



Robert-Bosch-Gesamtschule

Integrierte Gesamtschule mit gymnasialer Oberstufe
Ganztagsschule
Arbeitsgemeinschaft Beth Schalom



16.10.07

The working group *Beth Schalom* Tracing the Past, learning for the Future.

The Robert Bosch Main School is an integrated school with 1300 students, from the 5th grade to the 13th grade. We have been a Unesco-Project-School for many years. Many activities develop from the work of our Unesco team, which meets monthly on a regular basis. We have partnerships to schools in Tansania, Poland and Czechia. The working group *Beth Schalom* is closely involved in our Unesco team.

As an integrated main school the Robert-Bosch-Gesamtschule wants to promote all different gifted students individually and aims at fostering self-reliance and individual responsibility. The school has been chosen for the round of the last ten for the award "Germany's best school".

The working Group *Beth Schalom* has existed since 1981. It was founded by the teacher Hans-Jürgen Hahn as a result of a visit of students from Haifa in Israel. These students saw the Jewish cemetery in bad shape. So the working group *Beth Shalom* started to work and assisted the city authorities to renovate the chapel in front of the cemetery, which is not far away from the RBG. It was overdue to do this: there were four trees, each of them growing out of the damaged roof of the chapel.

The working group continued the lawn maintenance etc. They also held memorial ceremonies.

In 2000 Christian Augustin succeeded Hans-Jürgen Hahn. He is a teacher of history, religion and mathematics. He has taught in all grades at the Robert-Bosch-Gesamtschule since 1999 and is the coordinator for the 7th grade. At the university he had focused on Ancient and Jewish history.

In 2000 the working group started a documentary project for the 280 grave-stones at the cemetery. Our goal is to preserve and record signs of Jewish life in Hildesheim of the time before the Shoah took place. We have completed the index for all gravestones, took photos of all of them. The German inscriptions have been written down, even the translations of the Hebrew inscriptions. The complete documentation of these parts already exists as an HTML-version.

In this school year we want to record all Hebrew inscriptions and write a glossary for them. the paper version of our project will be the final aim of our efforts.

The attendance at our working groups in school ("Arbeitsgemeinschaften") is voluntarily. Right now five students of the 9th grade are the main "working force" and quite enthusiastic about their work.

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