

# INTERNATIONAL FOLK HIGH SCHOOL SUMMIT









**Højskolerne**  
The Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark

**Sara Skovgaard Mortensen, Thor West Nielsen & Søren Børsting**  
**Grundtvig Folk High School, Denmark**  
**Date: 23.10.2019**

# The Danish Folk High School



# Agenda

-  1. The Danish folk high school today - praxis and pedagogy.
-  2. Movie about the folk high school
-  3. The history and purpose of the Danish folk high school - Grundtvig
-  4. The stories of Vallekilde and Krogerup
-  5. Legal and organizational frame of folk high schools in Denmark
-  6. International activities



The educational idea of Grundtvig is to educate the youth,  
not only to make a living, but to live a life.



# Free Learning Spaces – pedagogics of engagement





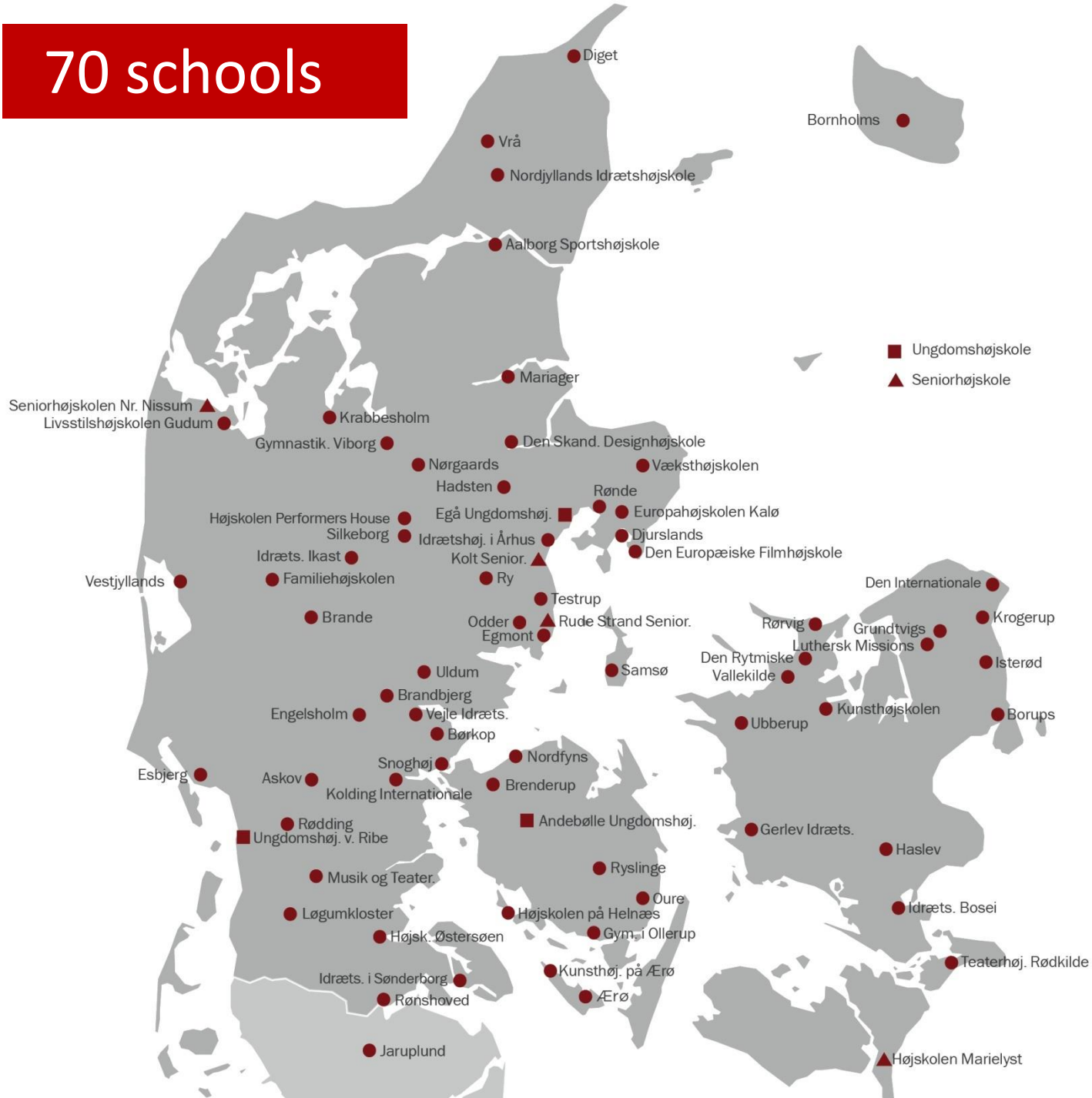
# Living and learning together

- All boarding schools
- Lessons and 'living together'
- Life at the school becomes daily life!



