Construction of Teachers’ Educational Ability in Applied Colleges in the New Era of China

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ABSTRACT. The cultivation of innovative talents in applied colleges is the core task of China's modern vocational education system, and teachers' educational ability can effectively solve various problems of students' development, promote their comprehensive and healthy development. Based on the analysis of current policies and domestic status quo, the article constructs teachers' educational ability in applied colleges. It aims to guide the teachers to effectively carry out moral education, aesthetic education, ecological education, ideological education, etc during the teaching of professional knowledge and skills and after-school interaction, and to implement the important task of the new era: “Adhering to the principle of high moral values establishment and people cultivation, strengthening the school's ideological and political work, promoting educational reform, and cultivating socialist builders and successors of all-round development.”

KEYWORDS: Applied teachers, Educational ability, Construction

1. Introduction

Centennial plan, education-based; education-based plan, teacher-based (the State Council [2018] No. 4) [1]. The fundamental task of teachers is to teach and educate people. Educational ability is the core of teachers' competence[2]. Applied talents are the skilled talents who can apply mature technologies and theories to actual production and life. With the urgent need for comprehensive and high-quality applied talents in the development of society in the new era, graduates' comprehensive literacy, morale, physical education and aesthetics have also aroused widespread concern in society.

3. Difficulties in Talent Cultivation in Applied Colleges of China

With the rapid development of social industrialization and even informatization, especially in the drive of China's manufacturing 2025, “Belt and Road” construction, international capacity cooperation, poverty alleviation and other national policies, our current society has a large proportion of demand for applied talents ( Ministry of Education 2018)[3], which provides a broad space for the development of applied colleges. However, the curriculum system of applied colleges in China still focuses on the cultivation of students' basic knowledge and abilities. The combination of professional courses with industry and market is far from enough. Students have little knowledge of industry background, lack of teamwork and hardship spirit. Without comprehensive qualities and abilities such as hard work and responsibility, it is difficult for graduates to adapt to the complicated and difficult working environment such as the “Belt and Road”. The assessment of existing applied college teachers is also heavy on teaching, but light on education, and there is no uniform and effective evaluation criteria. There are many problems which are to be solved through further adjustment, standardization, improvement and innovation.

4. Construction of Teachers' Ability to Educate Students in Applied Colleges

As an important force for the cultivation of applied talents, the construction of the teaching stuff of applied colleges is particularly important. Mr. Xi Jinping emphasized that “we must work hard to build an educational system that comprehensively cultivates moral, intellectual, and artistic work, and form a higher-level talent training system,” emphasizing “the construction of teaching staff as the basic work” and “high moral values establishment and people cultivation as the fundamental task.”, and stressing “to comprehensively strengthen and improve aesthetic education” (Xi Jinping 2018)[4]. Emphasizing “the
integration of ecological civilization education into the whole process of educating people”, emphasizing “college teachers are the key force to do a good job of socialist ideology education for young students” (Zhou Yuepeng 2018). From the above, we can see that in applied colleges, during the teaching of professional knowledge and skills, teachers should also improve their educational abilities in subject teaching and various effective interactions, and focus on cultivating students' moral character, aesthetic ability, ecological civilization consciousness, ideological position, other potential qualities and comprehensive abilities. (see figure 1)

![Figure 1 Construction of teachers' educational abilities in applied colleges](image)

4.1 Moral Education

Mr. Tao Xingzhi pointed out in 1921: “The separation of education and training is still one of the most unfortunate things in discipline.” [5] Emphasis on intelligence but neglect of morality makes moral education in an embarrassing situation. The primary task of education is to educate people. “Education is the cause of cultivating people with moral integrity” [6]. The main position of high moral values establishment and people cultivation is in the classroom, the main channel is in the discipline, and the main force is the teacher. The improvement of teachers’ moral ability is not only the need to realize the fundamental goal of education, “to build up people”, but also to achieve effective teaching in the classroom.

![Figure 2 Ways to Improve Teachers' Ability Moral Education](image)

Figure 2 shows that in the process of teaching professional knowledge and skills, the applied college teachers should transform the ideological viewpoints, political attitudes and ethics contained in the discipline into students’ moral ability. At the same time, teachers should adopt innovative teaching methods, carry out teaching reflection and establish a learning community with students to enrich their knowledge of ethics. Schools should fully understand teachers’ needs of moral education and provide them with relative training based on the existing level, and establish appropriate evaluation mechanisms, which can be used as a basis for teachers’ promotion, appointment and evaluation in order to promote the healthy and effective development of teachers' morality.

