



The Swedish educational system, SALAR and the municipalities

Who am I?

- Madelaine Jakobsson
- Mayor of Nordmaling
- Chair of SALAR:s delegation for education
- Party Board and the executive Board – Centerpartiet
- Teacher



SALAR- a politically run organisation



Congress



Board



Delegations



Drafting bodies

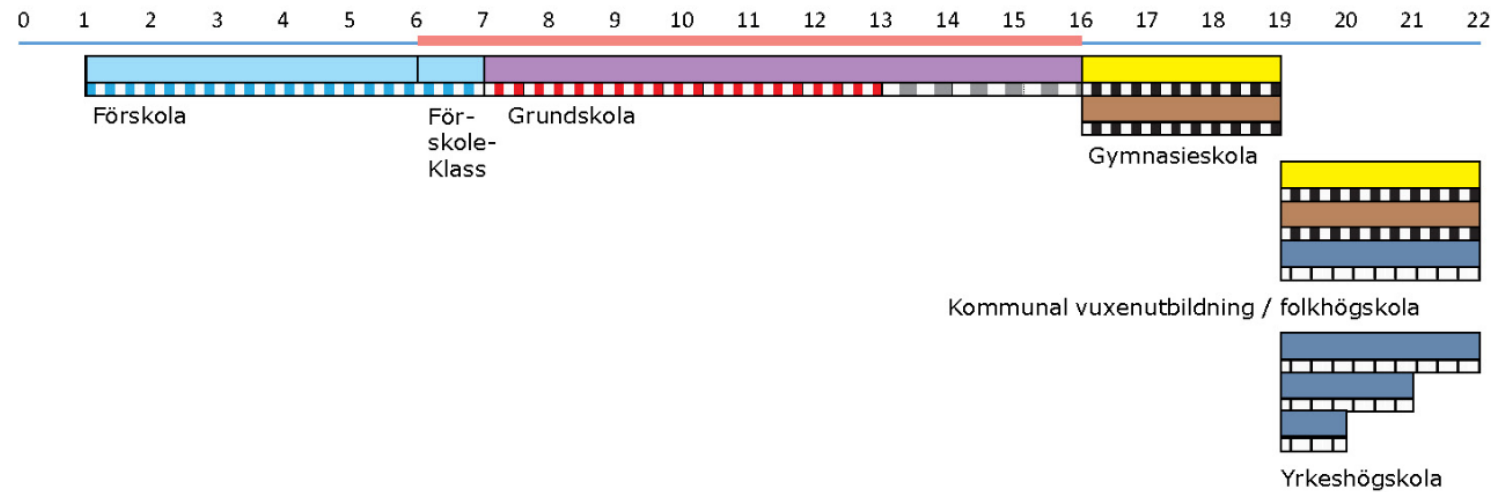


Prior visit to Estonia

- September 2024
- The delegation of education
- Tartu and Tallinn
- Met with the University, schools, authorities and politicians
- Why Estonia – PISA-results, curious of your schools and your school system
- Very interesting, a lot of similarities but also differences – grades, vocational schools, how what you do in schools is connected to research, digitalization, refugees and the number of different languages to mention some parts.

Sweden – 2023/2024

Age of students

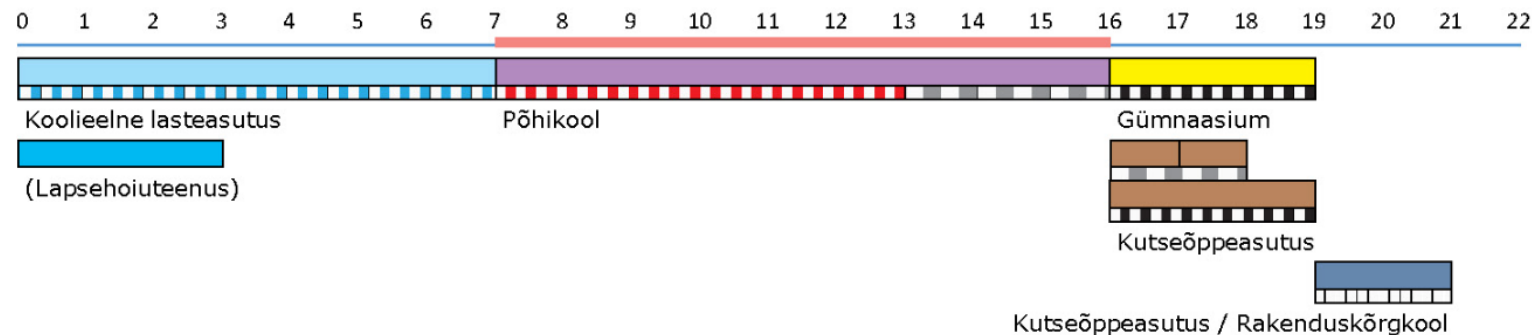


Programme duration (years)

