

STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

**OF HRISTO
BOTEV SECONDARY SCHOOL
NOVA ZAGORA**

2011 - 2015г.



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ANALYTICAL PART

INTRODUCTION

The times we live in and accomplish ourselves as personalities is defined as the age of knowledge. The revolution that took place in the sphere of IT has opened up unprecedented opportunities for getting information and knowledge and overturned our ideas of communication in time and space.

In Bulgaria today, after 20 years of democratic changes, the system of education has not advanced sufficiently and has not adapted to the realities of the modern society. Due to lack of political outlook and strategy it has isolated itself from the social medium and has turned into a low-effective educational system. Our students are not prepared for work and social achievements in the realities of dynamic technological changes of society. The school has not yet realized its mission as organizer, creating the prerequisites for personal development of the students via forming of key competences and abilities for individual acquisition of knowledge. The young people lack a clearly defined perspective, which makes them passive and indifferent.

We are active citizens, taking an active role in the Bulgarian educational system as teachers. A necessary condition for the achievement of positive results is a clear perspective of the future, the mission and a plan for their achievements.

Guided by the goal of creating a useful and working strategy, developed by the common efforts of the participants in the working team and all teachers at the school, we took on the responsible task of defining the long-term aims of the school, to which all future activities of the parties involved will be subjected.

The expected result of applying the strategy is to reach new dimensions in the education, provided at Hristo Botev Secondary School, taking into account the basic requirement to school education - to develop abilities for flexible logical and argumentative thinking. These abilities, combined with language and mathematical literacy, provide a sound basis for the acquisition of further knowledge.



INTERNAL ANALYSIS

The internal analysis is a necessary prerequisite for defining the kind and direction of the strategy, basis for setting the priorities, specific measures and goals.

BRIEF HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

In 1859, 150 years ago, the first class school was founded in Nova Zagora, which was a forerunner of today's Hristo Botev Secondary School. Its beginnings were set by the teachers Atanas Bogdanov, Dinio Sivkov and Atanas Dragoev, who were also active participants in the struggles for church independence and museum and library initiators.

The High School of Nova Zagora, whose direct descendant is Hristo Botev Secondary School, gave education and instruction to the intelligent and astute youth of the town for 90 years. Well-known and respected people who studied at the school were the world-famous physicist Professor Minko Balkanski, Architect Nikola Nikolov, the member of the Constitution Court Nedelcho Beronov, the first woman Prime minister of Bulgaria Reneta Indzhova.

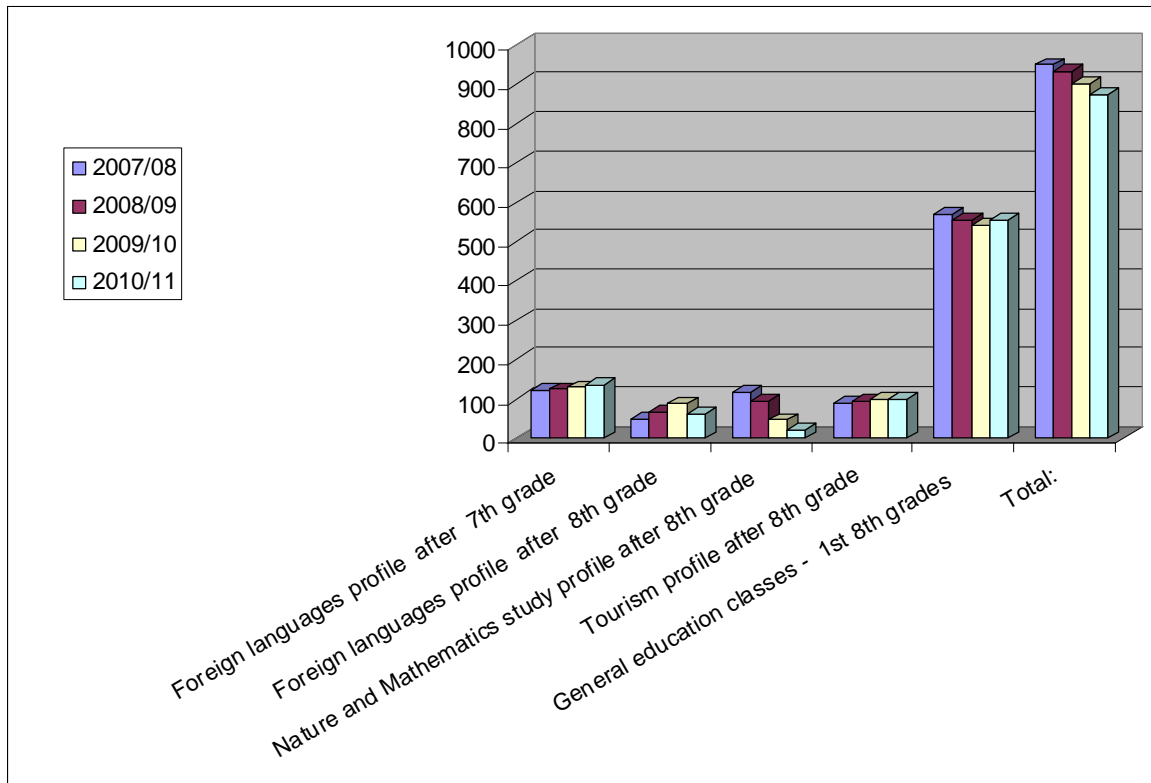
The building of the school, now an architectural monument, was built in 1923 and was designed by Architect Yordan Kapitonov.

