



GREETINGS

Dolores Waldschmidt

Chairperson Förderverein Schule für Kranke München e. V.

Welcome Address at the Reception in the Residenz on November 3, 2010

Good evening, dear guests, who are with us tonight, invited to this magnificent chamber in the Residenz by you, Dr. Spaenle, minister for education and culture.

I would like to say thank you, to you and your colleagues, especially Herr Ministerialrat Weigl for contributing so pleasantly to the success of this essential HOPE Congress 2010, also for this opening event, which provides a grand setting for our guests, as well as for the relevant and controversial issues to be discussed in the days to come.

A welcome to the representative of the Hospital Organisation of Pedagogues in Europe, Ms Gerd Falk-Schalk, and her German Representative, Ms Maria Schmidt, her high commitment contributed significantly to the success of this congress. Many thanks!

May I introduce myself:

I am the chairperson of the non-profit association for the Schule für Kranke Munich and see myself in this position not only as a 'fund raiser' for the Congress 2010 and for the list of wishes by the hospital school Munich, but also as someone representing parental intentions taking into account the given circumstances; this is in place of the institutional parental representation, taken for granted at other schools and which does not exist at hospital schools. In this role I am happy to commit myself wholeheartedly to creating equal opportunities in terms of education for the sick child, too. In this case, especially, individual support as well as donating time and space, without pressure on performance, are essential.

It is part of the issue of the school of tomorrow to do justice to the continuously growing number of chronically or psychologically sick children and adolescents, by providing legal compensation of disadvantage through disease, and also individual schooling during and after illness.

Society has an obligation to consider and compensate for the different preconditions of the sick children and adolescents compared to the healthy ones. The sick children or adolescents also have the right to this compensation.

Our association has made a difference since it started, mostly due to the great consent and support of the ministry of culture and education, and, above all, owing to generous donators. A wholehearted thank you for supporting the work with our non profit organisation for helping sick children (Förderverein) so



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magnificently. Thus financial means could be provided for teaching via video conference, essential supplementary back-up lessons, and visits to the children's home school (accompanied by a medical doctor).

As the executive in charge of this congress HOPE 2010 I would like to thank especially the private donators, like the Röchling Foundation, Deutsche Bank, GlaxoSmithKline, the Burgmann Foundation, the family foundation Seidel, Miss Elisabeth Porzelt, among others.

We can be proud of our successful application to the EU, where this congress was considered extraordinarily rewarding and financed accordingly. All this has been facilitated by the untiring dedication of the school's head mistress Lisa Meixner-Mücke and vice principal Alto Merkt.

Heartfelt thanks you to all of you. Without you and the intensive dedication of your staff, this would not have been possible.

Many thanks also to head mistress Anne Kohtz-Heldrich and her staff, for the beneficial cooperation of both hospital schools, in preparing this congress. And, last, but not least, I would like to thank Mr. Karl personally.

Now I wish all of you, who take part in this congress that they may return to their home countries taking with them a fair amount of added awareness, insight and knowledge. Those of you who are responsible for bringing forward the development of our educational system, be it politically or in terms of administration, I wish a passionate exchange with teachers and medical doctors who, day after day, take on the challenge of giving support at the sickbed.

After two and a half years of intense preparations, I am happy to look forward to the hours and days to come.