





# We are we now?

*Niekée is a school for secondary education.*

*Children are aged from 11 to 18 years old.*

*From 44 nationalities.*

*We are in the almost poorest neighbourhood of Limburg.*

*We bring children from all walks of life together and let them work and learn together*

*We have two sections: Niekée-vmbo (vocational) and Agora*

*We have 1 vision, but various practices of that vision.*

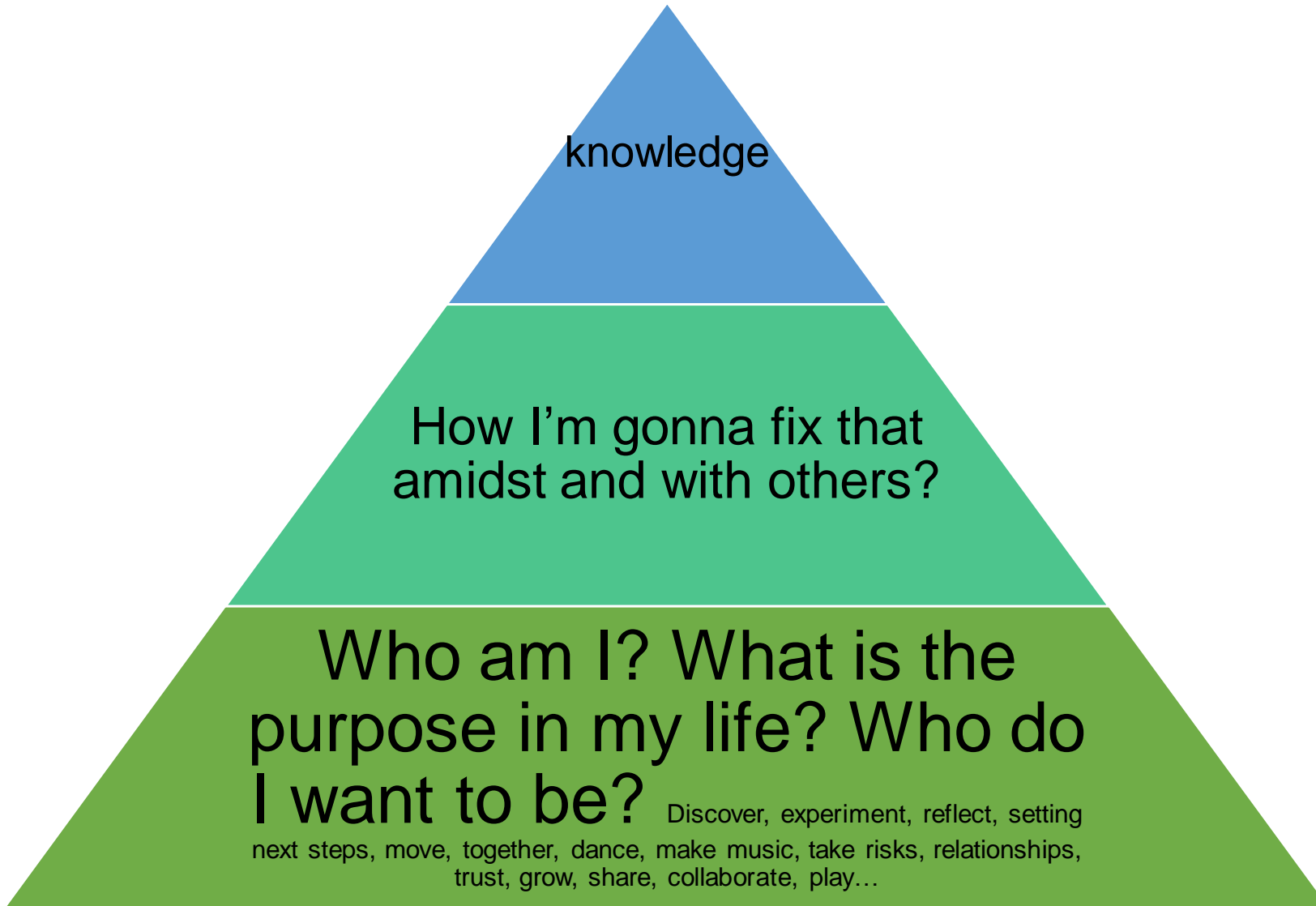


# I made a promiss to.....

- Every child and every teacher likes to be at school.
- They feel seen and known.
- School is a place where you overthink and discover yourself and your future.
- Where life and learning are the same.
- Where teachers have lots of time for every student.
- Where learning is not a preparation for a diploma, but for life.
- Where every child is treateded unequally, because every child deserve equal opportunities.
- Where children stay as long as they will and need to stay.
- Where gaining knowledge is important, but knowing yourself and being part of the community far more.



