



ETUCE PUBLIC HEARING
ON **SUPPORTING TEACHERS**
IN MEETING TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL NEEDS
19 SEPTEMBER, BRUSSELS

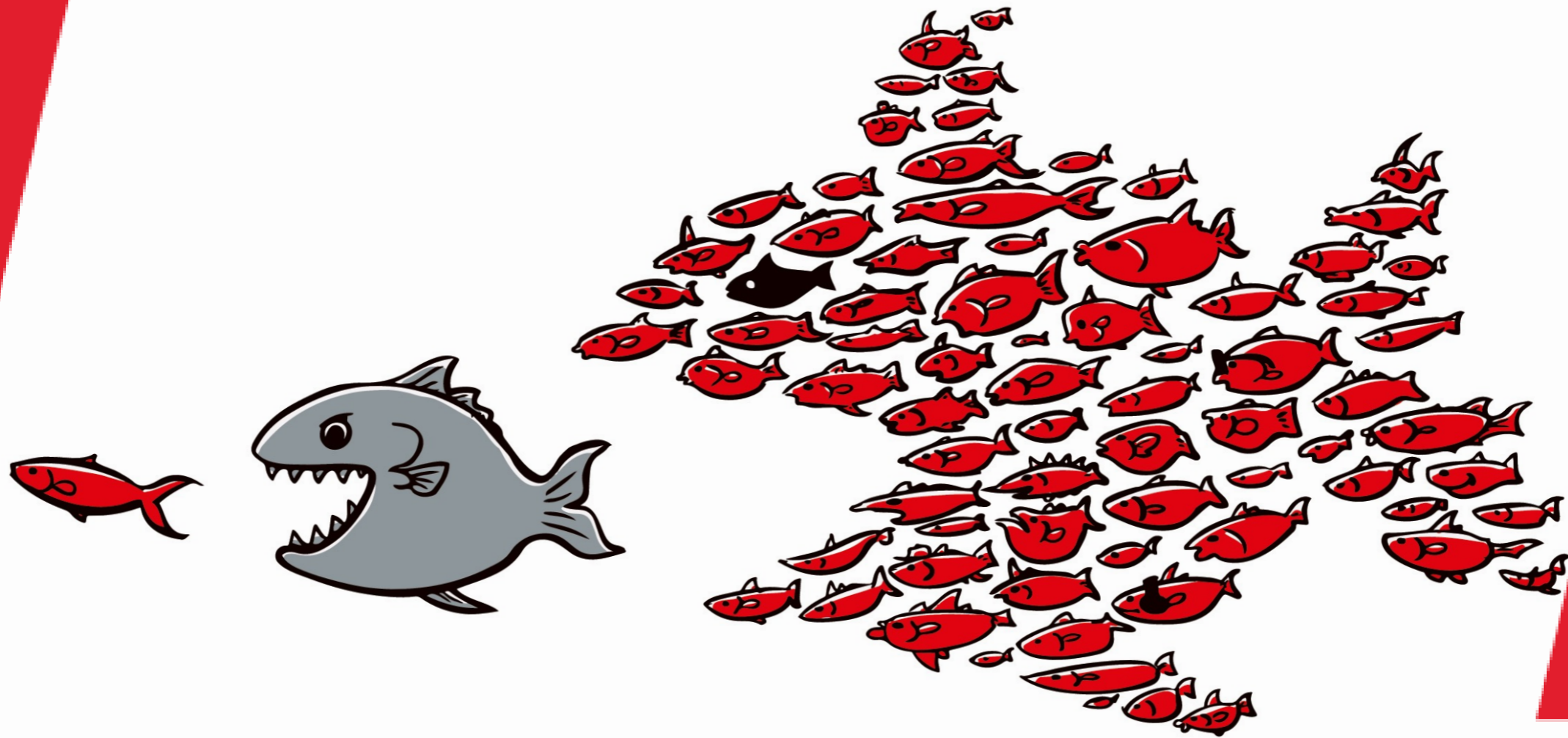


Live Stream <https://www.youtube.com/user/EduInternational/live>



#ETUCETeachProfNeeds





A firsthand perspective on teacher training
in Berlin in three phases, 2009-2017

Ryan Plocher, GEW Youth

OVERVIEW



- German school system
- Summary of three-phase teacher training in Berlin
- Recent revisions to teacher training
- What improvements could be made?

GERMAN SCHOOLS



- Federal education system = 16 different systems
- Berlin system:
 - Primary school ends at grade 6 (usually grade 4)
 - Gymnasium (university track, grades 7-10 plus A levels, exclusive admission)
 - Secondary school (vocational track, grades 7-10 only)
 - Comprehensive school (all tracks, grades 7-10, with A levels)

TRAINING IN BERLIN, 09-:

- Three phases:
 - University: Bachelor & Master
 - Preparatory service & second state exam
 - Beginner period
- Experience does not reflect recent changes to training program in Berlin



UNIVERSITY



- Free University Berlin
- Bachelor (six semesters)
 - two subjects plus education science
 - orientation internship
 - possibility to switch away from education track
 - emphasis on subject knowledge
- Master (four semesters)
 - two subjects plus education science
 - semester-long teaching internship
 - emphasis on educational theory
- Gymnasium (university track school) or primary school

