

## **HISTORY OF “ST. GEORGE THE CONQUEROR” VOCATIONAL SCHOOL**

**Rumen Grahovski**

*Vocational School in Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture  
“St. George the Conqueror” – Kostinbrod*

Year 1959 marks the establishment of the Agricultural School in the city of Bankya. Due to the interest in agricultural sciences the School soon needs a larger base. The Ministry of Agriculture makes a decision the future school to be built in a new place. On September 8, 1975, the foundations for the current school complex are set. In the School's history is opened a new page. There are nineteen classrooms with storage, large staff room, canteen and offices.

Since 1975 the School has four classes. Two new majors are introduced – Agro chemistry and Plant Protection and Vegetable Production, which are replaced in three years with specialties of Husbandry and Livestock Breeding.

In the middle of the 1985 – 1986 school year the school management faces the task to examine the possibility of opening a class with a degree in Veterinary Medicine in which to train students for secondary technicians.

In the next 1986/1987 academic year is opened a new class of Veterinary Medicine. For this purpose are appointed qualified teachers in the respective subjects.

In 1991 is opened another new class – Agricultural Technician and in 1996 – Economy Farm. In 2003 begins students training in new specialty – Technology of Meat and Meat Products.

Currently we train students in Veterinary Technician and Catering classes. The Vocational School has rich material and technical base.

Today – since 2010, the school is a member of the ENTER network. In 2012 the school attends the conference “The creative teacher, lecturer and instructor – a major actor in the dynamic education” – organized by the European Organization ENTER.

In order to achieve improvements in the quality of vocational training and education, facilitating access to practical training of VET and better opportunities for practice in a real working environment, the school participates in projects such as School Practices, Vocational Guidance and AGRISRILLS.

Other areas for improvement in VET:

- Active involvement of businesses in the development of programs for practical training in different professions.
- Improving the relationship between the results of VET and the needs of the changing labor market.
- Raising citizens' mobility and facilitating communication between employers, job candidates and training institutions.
- Raising the qualifications of VET trainers' system with specific competencies for organizing practical training in a real work environment and in terms of operational partnership with employers' partners.

 **M.D. Rumen Grahovski**

Principal

Vocational School in Veterinary medicine and Agriculture "St. George the Conqueror"

22, Hr. Smirnenski St.

Kostinbrod, Bulgaria

E-mail: pgvmss@pgvmss.com