

## School Day in Production (1980)

### Abstract

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Following the example of the Soviet Union, the GDR education system placed an emphasis on polytechnic training starting in mid-1950s. The goal was to introduce students to industrial work. On September 1, 1958, the GDR introduced a weekly “School Day in Production” for all students in grades seven and higher. In 1959, this was supplemented by the introduction of courses in “socialist production” and technical drawing. Additionally, on September 1, 1959, the general ten-year polytechnic secondary school became the standard in the GDR. In the photograph below, students work with the pantograph of a mine locomotive as part of their polytechnic training in the Lauchhammer Brown Coal Combine [Braunkohlenkombinat Lauchhammer].

### Source

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Source: School day in production. Students work on the pantographs of the mine locomotives in Lauchhammer Brown Coal Combine, 1980. Photo: Paul Friedemann.  
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