MONDAY 18.	TUESDAY 19.	WEDNESDAY 20.	THURSDAY 21.	FRIDAY 22.	SATURDAY 23.	SUNDAY 24.
8.00 - 8.30 <u>Breakfast</u>	8.00 - 8.30 <u>Breakfast</u>	8.00 - 8.30 <u>Breakfast</u>	8.00 - 8.30 <u>Breakfast</u>	8.00 - 8.30 <u>Breakfast</u>	Weekend teacher Martin 4025 43XX	Weekend teacher Fredrik 2829 16XX
8.45-9.15 <b>Morning assembly</b> <u>Garba</u>	8.45-9.15 <b>Morning assembly</b> <u>Luxenburg</u>	8.45-9.00 <b>Morning assembly</b> Jesper	8.45-9.15 <b>Morning assembly</b> Laura Viktoria	8.45–10.00 <b>Common meeting</b>		10.00 -12.00 Brunch
9.15 -12.00 <b>Main Subject</b>	9.15 -12.00 <b>Main Subject</b>	9.00 -12.00 <b>A - Subject</b>	9.15 - 10.00 <u>Teacher's lecture</u> Sigrid		10.00 -12.00 <b>Main Subject</b>	
			10.15 -12.00 <b>B - Subject</b>			
12.00 - 12.30 <u>Cleaning</u>	12.00 - 12.30 <u>Cleaning</u>	12.00 - 12.30 <u>Cleaning</u>	12.00 - 12.30 <u>Cleaning</u>	12.00 - 12.30 <u>Cleaning</u>		
12.30 Lunch	12.30 Lunch <u>Democracy meeting</u>	12.30 Lunch	12.30 Lunch	12.30 Lunch	12.15 <u>Cleaning</u>	12.15 <u>Cleaning</u>
13.30 -15.30 <b>Main Subject</b>	13.30 Vaccinations	13.30 -15.30 <b>A - Subject</b>	13.30 -16.00 <b>B - Subject</b>	13.30-16.00 <b>A - Subject</b>		<i>Students'</i> <u>Fleemarket</u>
	15.30: VB-SA <u>Bycycletour to</u> <u>Espergærde</u>					
18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>	18.00 <u>Dinner</u>
20.00 Evening by Fredrik	20.00 <u>Krogerup-café</u> European Parliament election debate 2019	20.00 Choir	20.00 Evening by Lorena Yoga	20.00 Evening by Lotte		20.00 Fireplace

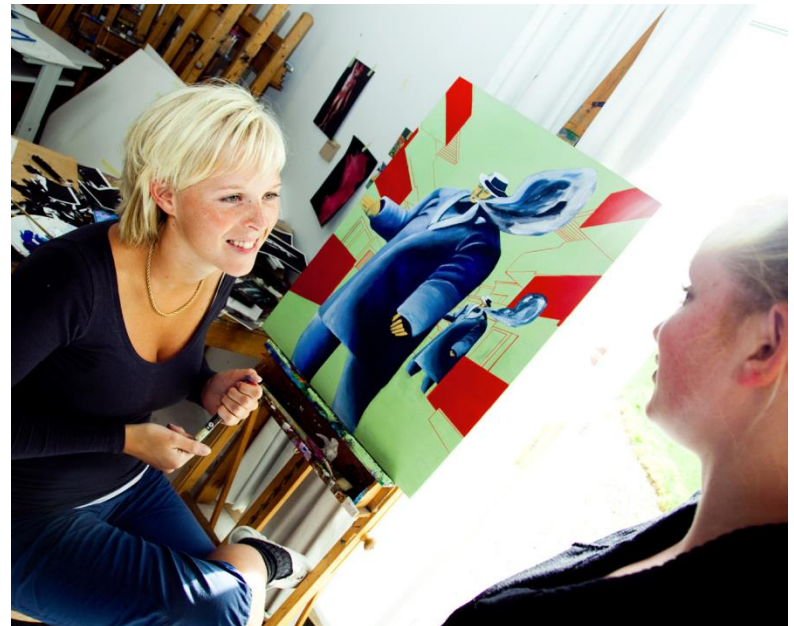
# 70 schools





# Different schools

- Each School has its own specific background and educational focus:
  - Sports
  - Theatre
  - Movi-making
  - Educational Preparing
  - Religious
  - International studies
  - Journalism
  - ...
  - + Guidance and counselling



