GNIST – "SPARK"
Norwegian Initiative on Teachers

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GNIST – main objectives:

- Increased status of the teacher
- Increased quality in the teacher education
- Increased quality in the teaching profession
- Increased quality among school leaders
- Increased recruitment to the teaching profession and teacher education
Background (1)

Background (2)

- Norway criticized by OECD for lacking systems for measuring learning outcomes
- Norway ranks in the middle on PISA studies
- Tendency towards weaker results in PISA
- Human capital is estimated at 73% of the Norwegian GNP
- The oil is not worth much without knowledge

- Worth knowing: International Civic and Citizenship Education Study: Norway no. 5
Background (3)

- Research shows that teachers are the single most important factor contributing to student learning outcomes

- The status of the teacher has declined over the years

- Recruiting has been affected by decline in status
The logical consequence of the description of current situation:

- The teachers are the most important asset
- The ministry wants to prioritize teachers – across the various departments in the ministry
- The ministry wants to send a signal to external cooperation partners about the Ministry’s priority – increased attention
- Necessary to coordinate, communicate and implement the various measures in the White Paper in coherent manner

- GNIST
Ambitious goals of the 12 partners in GNIST

- Increased status of the teacher
- Increased quality in the teacher education
- Increased quality in the teaching profession
- Increased quality among school leaders
- Increased recruitment to the teaching profession and teacher education
Partnership – 12 partners

- The government (MoER)
- KS (Association of Local and Regional Authorities)
- Several Teachers’ Unions
- National Council for Teacher Education
- LO (The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions)
- NHO (Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise)
- Norwegian Association of Students
- Norwegian Association of School leaders
- Norwegian Association of Graduate Teachers
Joining forces to reach the goals

• Need to include key actors when working to improve the most important profession

• Partners are involved in developing, following up, monitoring, evaluating and adjusting the measures/actions

• The partnership should know about, challenge, support and contribute to reaching the common goals for teacher education and the teaching profession
Teacher Recruitment Campaign
2009 - 2011

• Launched on 7 March 2009

• 3-year campaign

• Goals of campaign:
  Increase recruitment to teacher education
  Increase status of the teacher
Examples from the recruitment campaign

Har du det i deg?

Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research
Discussion

• GNIST is how Norway has chosen to work to meet challenges wrt teachers and quality
• Are there any elements in GNIST that could be useful elsewhere?
• Sharing of “models” that have been used in order to ensure increased recruitment, status, quality etc in the teacher education and profession