

2010-03-29

Eight out of ten teachers are in need of training in new media

A research initiative by the World Summit on Media for Youth and Children shows that Swedish teachers need extensive training to be able to cope with the rapid media development faced by our society.

The majority of Swedish teachers assess media trends in society as inspiring while one quarter thinks that it is stressful. In addition, the support of school management seems to be unsatisfactory: only less than one third of teachers feel they get support from school management to improve their knowledge and skills to manage the rapid media development. The survey shows that 8 out of 10 teachers are keen to receive training in order to be able to handle it.

– The European Union points out digital literacy as one of the eight key competences for lifelong learning. From 2011, all EU countries should report their Media Literacy to the EU Commission. The fact that teachers do not get enough support from their management is problematic. The great need for training is a warning bell, said Per Lundgren, project manager and member of the World Summit Foundation Board.

The survey also indicates that seven out of ten teachers need training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet.

– Fortunately, a majority of teachers believe that digital literacy is a key competence for lifelong learning. However, it is still a concern the fact that 16% do not think alike. Thus, school boards may take responsibility and play a role in raising the skill levels of teachers, which leads to increased security, more balanced knowledge of teachers and students, and probably contributes to increased opportunities for using media in teaching.

The situation across the country:

Stockholm

59% - Media Development is inspiring

15% - Media Development is stressful

26% - Support from management in dealing with media development

76% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

Gothenburg

62% - Media Development is inspiring

23% - Media Development is stressful

33% - Support from management in dealing with media development

72% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

Malmö

39% - Media Development is inspiring

27% - Media Development is stressful

30% - Support from management in dealing with media development

64% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

Southern Sweden

61% - Media Development is inspiring

22% - Media Development is stressful

28% - Support from management in dealing with media development

64% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

Central Sweden

55% - Media Development is inspiring

28% - Media Development is stressful

38% - Support from management in dealing with media development

76% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

Northern Sweden

46% - Media Development is inspiring

29% - Media Development is stressful

18% - Support from management in dealing with media development

79% - Need for training to deal with issues of privacy, security and credibility of sources on the Internet

About World Summit Karlstad

In June 14–18, 2010, the City of Karlstad in Sweden hosts the World Summit on Media for Children and Youth. International top quality experts will run key note speeches, panels, round table discussions, lectures, seminars and workshops. World Summits are held every three years, attended by media, technology, policy and education professionals dedicated to children's services. Previous Summits have been held in Melbourne 1995, London 1998, Thessaloniki 2001, Rio de Janeiro 2004 and Johannesburg 2007. More information on www.wskarlstad2010.se

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