In 2010/2011 academic year 69 teachers work at the school, 43 of whom are its ex-students.



STUDENTS:

In 2010/2011 academic year 873 students from 1st to 12th grade are being taught at the school. For the last several years the number of students has been declining due to the adverse demographic situation. The dynamics of this change is shown in Diagram 1:



Profile	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
<i>Foreign languages profile after 7th grade</i>	122	125	129	135
<i>Foreign languages profile after 8th grade</i>	47	67	88	61
<i>Nature and Mathematics study profile after 8th grade</i>	118	93	46	22
<i>Tourism profile after 8th grade</i>	92	95	99	99
<i>General education classes-1st 8th grades</i>	570	554	540	556
Total:	949	934	902	873



CLASSES

The optimal capacity of the school is for teaching 50 classes in two shifts. At the moment there are 37 classes. For the last several years the number of classes has diminished by 3. The prospect for next academic year is a diminishing by 2 more classes.

SCHOOL-LEAVERS

For the last three academic years 284 students completed their education at Hristo Botev Secondary School, of whom 246 continued their education in universities in Bulgaria and abroad (87%). 38 students (13%) did not continue their education, some of whom for economic reasons. These results show that the whole school team did their job well and the process of education was at a high level. They also show the successful social, professional and life accomplishment of the young people.

There are no statistical data about how many respected Bulgarians received their education at the school named after Botev in this period of 150 years. The citizens of Nova Zagora, however, know that there are hundreds of lawyers, doctors, engineers, teachers... qualified workers and good people, who started their lifepath from the classrooms of the central school of the town. In it there is today, there will be tomorrow, "Knowledge for the future" as long as there are people with wide open senses, sharp minds and rich souls.



MATRICULATION EXAMS RESULTS

Subject	Students taking the exam			Mark		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
Bulgarian language and literature	91	98	96	5,13	5,06	5,19
English	29	18	30	5,54	5,80	5,61
French	5	6	0	5,81	5,33	-
Mathematics	4	26	9	5,13	4,00	4,31
History and civilization	4	3	31	5,21	4,32	5,13
Geography and economics	14	33	17	5,25	4,51	4,50
Biology and healthcare	33	12	9	5,34	5,00	5,21
Chemistry and environment protection	1	-	-	5,89	-	-
Physics and astronomy	1	-	-	4,50	-	-

For the last several years all school leavers have been admitted to matriculation exams. Only in the examination session of May 2009 there were 2 poor marks in Mathematics. The number of excellent marks during the three years is 89, 67 and 80, respectively.

What is our place on municipal, district and national level?

Subject	Municipality Nova Zagora		District Sliven		National level	
	Position	Number of schools	Position	Number of schools	Position	Number of schools
Bulgarian language and literature	1	4	3	24	94	1048
English	1	3	3	12	51	670
Mathematics	3	4	11	19	217	662
History and civilisation	2	4	4	21	57	786
Geography and economics	1	4	3	24	60	994
Biology and healthcare	1	3	6	19	164	802