4.2 Aesthetic Education

In the context of educational reform in the new era, aesthetic education is not only in the general sense, but more concerned with the overall quality of students. “Aesthetic education is a kind of personality education that pursues the unity of truth, goodness, beauty and harmony for the purpose of opening the mind.” [7]
Teachers’ aesthetic education ability makes them carry out aesthetic education in practice. Good aesthetic education ability is the basis of aesthetic education practice. Liu Bin (the former deputy director of the State Education Commission) once said “The aesthetic education should be infiltrated into various disciplines. It is the task of all teachers, not just the tasks of music and art teachers.” The cultivation of talents in applied colleges is also the most direct employment training. The aesthetic ability of students is also an important manifestation of whether they truly adapt to the overall quality of society. In the process of talent cultivation, teachers must implement their own aesthetic knowledge, consciousness and aesthetic quality etc. Through the practical teaching of professional knowledge and skills, teachers should enhance their sense of aesthetics, pay attention to beauty, discover beauty, and appreciate beauty in life and work, so as to implement aesthetic education in teaching.

4.3 Ecological Education

Ecological civilization education is not only a curriculum education, but also the cultivation of life education and mobility.[8]. Incorporating ecological civilization education into the whole process of educating people, school education is the main channel, and teachers are the key. Educators must first be well educated in order to better serve as the mentor and guide for the healthy growth of students. Minister of Education Chen Baosheng mentioned in the two sessions that the CPPCC Education Committee members suggested that the integration of ecological education content should be strengthened in the curriculum, social practice and campus activities. Integrating ecological education into the whole process of educating people requires the joint efforts of schools, families and the society. Schools can conduct theoretical analysis and action guidance for students through curriculum teaching. Parents should consciously turn the concept of ecological civilization into children’s living habits, for example, caring for the environment and saving energy. Society (including environmental protection departments, science and technology museums etc.) is a large outside classroom, and it should make full use of its own educational resources and play an active role in ecological education to make up for the lack of school education. At the same time, all sides should encourage and support students to carry out ecological and civilized social practice activities.

4.4 Ideological Education

A good teacher should bear in mind his country and his nation, and must clearly understand the national mission and social responsibility that he shoulders. The correct ideal and belief is the guiding light for teaching and educating people and planting the future. In the new era, teachers of applied colleges bear the historical mission of spreading knowledge, ideas, and truth, shouldering the responsibility of shaping their soul and life. To shape the important task of the people is the key force to do a good job in educating young students’ socialist ideology. In ideological and political theory classes teachers should consolidate the ideological foundation. And all teachers of other courses should integrate ideological education into curriculum teaching.(9)

Figure.3 Methods for Teachers in Applied Colleges to Improve Their Ideological Education Ability.
Students in applied colleges are at a critical stage of adolescence. It is the key period for the formation of their world outlook, outlook on life and values. It’s also an important period for their personal psychological maturity and perfect personality. Teachers should pay special attention to the education of their ideology (see figure 3). Firstly, teachers, in the process of teaching, must have the ability to grasp the correct direction and the public opinion, deepen the propaganda of the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and publicize the socialist road, theory, system and culture with Chinese characteristics. Secondly, teachers should actively cultivate the ability to consolidate and strengthen the mainstream ideological culture, and create a new era of ideological and cultural highland with a high sense of mission, responsibility, leadership, cultural inheritance, innovation, and mainstream ideology. Thirdly, teachers should take the initiative to strengthen the construction of online content, do a good job in promoting the network, foster a network that is active and healthy, and strive to be good. Finally, teachers must have the ability to deal with complex problems and emergencies, continuously cultivate and enhance the ability to deal with complex problems and emergencies, and strive to eliminate emergencies in the bud, and become more professional, specialized and expertised in dealing with complex problems and emergencies.

5. Conclusion

As the owner of educational skills and the disseminator of cultures, teachers' self-cultivation is the guarantee for the smooth development of teaching and educating. Teachers can improve themselves through classroom teaching infiltration, after-school communication, counseling, and special lectures, and the teacher development community is a good educational ecosystem. Based on this, schools and the society should recognize and support teachers’ concept of educating students, increase publicity, improve evaluation, strengthen professional training, promote their spiritual morality as well as humanistic qualities, actively cultivate their abilities of moral, aesthetic, ecological and ideological education, and finally improve the quality of whole education.

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