



Students and teachers from the five 2022 award-winning schools celebrate together at the awards ceremony.

# THE GERMAN SCHOOL AWARD FOR GOOD SCHOOLS

There are 36 000 public and private schools in Germany. But how do you find ones that are “good”? And how can other schools learn from those schools? The Robert Bosch Stiftung aims to help them out.

**T**he Stiftung launched the German School Award in 2006, together with the Heidehof Foundation. All schools in Germany and all German international schools are eligible to apply. A 50-member jury selects the five best schools every year.

This year, the €100 000 grand prize went to Regionales Berufliches Bildungszentrum Müritz (RBB). The training center had to revamp its learning concept in 2010 because fewer people were choosing vocational training and the job landscape had changed. Since then, it has focused on aspects relevant to the actual job situation, even though the curriculum in the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern does not include them. There are 1 400 students working in self-organized groups on tasks that transfer the material they learn over to the

working world. Ranging from chef to media designer, the nine training areas provide instruction to students using equipment that is often more modern than that available in the actual working world. The school’s curriculum is supported by simulation labs in many areas, helping combine the hands-on work with real-world applications. The school is a community and, as in daily work, various vocational trades work hand in hand. The jury was impressed by the high quality of the lessons, the strong tie-in to students’ career prospects, and the good school climate, which led the jury to recognize RBB as the best school in Germany in September.

### PRACTICAL LEARNING

This year’s winners join the network of award-winning schools. “Many award-winning schools have developed innovative concepts for

a sustainable school from which others can learn,” says Andrea Preußker, team leader for education at the Stiftung, which prepares the award-winning concepts with the help of experts from the specific field, school administration, and science and brings them to the attention of the German states. This leads to the creation of joint projects, with the states adopting successful learning concepts into their teacher qualification programs. The concepts are presented to the public on [www.Deutsches-Schulportal.de](http://www.Deutsches-Schulportal.de). Video and audio presentations and posts are available for interested teaching professionals to glean inspiration. A portrait of the training center in Müritz and the four other 2022 award-winning schools can also be found there, offering visitors insights into their work. Claudia Hagen

