

# Realschule am Europakanal

As one approaches the Realschule am Europakanal in Erlangen, Germany, it quickly becomes apparent that this is no ordinary school. From the elaborate, colourful ceramic tiled walls designed and created by the students as a cheerful welcome to the expansive courtyard brimming with students playing ball or studying in small groups, this school is dynamic and alive with potential. Here are but a few of the qualities important to our team - and evidence that actions speak louder than words:



## Innovation

- Creative scheduling including double period classes and some all-day classes for maximum learning potential
- Ongoing research into best teaching and learning practices
- Online grading system "Notenmanager"
- An interactive and up-to-date website for student, teacher and parent use
- Electronic learning project in the IT (Information Technology) classes
- Creative project days at the end of the school year

## Positive Learning Environment

- Student of the Month award honouring students who make a difference
- Availability of healthy snacks and drinks during break time
- Positive disciplinary procedures including mediation teams
- Multiple extra-curricular opportunities (music, theatre, sports, art)
- Multiple opportunities for travel and sport (school

exchanges, ski weeks, class trips, etc.)

- Students in the grades 8 and 9 classes' commitment to help underprivileged children
- Chess tables and fussball games in the school building as well as sport and social opportunities in the expansive school grounds allow children to take a break from learning and recharge their batteries

## Real-life Learning

- Partnerships and internships with local businesses
- Participation by students in grades 4 and 7 in a neuropsychological study by the Transferzentrum für Neurowissenschaften und Lernen

## Basic Information

The Realschule am Europakanal is a six-year secondary school comprising of grades 5 through 10. Students are directed into one of the following learning strands: mathematics, French or craftsmanship, and business management. Upon successful completion of compulsory classes, most students take on an apprenticeship and join the workforce. Some students continue their education by completing two years at a Fachoberschule. It is the personal and professional goal of the staff at this school to provide the best possible education within the constraints of the Realschule model.



(Neuroscience and Learning Institute in Ulm) studying the effects of physical education classes on brain function

- Student café organized and run by students, providing healthy snacks
- Student newspaper
- Tutoring programs offered by advanced students
- Since 2000, a student-teacher art initiative creates projects designed to create a colourful and stimulating environment in and around the school
- A team of salespersons from the grade 9 classes works in cooperation with a local business to design and market school clothing and products



### Teamwork

- SMV: group of student leaders work in cooperation with staff to create a positive and healthy learning environment
- An active parent group supports students and teachers throughout the year
- Students and staff embrace a common philosophy
- Partnerships with schools in France, England, Turkey and Poland promote mutual understanding and cultural appreciation
- Annual 24-hour run for students, staff, and parents
- Music classes work in cooperation with a Realschule in the Munich area, meeting together for one week of cooperative learning each year
- The Realschule am Europakanal functions as a training school for university education students and new teachers



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