

Final Exams

Final exams at Community Schools with Grammar stream in Schleswig-Holstein and at the Anne-Frank School Bargteheide

Community schools have the aim to keep the students school periods open as long as they can in order to be flexible and watch their development. An internal investigation confirms that this claim, has widely been reached. 1) the graph on the right shows the successful finalists/access at the end of the Secondary stage 1 for the primary schools in Schleswig-Holstein.

In connection with the final certification, it shows the learning standard in the 4th year, of only 53%. 12% are less successful as the prognosis given. More than a third of the students reach in comparison to the primary recommendation a higher final exam result.

If we compare the Secondary stage II with the final exam results of the school leavers with their primary recommendation, we have a similar positive result. Only 24% of the students in the 5th year started with a grammar recommendation, but 53% finally reached the grammar certification and college certificate. If we investigate the primary school recommendation, we can see that less than half of them had the grammar recommendation. Every 14th grammar student in Schleswig-Holsteins community schools took their final grammar exams, although in the 4th year they were recommended to attend the Secondary school. This is the proof that the number of students with a higher final certificate can be increased by having longer learning hours.

Even better results were reached in the Anne-Frank-School Bargteheide, as shown in the long period from the first final exams taken in 1995 up to the last in 2013:

In the last school year a recommendation of 32,5% was given and 65% reached a better final certificate as the prognosis given. So we can finally state that a primary recommendation in most cases is not convincing in comparison to the final exam certificate. The Secondary exam is reached after the 9th year and the mid education exam after the 10th year.

At our school the transition rate into the upper stream – which consists of each a third students in the secondary, secondary modern and grammar stream recommendation - are between 50 and 70%. At the community schools the grammar exams are taken after the 9th year. In special cases students can jump a class and reach the exams in a G8 period.

The community school system gives the students the possibility to change from the secondary I at the end of the class year automatically into the next class. Class repeats are only accepted when the parents apply for this and the class conference is in agreement – actually in very rare cases. The repeats in the secondary I is only 1% which is very low. That is why the students can also reach a shorter learning period in this system. Diagonal transitions we do not have. We are a school who carry out responsibility for our student's school success.

School success, which figures show, is a matter of system.