobias Berger and I am going to tell you about the Pedagog Värmland website – a regional community website for pedagogues..

On this website teachers and pre school teachers talk about how they work in a specific area. - for example how they work with multilingual groups, how they use student participation in the planning. Or something else, how to use the outdoors environment pedagogically, how to give good feedback - a wide range of subjects - all about teaching.

So, this website is meant to be a space for the teacher community to share knowledge. Things that are worth sharing, that might be interesting for other teachers. Because to learn from your colleagues is a good way to be able to be a better teacher.

It's for pedagogues from pre-school to adult education, its regionally funded - by the regional council and also by the cities in the region. And the the teachers that share are from the region, but it's an open resource so teachers from all over sweden use the website.

Its been running for 3 years and its now quite established, 3-4000 people a week visit the website.

A good thing is that on this website teachers are experts in their field, and they get to talk about teaching. Because I think there has been a lack of that in Sweden for some years.

In the media in Sweden for a couple of years most stories about school has been negative news. It's bad conditions to work in, it's noisy - students can't concentrate, the swedish students results are

terrible.

And we have had politicians that talked a lot about how terrible the situation in schools are, and that we need order, and kind of confirming that the teachers can't handle it as it is now.

And I'm sure this is true sometimes in some occasions, but it definitely doesn't represent the professionalism of teachers and the beautiful work that is being done.

So, as opposed to this negative image of schools, the website tells stories about the actual teaching and its also a nice thing that teachers that share on the website sometimes get attention for being good at what they do. And well deserved.

They get booked to lecture on conferences, or they get interviewed in the media, as experts.

I'll give you some examples of what is on the website - a video about work in a multilingual pre-school. This is a current issue right now when there is a lot of refugees that have come recently to Sweden.

<http://www.pedagogvarmland.se/filmer/flersprakighet-pa-dirigentens-forskola>

She is saying that it is a mission for the preschool teacher to work with the language development of the children. And it doesn't say in the curriculum that its only the swedish language. So how can they work with this when they don't speak all the languages the children speak. They have 15 languages in the preschool. So the video is about that.

I visited them and I interviewed them and we made the video together.

2.44 into the video: Tema modersmål

They use digital support - this is a national resource. And the good

thing about using film to show it is that you can see how the children interact and how they use it.

Here they learn words in their native language. But they communicate in Swedish with each other. - Point at the mouth. No that's the forehead. So they learn Swedish at the same time.

3:35 into the video: QR-koder

This is a resource they made themselves - The child that has their birthday can choose to play the birthday song in different languages. And they can do it themselves with the iPad and QR-codes that starts the song. So they choose the language in the paper folder.

And on the Pedagog Värmland website you can also download the folder, print it and use it on your pre-school. That was very appreciated.

So, these teachers have good methods, and this way they can share it.

15:56 into the video: How a teacher leads a text discussion. They talk about words from the text. A short novel about a boy dreaming of space travel. What is a loop?

You can see how she balances the free flow of the discussion and that everyone gets to speak.

<http://www.pedagogvarmland.se/asenskolanasl>

What if they would only hand in their work to me - how pointless  
This kind of provocative headline is about this teacher that has started to work more with real life assignments - her students are blogging about fishing, because it's a special upper secondary school about wildlife and fishing. So they blog and make instructional videos about fishing. In English - she teaches English. And they publish it online and get feedback from the fishing community.

And she noticed that they put in a lot more work in these assignments than before.

They even come to her with ideas of work they would like to do.

That never happened before.

<http://www.pedagogvarmland.se/artikel/tank-om-de-bara-skulle-lamna-till-mig-vad-lonlost>

So, we try to make the articles and films to be about one specific idea in the teaching - and have a pedagogical aim, the teacher that reads it should get enough understanding to be able to try this way of working. And if you want to contact the teacher in the article, there is a contact button here.

There are articles and videos made by editorial team together with teachers, and also blogs that teachers administer. And an open calendar for events for pedagogues in the region.

What I like about this setup, is that it combines informal community power with formal stability - so we have funding for stable hosting and some development money and for my tjänst.

Something that comes next, I think, is that it will be a platform also for digital tools that the cities in the region want to develop together. Right now we are looking at making a study phrasebook.

Lists of the most important words - for different school subjects translated to the languages that the students speak - arabic, dari, and many others

Its for study counsellors, teachers with groups that speak other languages than swedish, and also for students that has another native language than swedish.

It is a collaboration project that we will invite people to soon. So if some of you would like to be involved, to be able to help with the translations, maybe to forward the invitation to someone that could help with translation it is very appreciated. Or if you just like to know when the resource is available.

It will be made primarily for use in swedish schools, but a lot of the phrases I think, could be used in other countries too.

If you want to be updated about the project, you can submit your email address on the website. at [pedagogvarmland.se/ordbok](http://pedagogvarmland.se/ordbok)  
<http://www.pedagogvarmland.se/ordbok>

I will stop here. For a while. And see if there are any questions, reflections.

#### Budget

30 000 Euro to put together

1 500 Euro per year for operational costs, (server, security updates)

1,5 people working

10 000 Euro per year for development

My background: Journalist, film teacher, internet-enthusiast

I have a great job.

It's so interesting to visit and watch, especially through the lense of the camera. When you're behind the camera you can really watch. There are so many interesting moments in the classroom or the pre-school. Things are happening all the time.

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Hope to see you all soon!

Tobias Berger

Projekt manager Pedagog Värmland

Karlstad, Sweden

[tobias.berger@pedagogvarmland.se](mailto:tobias.berger@pedagogvarmland.se)

Tel: +46 70 001 05 58