

Lakeside School Küsnacht and TAZ-Horgen - a joint future.

Both bilingual day schools are looking forward to a joint future. From 1st February 2012 the TAZ Horgen Bilingual Dayschool AG will be integrated into the Lakeside School Foundation. Both schools are confident that they will complement each other and mutually benefit from this step.

The Lakeside School in Küsnacht and the TAZ in Horgen each have one class from pre-kindergarten through to the 6th grade. The curriculum fulfils both the Zürich curriculum as well as international standards. The pupils are taught in equal parts in the German and English languages exclusively by native speakers. This new collaboration will strengthen “the bilingual way” from pre-kindergarten to the bilingual Swiss Matura (Swiss school leaving certificate), which is currently offered by the Lakeside School and the Freies Gymnasium Zurich.

‘A private school is not a gold mine’ was the title of an article which appeared in the Zürich See newspaper on 9th November 2011. The article highlighted, that the motivation to run a private school, is based in the first instance on the wish to provide children with an ideal learning environment based on a certain pedagogical idea. It is however also clear that being a private school does not alone guarantee financial success. Bilingual Schools have the advantage at the moment that they are very much in demand. The significance of bilingual schools has also grown due to the fact that since August 2011 International Schools are only allowed to enrol children from families who for professional reasons move a lot internationally. Subsequently Lakeside School and TAZ have successfully been working towards this continuing demand. Our mutual presence and cooperation under the roof of the Lakeside School Foundation should cultivate and secure this in the long-term.

The integration of TAZ Horgen into the Lakeside School Foundation has a historical basis. The two founders and owners of the bilingual school TAZ Horgen were co-founders and, up until 2000, members of the Board of Trustees of the Lakeside School. With the 10 year anniversary of TAZ Horgen both owners feel that they have reached the goals they set out to achieve. “We are proud to hand over our school to the Lakeside School Foundation”, the current owners Mrs. C. Frey and Mrs. M. Schreiner agree.

Lakeside School has been trying to expand for some years. Amongst others they tried to acquire the School house Juch in Zumikon. They pulled out of this project more than a year ago after the political feasibility was seen to be unrealistic. This was widely reported in the ZSZ/TagesAnzeiger. “Lakeside School and TAZ will each keep their own charm. They will continue to inspire each other both pedagogically and in organisational matters and have a stronger presence externally” the current Head of Lakeside School and future Head of both schools, Mr. S. Urner, is convinced of this.