

August 05, 2020

To the comrades of Ghana, who wish to join their movement to FIMEM

The Freinet Movement Network of America, REMFA, shares with you the following:

It gives us great joy to hear from you. We have read with great care and interest the document where they present their work, directed by John Mensah. We see that they have had encounters with other movements such as the Swedish and that has encouraged them on the path of Freinet pedagogy. However, after a thorough review we are concerned and we ask you to clarify it for us to have all the elements for your admission .

They mention that the movement was formed in Ghana in September 2016 by Mr John Mensah, a teacher at *Methodist Junior High School* in Winneba. Later, when they name the members of executive positions, they indicate that they belong to several schools: METHODIST A / C JHS, ST. JOHNS BASIC SCHOOL (SEKOND), AGORMENYA CATHOLIC BASIC SCHOOL.

We respect the religious beliefs of people in private life, but their practice within the school is opposed to the principles of the Charter of the Modern School, which states that “1 -... FIMEM since its creation shares the objective of public character, secular (that is, *free of any religion* ) and free ... 2 - ... Freinet pedagogy rejects any form of ideological dogmatism ... promotes a critical approach to reality, puts consciousness and responsibility at the center of the formation process, qualities essential for an active exercise of citizenship and for transformation...”.

We imagine that the sponsorship of the Swedish movement has given them all the elements to exercise this secular, critical and anti-dogmatic education, but since we do not see it in their presentation document, we ask them to clarify the processes that they follow in their work in pedagogy Freinet and we request that you make explicit your intention to adopt our guiding document, the Charter of the Modern School.

With a fraternal greeting from Latin America,

REMFA

Movimento Regional de Escola Moderna do Norte e Nordeste do Brasil, Brasil; Colombian Modern School Movement, Colombia; Popular Education Movement-Freinet Uruguay, Uruguay; Movement for an Alternative Popular Education, Mexico; Freinet Movement Chile, Chile; Mexican Movement for the Modern School, Mexico; Rede de Educadores e Pesquisadores da Educação Freinet, Brazil

