



Construction Path of Labor Education in the New Era

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Abstract

Labor education is a crucial component of the educational system with Chinese characteristics. It directly influences the work ethic, value system, and skill level of the socialist builders and successors. With the rapid development of society in recent years, there has been a phenomenon where some young people do not cherish the fruits of labor, do not want to work, and will not work. The unique educational value of labor has been ignored to a certain extent, and labor education is being diluted and weakened. In this regard, the entire society must prioritize and implement effective measures to enhance labor education. This article aims to comprehensively explore the significance, practical challenges, and feasible approaches to labor education in universities. The goal is to advance the high-quality and sustainable development of universities, align with the national era's demands for talent cultivation in universities, and genuinely implement labor education so that it becomes ingrained in the minds, hearts, and actions of individuals.

Keywords

Labor education, construction path, new era

1. The Significance and Implications of Labor Education in the New Era

Labor education, as a crucial component of the socialist education system with Chinese characteristics, plays a pivotal role in shaping the labor spirit outlook, labor value orientation, and labor skill level of socialist builders and successors. The report to the 20th National Congress reiterated the Communist Party of China's educational policy and emphasized the necessity of implementing the fundamental task of cultivating individuals with virtue. It further highlights the importance of fostering socialist builders and successors who possess all-round development in terms of morality, intelligence, physical fitness, unity, and labor. Labor education was included in the report of the Party Congress for the first time in a decade, after having disappeared from our colleges and schools as well as our educational policy for a long period of time. The return of labor education in the 20th National Congress Report aims to enable students to understand and develop a correct view of labor in the new era through labor education, establish the most glorious, noble, greatest, and beautiful concept of labor, experience how labor creates a better life, reaffirm the notion that labor should not be differentiated by hierarchy or status, love and respect ordinary workers, as well as cultivate the spirit of hard work, thriftiness, struggle, innovation, and dedication. At the same time, it has the basic ability to work and meet the needs of survival and development, forming good working habits (JI Xian, 2021).

As a synonym for "struggle", the term labor permeates the Chinese people's inevitable journey towards creating great historical undertakings. Labor was once emblematic of China's historical glory and continues to be instrumental in its present-day achievements. In the critical moment of embarking on a new journey towards comprehensively building a modern socialist country and marching towards the second centennial goal, how can we continue to effectively utilize

this magical tool to further stimulate the creative vitality of young college students in "labor education in the new era" and promote their all-round development in morality, intelligence, physical fitness, aesthetics, and labor? (Wei Rong & Jiang Pei, 2021).

2. The Challenges of Labor Education in the Contemporary Era

(1) Revised sentence: Insufficient labor education system

Under the background of the new era, the national education administrative department has established systems for moral, intellectual, physical, and aesthetic education to meet social needs. Local departments have made corresponding supplements according to actual situations. However, a labor education system has been missing for a long time. Although the current developed regions such as Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou have made forward-looking plans for labor education, most of their labor education systems only remain at the theoretical exploration level and lack practical testing. The relatively backward central and western regions have not yet realized the importance of labor education in students' development. Most of the labor practice instructions issued by the Ministry of Education are superficial, which makes it difficult to implement strategic guidance for strengthening labor education. Overall, the lack of a labor education system in the new era is an important factor that restricts the implementation of labor education strategy (Yang Rookie, 2021).

(2) The lack of courses on labor education

From the current situation of the development of domestic labor education curriculum, we can see that the development of labor education is not optimistic. Influenced by the concept that "studying is superior to all things", domestic students lack a spirit and initiative for labor, resulting in a shortage of practical courses on labor. Under the influence of the exam-oriented education system, most labor education courses are occupied by theoretical subjects. Some teachers view labor education as a punishment, which goes against its essence and results in students rejecting it. This can even lead to a rebellious attitude towards humble work. For a long time, it has been difficult not only to develop a scientific and reasonable labor curriculum but also to ensure that its implementation of such curriculum achieves its intended purpose (Yang Xiaoquan, Zeng Beilei, & Bai Bingui, 2021).

(3) Decentralization of labor education resources for enhanced accessibility and efficiency

In the past, due to a lack of attention to labor education, labor education resources showed a trend of decentralization, leaving labor education in an awkward situation for a long time: tangible but not practical. In implementing labor education, it is necessary to think systematically and integrate various social resources. Labor education in the new era can break through the current situation of limited educational resources by establishing a three-dimensional educational space. Today, the state strongly supports and attaches great importance to labor education. Colleges and universities will undoubtedly reposition labor education, which requires the reintegration and allocation of labor education resources to support its advancement (Gao Nana, 2021).

3. The way to promote labor education in the new era

(1) Labor education should penetrate the mind

Labor education should penetrate the mind, enabling students to internalize the ideals and beliefs of China's labor culture. Labor is not only the source of wealth but also a key to happiness. Only through honest work can we achieve our greatest aspirations and overcome developmental challenges. All the magnificence in life can solely be attained through sincere toil. Therefore, we must fully comprehend the importance of labor education and enhance students' ideological comprehension of labor value by propagating China's timeless and resilient labor cultural heritage. In order to establish a correct understanding of labor among students, we should seize this opportunity to promote the development of their world outlook and values. It is necessary to make labor culture the driving force for lifelong learning and development (Ji Min, 2021).

