
ABE Teacher Community

Teacher Community Stays Strong in Italy

The only certainty has been uncertainty for so many ABE communities in 2020. Throughout all the upheaval that comes with a global pandemic, the teachers of ABE Italy have maintained strong connections. As ABE Italy Site Director Anna Pascucci explains, “Our willingness and commitment to nurture the spirit of sharing and support in the ABE Italy community, as people and professionals, had to grow a lot in this second lockdown.”

ABE Italy’s distributed leadership model has proven to be a real strength during this time, as “ambassadors” and coordinators of smaller regional clusters have been able to maintain connections with their teachers through WhatsApp groups, a strategy that allows them to respond quickly to changing contexts in the varied ABE communities. ABE Italy’s professional learning model has also been adapted to maintain a focus on virtual learning and inquiry-based science education (IBSE). “We held webinars for the use of LabXchange from April through July 2020,” says Pascucci, “We have closely combined LabXchange ABE labs with a progressive introduction to IBSE and specific examples with testimonials from IBSE expert teachers who have carried out related activities with students.”

Teachers from Italy also crossed regional and national boundaries to join the facilitated webinar hosted by the Program Office in September, meeting their international counterparts from all over the world. “It is not the tools that make the difference, but the how, and above all the continuity,” Pascucci notes. “We have never left [our teachers] alone to their destiny...every email, every communication must be a breath of fresh air! **[Our] spirit and attitude is one of listening, positivity and planning for the future as we work to respond to the needs of the present.**”



Although back in lockdown, the ABE Italy teacher community comes together for a virtual PDI in December 2020.

We thank the teachers of ABE Italy for their positive spirit and passion to continue learning for the sake of their students!