

Innovative Schools as Birthplaces for Promoting Educational Innovations: A Case Study of Two Hungarian Schools

Authors : Khin Khin Thant Sin

Abstract : This study is a case study which investigates successful and ongoing bottom-up innovations for school improvement initiatives in Hungary. Two innovative schools are selected in this study due to their outstanding achievement during the past ten years in Hungary. In one school, data from the personal experiences of a school principal who initiated the bottom-up innovation are included. For the second school, three interviews were carried out with two schoolteachers and one secondary school student. In addition, desk research, including the principal's published articles, the schoolteachers' master thesis, the school websites, and other published articles, are analysed to explore the schools' innovative processes. This study investigates how bottom-up innovation led to major achievements in student learning, teacher professional development, networking and collaboration with other schools, and the establishment of successful partnerships with universities. The highlight of this study is how innovative schools can be the major sources promoting educational innovations as well as improving teacher education, especially in initial teacher education and continuous professional development.

Keywords : school innovation, teacher education, hungary, educational innovation, school improvement

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