# Democratic citizenship





# Every child wants to become better in life and a teacher nothing likes more than contributing to that process of growth and development

|                      |                        |                  |                |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Trust                | Relationships          | Wonder moments   | Knowledge      |
| Imagination          | Entrepreneurship       | Curiosity        | Growth         |
| Happiness            | Playing                | Discover         | Make mistakes  |
| Intrinsic motivation | Self-efficacy          | Self regulation  |                |
| Member of society    | Proud Teachers         | Autonomy         |                |
| Behaviour            | Active parents         | amidst the world |                |
| Asking questions     | Reflection             | Dreaming         | Accountable    |
| Makes things happen  | Every child feels seen | Kairos           | responsibility |





Competence

Equality

Intrinsic  
motivation

Autonomy

PLAY

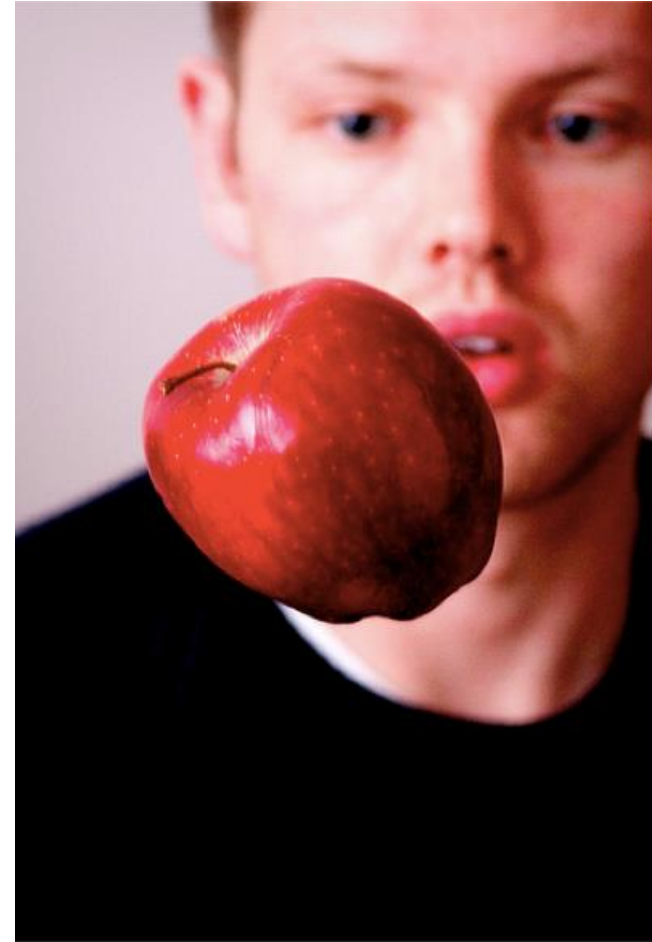
Relatedness

Sharing



# The current system confronts us with more fundamental problems.....

- In no other country than NL children are so unmotivated for school. (OESO 2016)
- Education promotes unequal opportunities for children. (Inspection of Education 2016)
- Parents pay €79.000.000 per year for support and external exam training program
- Over 4.000 children are sitting at home instead of school.
- High failure rate in first year Higher Education / University.
- Professionals pride of teachers is under pressure. Increasing number of burn-outs.





So we have to sit down and ask our self the next question,  
every day...