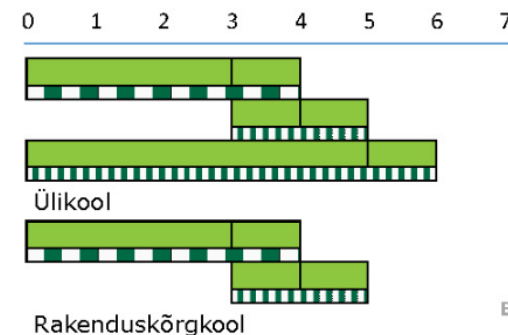


Estonia – 2023/2024

Age of students



Programme duration (years)



Early childhood education and care (for which public education authorities are not responsible)

Early childhood education and care (for which public education authorities are responsible)

Primary education

Single structure

Secondary general education

Secondary vocational education

Post-secondary non-tertiary education

Tertiary education (full-time)

How education is governed

Agreements: SALAR and unions

State (Parliament, Government, National agencies)

- Legislation: Education Act, school curriculum. Set minimum standards and regulations.
- Higher education institutions: teacher training and school leadership training
- Monitoring, school inspection
- Earmarked state grants

Municipality (and independent private schools)

- Run pre-school to adult education
- Distribute resources and organize education,
- Employ teachers, school leaders and other staff
- Follow-up and evaluation

Early childhood education – preschool 1-5 years

- Voluntary and has two purposes: stimulate the child's development and learning + enable working parents
- The share of children enrolled in pre-school is high and increasing
- Long tradition of independent pre-schools, about 20 percent of children goes to independent pre-schools



Compulsory school (6) 7 – 16 year

- Nine years of compulsory schooling plus compulsory pre-school class for 6 – year - olds
- School is free of charge.
School choice is widespread
- Liberal system for independent schools (15 percent of the pupils)
- Grades from year 6



Upper secondary school 17-19 years old

- Almost all pupils continue to upper secondary school
- School choice is widespread. 26 percent of the pupils goes to independent schools
- 18 national programs to choose from – 12 preparing for a vocation and 6 preparing for higher education
- A third of all the pupils attend vocational programmes



Widespread adult education

- Vocational education and training
- Basic education for those without previous experience
- Second chance
- Swedish for immigrants

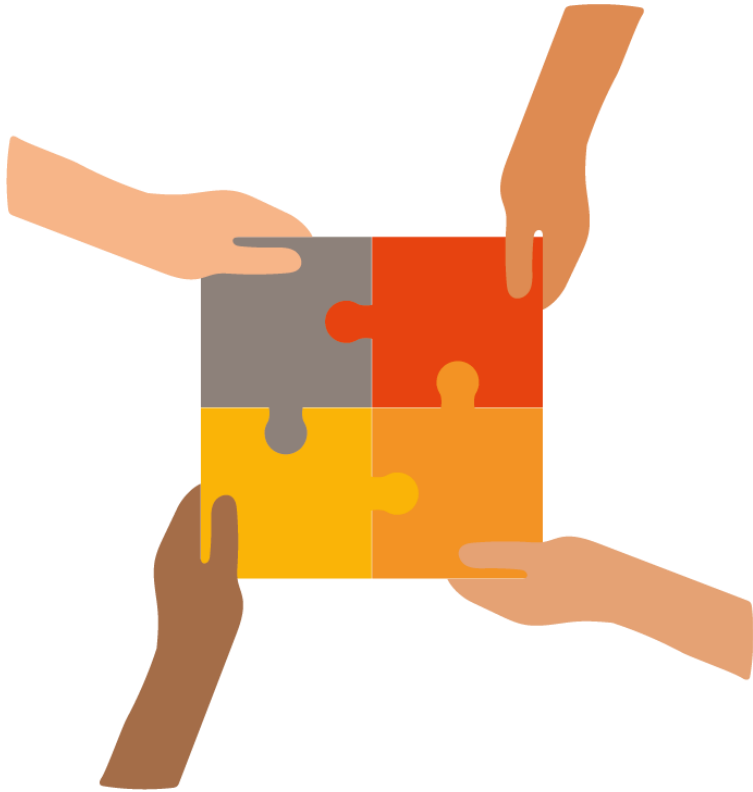


Our challenges – shared with many

- Equity and quality
- Shortage of teachers and other staff
- A changing world: AI, pandemic, war, conflicts, migration
- Regional differences in growth, labour market and demography
- Perception of Swedish pre-schools and schools



SALAR – areas of attention



- Small municipalities
- Quality systems
- Finances for education
- Cooperation at local level between politicians and civil servants
- A new collective agreement for teachers
- Evidence based education

National debate on education

National debate:

- does not reflect local challenges but affect local situations
- A lot of reforms that do not meet current challenges
- affects what people think about school and its teachers
- Makes it difficult to recruit new teachers



Attracting, recruiting, retaining, developing teachers and other staff

- SALAR signs central collective agreements
- Supports members as employers
- Creates conditions for local solutions
- SALAR:s agreements cover 3.4 million employees



The Swedish Model

- Industry wages set a mark for all other areas. This has been working well for years.
- Trust between employers' organisations and unions provides for stability with few strikes
- A number of working groups between negotiations



Questions or comments?

Madelaine.jakobsson@centerpartiet.se