PREPARATORY SERVICE



- Fritz-Karsen-Schule (Comprehensive school)
- 24 months, 8-12 45-minute lessons per week
 - Primary seminar in didactics, two subject seminars
- Theory exams in didactics and in pedagogy
- Practical exams graded by subject seminar adjuncts
- Emphasis on lesson planning, competency orientation
- Standards and training for Gymnasium
- Pay ca. 1100€ monthly

BEGINNER PERIOD



- Fritz-Karsen-Schule (Comprehensive school)
- 26 45-minute lessons per week
- Homeroom teacher: attendance, discipline, parents, advising, centralized tests, field trips
- Challenges: Classroom management, differentiation, special education students integrated in regular classes, social work
- No formal program

SEVEN YEARS TOO MANY

Advantages

- Age difference to students
- Maturity and life experience
 - Easy to change track
- Opportunities to change location
- High standard of education = high starting salary (ca. 50000 €)
 - Opportunities to organize
- Long training period with little income

Disadvantages

- Repetition: No information exchange between university administration and state government
- Major differences between federal states
 - Emphasis on university track
 - Emphasis on lesson planning
 - Emphasis on examinations
- Difficult to quickly increase number of trained teachers

RECENT CHANGES

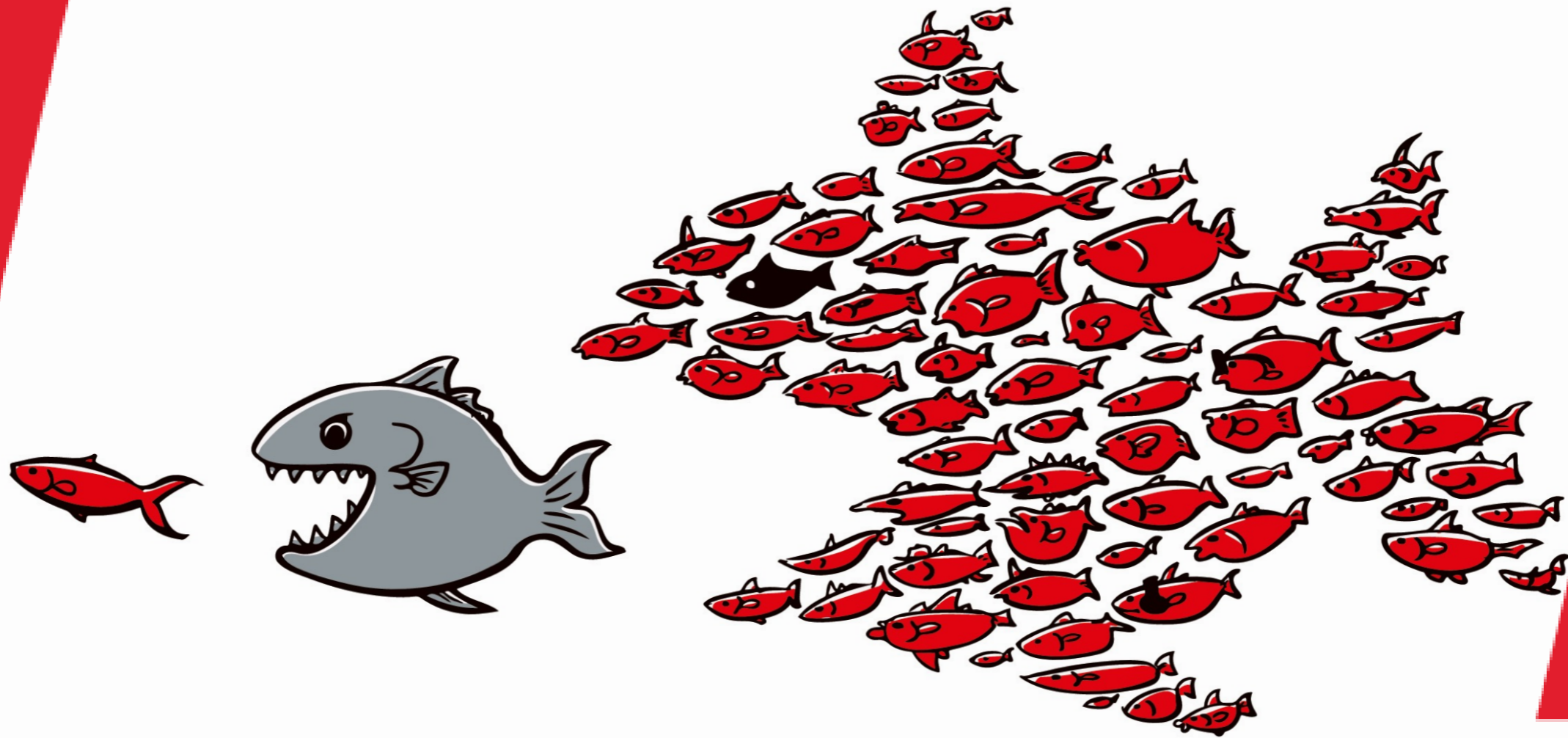


- Training period shortened from 24 to 18 months
- Master's degree for primary school lengthened from 3 to 4 semesters
- One-semester in-school internship integrated into Master's
- Integration of special education topics into education science seminars
- Equal pay for primary and secondary school teachers
- Germany-wide teacher shortage: Many teacher trainees without degrees in education

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?



- More and paid mentoring programs in schools for newly certified teachers
- Examinations more similar to real-life situations
- Part-time preparatory service
- Seminar program through trade union: Time management, classroom management, anti-right-wing rhetorical training
- Better integration of special education training



Questions?