*What the hell are we doing in schools?*



# Research informed

## Pedagogic:

- Piaget
- Vygotsky
- Dewey
- Biesta

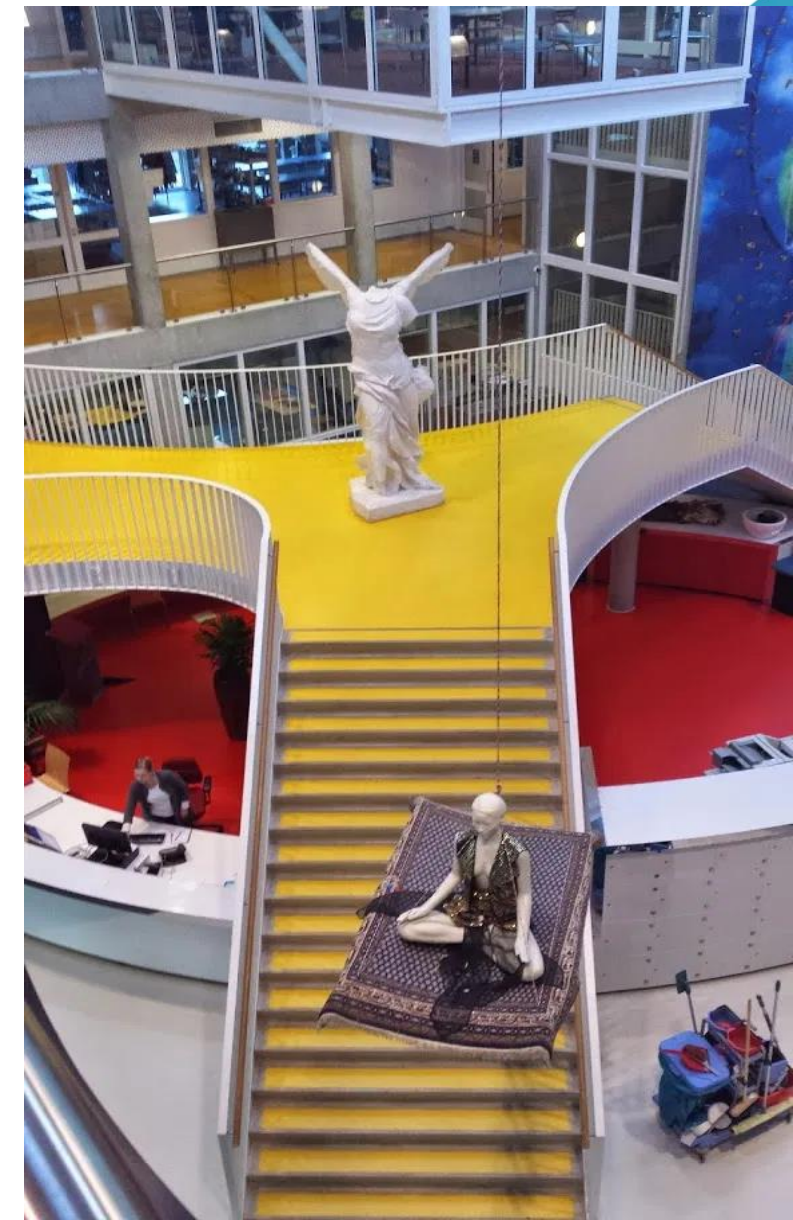
## Enhancing self-regulation

- Barry Zimmermann
- Decy and Ryan
- Marzano
- Jolles
- Dweck
- Hirsch



# Niekée

- Niké
- Goddess of the victory
- Statue
- Niekée-vocational education
- Niekée-Agora
- Every child will be seen
- Pedagogic is the basic of grow
- Teachers are more important than ever.
- Students are steering their own learning process?
- The teacher is focussing on the learning process in addition to the product of learning?
- Students will be met where they are? They're developing their own selves further from what they already know?





# Niekée-vmbo

- Workspaces
- Attention and time for kids
- Play, investigate, make, experiment
- Not only practice by doing, but also the importance of theory for these kids



# workspaces





# Support from the teacher: *Self-Regulation*

| Spectrum | <b>Direct</b><br>Teacher Driven<br><br>Modeling the process<br><br>External regulation of goal | <b>Guide</b><br>Teacher/ Student Driven<br><br>Guiding students through using the process themselves | <b>Partner</b><br>Student/Teacher   | <b>Coach</b><br>Student Driven / Teacher Support |
|----------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| Overview | Teacher directs and models   | Teacher motivates and guides students  | Teacher and Student Decide Together |  |



# 1000 students 1000 personalized learning routes

Learning starts with wondering and asking questions.

In collaboration with the world. With the guidance of wise adults and teachers.

Focus has to be on the learning process instead of the result.

Learning in eco systems will be the next step

Every child can learn, every child wants to learn!

So let him learn in a heterogeneous group.



Learning together with and amid the world.

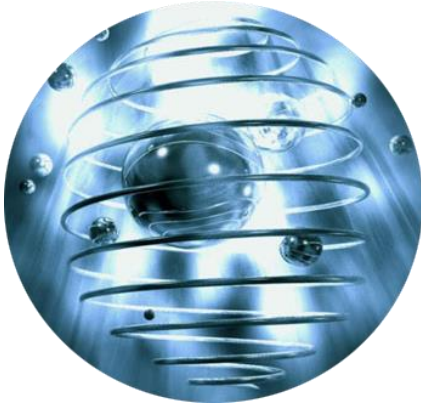
Niekée Roermond



NIEKÉE

Let our children play!, so they can celebrate their failures.

# The five worlds of Agora



**scientific**



**society**



**artistic**



**spiritual**



**social/ethic**



# Results till now

- High successrates at Niekée-vmbo
- We can no longer be ignored in this neighborhood and for the children who grow up here
- Children like being here
- At Agora we have almost 300 students.
- 5 new Agora's in the Netherlands.
- 4 will follow next yr. Belgium included
- Confidence of inspection and parents.
- We influence the educational debate.
- Lot's of interest in our practice on both sections.



# Leadership is needed.

- Some simple guidelines:
  - Have a vision!
  - Share and realize your vision
  - Make your no-values clear.
  - Invest, invest, invest in people.
  - Write it down when it works.





# Core value of my leadership

*Creating situations in which others make the seemingly inaccessible accessible.*



# Working should not hurt

In school, children are the most important.....

...but in my office, for the managementteam, teachers are a little bit more important.





# TAKE ACTION!