# Outcome



Friends  
for life

Clarify  
personal  
aims

To be a  
member  
of society  
and social  
values

A broader  
perspectiv  
e on life



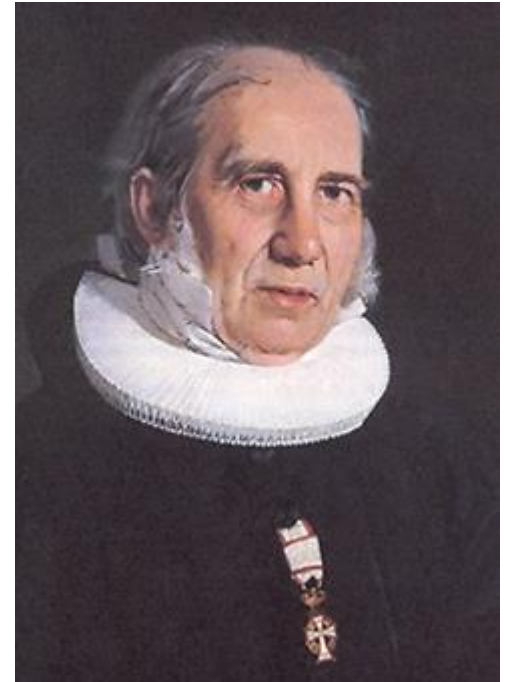
**A brief introduction to the Danish folk high school**



# The idea and history - learning for life

## **NFS Grundtvig: (1783-1872)**

- Teaching must be based on "the living word"
- Education must be connected to real life
- Education must be based on the motivation of the students
- Awake the learning potential of each individual in order for him/her to grow as a human and as a citizen

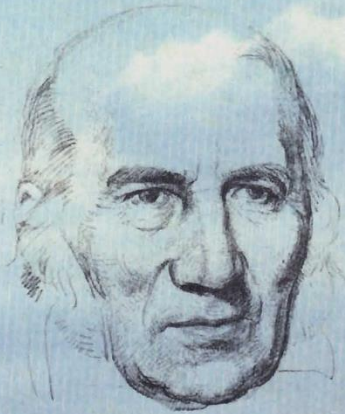


# NFS Grundtvig – Educational Tenets

- 1) ITS IN THE YOUTH YOU FIND THE BEST  
TIME FOR PEOPLE'S ENLIGHTENMENT
- 2) HUMAN BEING AS A HOLY EXPERIMENT
- 3) EXISTENCE IS ONLY SOMETHING IN  
RELATION TO THE PEOPLE
- 4) FREEDOM AS A PRECONDITION
- 5) GENUINE ENLIGHTENMENT IS  
ENLIGHTENMENT FOR LIFE
- (6) THE LIVING SPOKEN WORD



# THE Land OF THE Living



*The Danish folk high schools and  
Denmark's non-violent path  
to modernization*

*Steven M. Borish*

## The Land Of The Living

- by Steven M. Borish

*The Danish folk high  
schools and  
Denmark's non-  
violent path to  
modernization*

*(1991)*



pahøjskolen Kalø

lands

h Europæiske Filmhøjskole

nior.