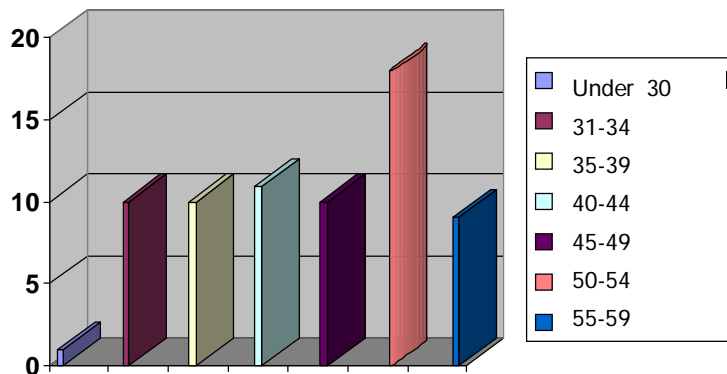
Ø TEACHING AND SERVICE STAFF

Teachers - 69 /60 women and 9 men/

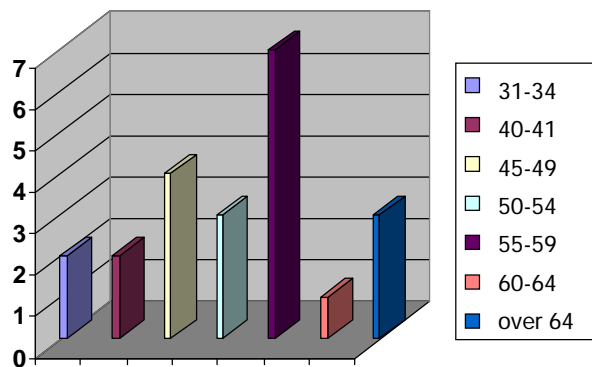
Non-teaching staff - 22 /17 women and 5 men/

Number of teachers	With additional qualification degrees
3	I
19	II
3	III
1	IV
6	V
Total: 32	

Average Age of teachers:



Average age of non-teaching staff





Ø PROJECTS ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The staff of teachers is experienced in working on and implementation of projects based on national and international programs:

- Project on the National Program “Care for Every Student”, module “Providing education for tutoring students for participation in students’ Olympiads”.
- Project “Doorway to the Future” on the “Human Resource Development Centre operative program - plan for free funding “Creation of Beneficial Multicultural Medium for the Practical Application of Intercultural Education and Instruction”.
- Project on the “Youth in Action” program - „Friendship with Ourselves and the Environment we Live in”. Brought into action in the period between 22.09 and 01.10.2008 in the little town of Kroshnitse, Poland. Students from Bulgaria, Poland, Romania and Austria took part in the exchange.
- Project „Europe – Cultural Diversity and National Identity”, funded by the National Centre „European Youth Programs and Initiatives” with the Council of Ministers. Students from Bulgaria, Poland, Austria and Italy took part in the project.
- Projects for school partnerships on the “Lifelong Learning” program, Comenius sector program.

1. „Let’s share the beauties of our regions”

Period of implementation between 01.08.2009 and 31.07.2011. Students from Poland (project coordinator), Czech republic, Slovenia, Italy, Greece, Romania and Bulgaria take part in the project. The students from tourism-profiled classes (9c, 10g) and classes with languages profile (10b and 11a) are prioritized for taking part in the mobility on this project.

2. „Thirst for culture e - ABC of the Bulgarian, Polish, Portuguese and Italian culture”, implemented in the period between 2008 and 2010.

Through their participation in projects the students are able to improve their communication abilities, to become mobile, to develop skills and qualities which are necessary for their future professional realization.



**Ø INFORMATION AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES IN THE PROCESS OF EDUCATION-
ELECTRONIC REGISTER, EDUCATIONAL WEBSITE, OFFICIAL SITE, WIRELESS INTERNET, VIDEO
OBSERVATION, ETC.**

Hristo Botev Secondary School provides a pleasant atmosphere for education and work. Up-to-date technical equipment, as well as various motivation techniques and methods are used in the process of education, and they provoke the students' interest and raise their motivation for active work.

The school is well equipped for the implementation of Information and Computer technologies in the process of education - wireless internet and the necessary equipment for its use. All teachers have personal laptops; there are enough multimedia projectors and 3 interactive boards, which can be used in any of the classrooms. The multimedia projector is used to carry out interactive lessons, to make presentations; the students can actively participate in class and assimilate the material while being actually engaged in the process of learning. The potential of the educational website of the school is fully used- the students are set tasks, offered online tests, presentations and other useful information are published to be used by the students in their preparation. The parents are kept up-to date with the marks of their children in different subjects, their absences and school events through the electronic register.

The official website of the school gives full information about the activities at the school and the new events that take place there.

An electronic system for video observation (close -circuit TV) is applied in the school.



STRATEGY

IMAGE

„KNOWLEDGE IS POWER”

Francis Bacon

The 150-year-long history of Hristo Botev Secondary School gives it a deserved reputation as a good municipal school. It has created an image of a centre of culture, creativity and education of old and young alike. Today it is a leading school in the district of Sliven with the high results which are achieved on all levels- matriculation exams, external testing, district and national Olympiads, sports competitions. As a central town school it will in the future emphasize on high quality, assimilating knowledge and development of skills and competences.

Hristo Botev Secondary school is the educational institution which guarantees knowledge for the future.

MISSION

Hristo Botev Secondary School will guarantee high quality education and instruction and the formation of personalities with a clearly defined civic consciousness and behavior.

AIM SETTING

The setting of aims is a consequence of the results and conclusions of the analytical part of the strategy. Taking into consideration the influence and importance of internal and external factors in relation to the possibilities of the development of then school and applying modern planning technologies, we arrive at the following primary and secondary aims and the ways of their achievement.

