

The Congress for Jobs October 28th – November 1st 2009

Renewed school policy

Today, Congress passed resolutions the renewed social democratic school policy. The requirements on the quality of teaching should be strengthened and students will have a continuous monitoring of how they develop and reach goals.

We want to have clear objectives, systematic follow-up and high expectations in all schools, said Anneli Hulthén moving for the party executive.

Children should also have a follow-up. If schools are to function properly then every child needs continuous monitoring on how they develop and how well they achieve.

Anneli Hulthén explained the dividing line in the Swedish school policy.

We do not want a school that grades children and closes doors. We want a school that gives all children and young people the chance to succeed.

She stressed that students' knowledge and the right to a good school are more important than the question of who provides the service.

The issue of education was engaging and many delegates took part in the debate. Several motions called for independent schools should not being permitted to make a profit and that municipalities should have the right to say no to the establishment of independent schools. These, however, was voted down by Congress, which instead endorsed the party executive's proposal to introduce a mandatory consultation between the municipality and the principal of an independent school that seeks permission to operate. Specific agreements should be written in the independent schools that already exist and new schools that wish to establish themselves.

The congress also decided to review the system of cash per pupil and how that can be integrated into the municipal system for resource allocation to schools, where stringent quality requirements and conditions for the establishment of opt-out schools are included. A new law will prevent public resources from being handed over to stay the interests of private profit when schools or pre-schools are hived off or sold.