Den Internationale

Krogerup

Rørvig

Grundtvigs

Luthersk Missions

Den Rytmske

Vallekilde

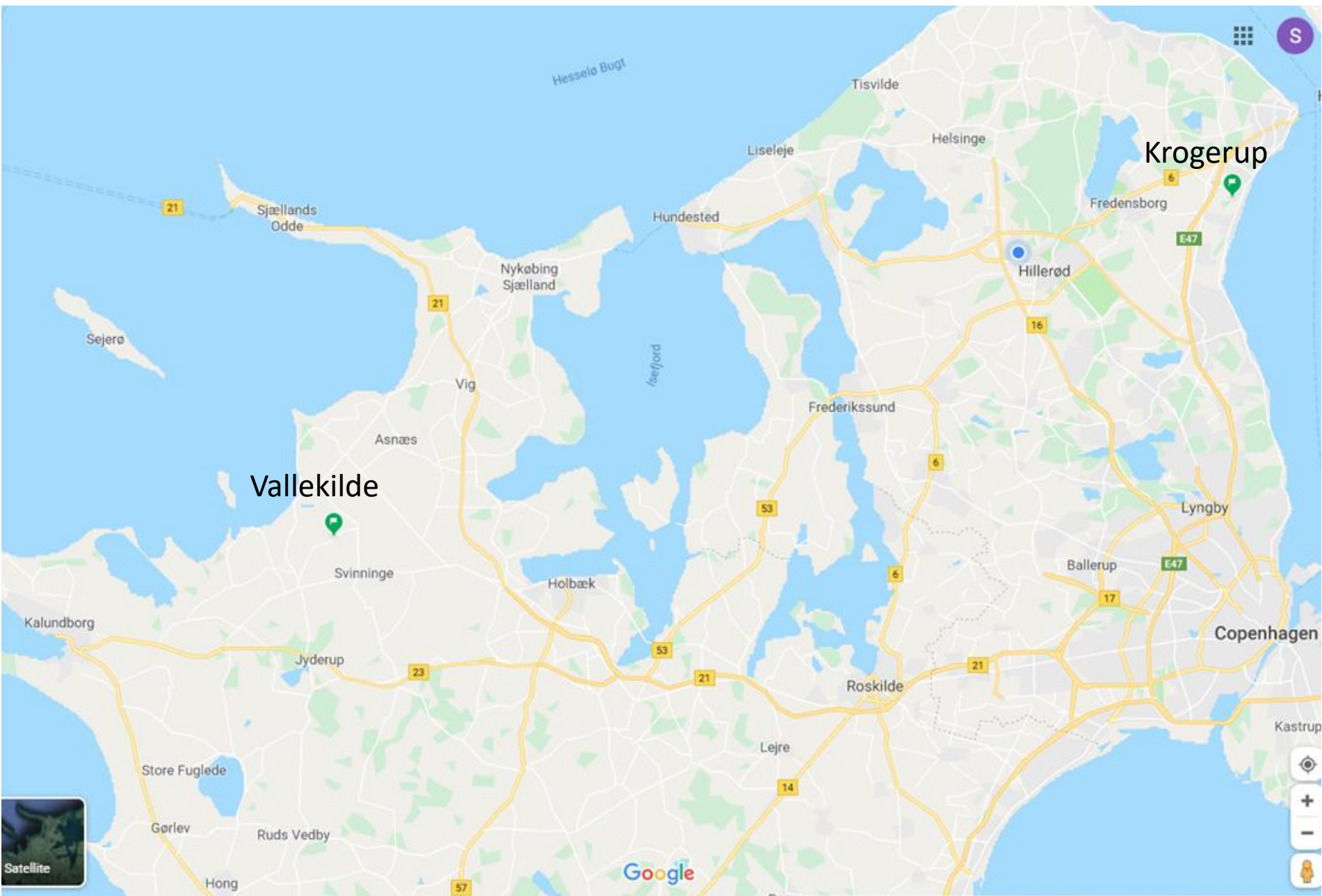
Isterød

Ubberup

Kunsthøjskolen

Borups

KØBEN-  
HAVN



# Ernst Trier – Vallekilde FH1865





# Vallekilde FH





# Vallekilde FH



”I do not know, what I  
have learned, but I am  
sure I’ll never forget it”



# Krogerup Folk High School



# Hal Koch (1904-1963)

Theologian and professor of church history, democratic thinker  
and writer and fhs principal



## **Hal Koch: The word or the sword, 1945**

- *It is the conversation (dialogue) and mutual understanding and respect that is the essence of democracy.*
- *Thus, it is understood that democracy is far more comprehensive than a particular form of governance. It is a way of life that applies to all relationships in which people have to do with each other.*