(2) Labor education should be infused into the heart

Labor education should be infused into the heart so that students can absorb the rich spirit of diligence and understand that a diligent life is never lacking. The spirit of labor is a spiritual bond that sustains the survival and development of the Chinese nation, as well as an important force in promoting the Chinese dream of great rejuvenation. The so-called 'labor spirit' is the concentrated embodiment of patriotism, craftsman spirit, innovative spirit, truth-seeking spirit, and dedication in concrete labor practice in the new era. As successors and builders of socialism, young people are the main force driving the new trend of the 'labor spirit'. Schools should take on the responsibility of training highly skilled talents and craftsmen with great abilities, guiding college students in the new era to understand the purpose and value of labor from an ideological perspective, and cultivating a "spirit of labor".

(3) Labor education aims to action

Labor education aims to integrate action and thinking through practical experience, cultivating virtues, enhancing intelligence, strengthening the body, and appreciating beauty. It should not only be incorporated into the mind and heart but also put into practice. The spirit of work has been created and developed by the majority of workers through their labor practices. To promote this spirit and enhance labor education, we must adhere to a combination of theory and practice, with the ultimate goal being real action. It is necessary to cultivate in students the habit of constant action, thinking, and truth-seeking through labor education. Through practical experience, students can develop noble qualities such as independence, diligence, frugality, and hard work. This will enhance their self-confidence in participating in labor practice and foster positive qualities such as optimism so that they identify with the spirit of work. Ultimately this will help them build character and strengthen their willpower. The values of 'labor being the most glorious, noble, greatest and beautiful' are deeply rooted in the heart.

Labor education is the foundation of the entire education system, enabling students to understand the great workers throughout history, inspiring their love for labor and respect for workers, introducing different models and pioneers of labor in various eras, and cultivating their spirit and sentiment towards work. It is necessary to insist on cultivating people with virtue, promoting students to seek 'kindness' through hard work, and enabling them to become individuals with great love, virtue, and empathy. Human labor is the combination of intellect and physical strength. The implementation of labor education can deepen students' theoretical knowledge, integrate theory with practice, promote their intellectual development, and enhance intelligence through labor. Labor is the activity of both hands and brain, which promotes the full movement and development of the cerebral cortex through labor education, thereby strengthening the brain and promoting intellectual development. In disciplined teaching, finding the right combination point with labor education is key to increasing intelligence. Human aesthetic feeling comes from labor because human labor is a kind of aesthetic activity that conforms to purpose and law. Labor practice creates beauty, provides a source of aesthetic feeling, and is the activity that best reflects human nature and aesthetic spirit. Dynamic education is an important carrier for promoting students' aesthetic education, which can enhance their human nature, freedom, and pursuit of aesthetics while realizing the education of beauty through labor. Through their own work, students can more deeply understand the knowledge and skills they have acquired, and apply them innovatively in practice to better solve problems encountered in life. At the same time, labor practices can also improve one's quality, sharpen one's willpower, and enhance one's abilities. It can also cultivate students' hardworking quality, spirit of unity, and cooperation.

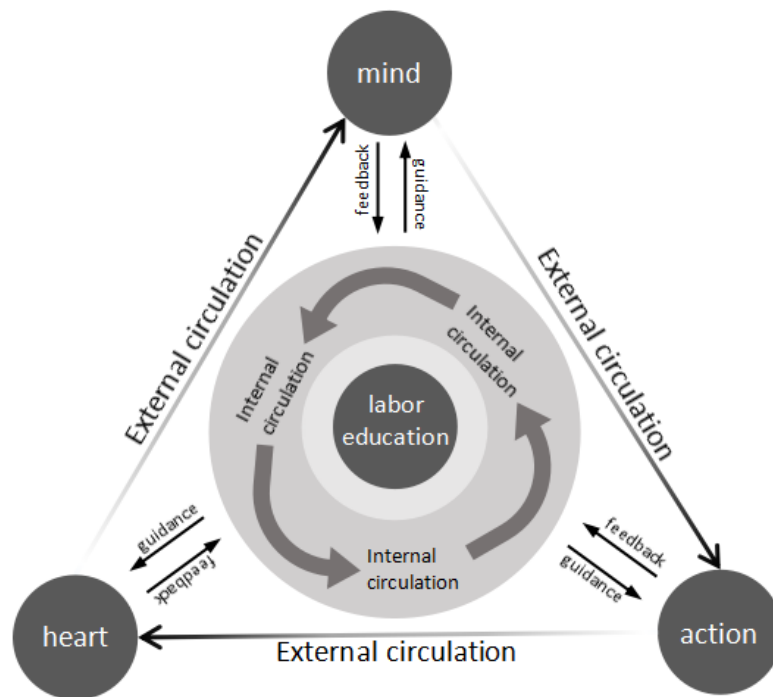


Figure 1. Path of Labor Education Construction.

4. Conclusion

Labor education in the new era should truly be "into the brains", "into the hearts" and "into the actions". Labor education in the new era carries a new mission and demands and needs the cooperation of schools, families, and society to give full play to its function. This will enable students to internalize the concept that labor is glorious in their hearts and externalize it through practice. The majority of students can strive to become happy workers who advocate hard work and all-round development, in order to maximize the comprehensive educational value of labor education. 'Labor education' is the most powerful practice for us to move forward and create a better life in the new era (Zheng Zhiwei, 2021).

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