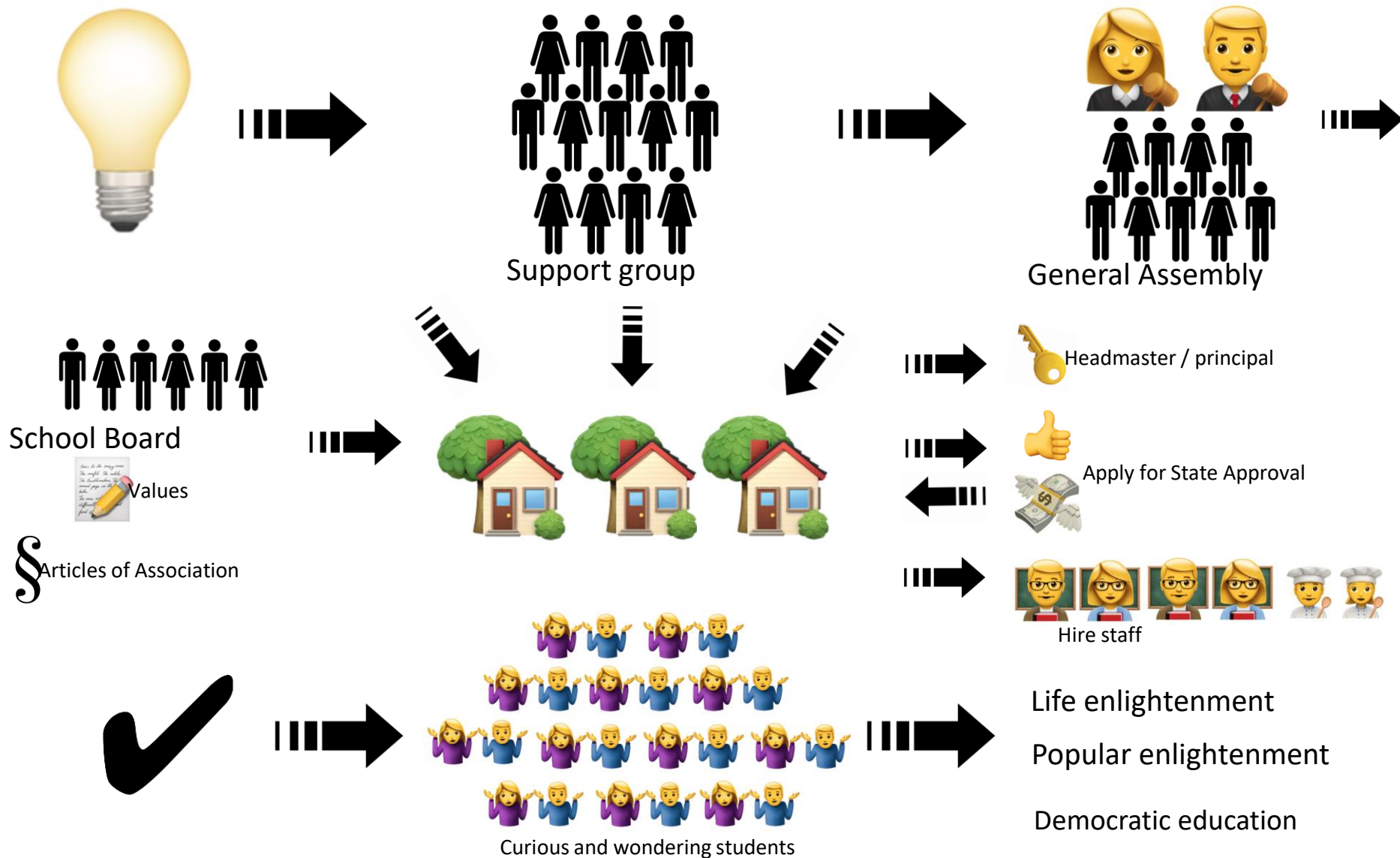
# The legislation

From the very beginning the state has supported the FH

- It is possible for everybody to have government grant for FH
- 2.600 Dkr. (325 €) per week
- The student: 1.300 Dkr. /week
- But there are some requirements:
  - Privat, self-owend, Independence
  - At least 32 weeks per year
  - Adults
  - Enlightenment:  
‘Education and Living together
  - Purpose: ...([The Act](#))



# How to start a Folk High School in Denmark





- 0: A Foray into Folk High School Ideology**
- 1: Become Yourself**
- 2: Learn for pleasure**
- 3: Becoming a People**
- 4: Learn for Life**
- 5: Take Responsibility**
- 6: Learn with your Body**
- 7: Sing Together**
- 8: Tell Stories**
- 9: Learn Together**
- 10: Live Together**





The Da  
“Folkeh

# DANISH FOLK HIGH SCHOOL

The Danish free  
school tradition

Published 2018

# www.danishfolkhighschools.com

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