

# The dilemma and solution of primary and secondary school labor education in the new era

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**Abstract:** *With the development of our economy and the continuous advancement of quality education, labor education has become increasingly prominent in our country. However, there are still many problems in China's current labor education, such as the weak concept of labor education, the lack of effective support for labor education and the lack of a complete and effective evaluation system. This paper aims at the above problems, combined with the existing research, to put forward solutions to the above problems, in order to effectively improve the scientific and practical labor education, and promote the comprehensive and harmonious development of students.*

**Keywords:** *Labor education, Primary and secondary school, practice*

## 1. Introduction

Labor education instructs students to complete the systematic study of cultural knowledge, through the scientific understanding of labor laws, to help students establish a scientific concept of labor and labor attitude, so that students love labor. Through labor education activities, we can help them establish a scientific outlook on labor and cultivate excellent working habits. Labor education is one of the main tasks to promote the comprehensive development of moral, intellectual, physical and labor in schools. Labor education is an important component of the socialist education system with Chinese characteristics, it directly relates to the work spirit appearance, work value orientation and work technology level of the builders and successors of China's socialist cause, and is an important part of our labor education reform. For a long time, all places and schools in China have organically combined "education" and "production", and have made some achievements in "practice education". At the same time, we must also see that in recent years, some young people do not value the fruits of labor, do not want to work, and even dislike it. In the process of school education, people ignore the unique cultivation value of labor, so that it gradually fades and weakens, and students fail to form a correct concept of labor and realize the greatness of labor. Therefore, it is urgent to strengthen labor education. Through labor education, students can form a correct understanding of labor education, understand the great value of labor, as well as the history of human labor, and realize that labor is the basic guarantee of socialism and communism and understand the importance of combining mental work with physical work, and resolutely resist the bad atmosphere of obtaining something without effort and seeking pleasure.

## 2. The significance of labor education

### **2.1. It is the fundamental task to promote the comprehensive and coordinated development of students and realize the "moral cultivation"**

Labor education plays an important role in promoting the harmonious development of students' morality, intelligence, physical fitness, the United States and labor.<sup>[1]</sup> In essence, the essence of labor education is to encourage students to participate in the communication between man and nature. In labor education, students can better understand their own world, through labor to put their own imprint on the world, to build their own world. Labor is not only an important way to improve people's personal quality and enrich people's social relations, but also to build a bridge between people and the object world. Therefore, labor plays an important role in changing from "natural man" to "real man", and in Marx's view, "the only way to cultivate new socialist people is through labor education". Labor education is based on practice, through stimulating the actual participation of students, stimulate their

various senses, give full play to the huge potential of people, so as to comprehensively improve the comprehensive quality of students. Under the background of the new era, the basic task of cultivating morality and cultivating people requires both continuous subject teaching and labor education in primary and secondary schools, so that students can transform various concepts and theoretical knowledge into concrete behaviors.

## ***2.2. Guide students to actively participate in social practice activities***

The essence of human being is the synthesis of all social relations, and labor is the sign of life existence and the fundamental way of "adult". The new round of basic education reform emphasizes quality-oriented education, combining moral education, intellectual education, physical education, aesthetic education and labor education in an all-round coordinated development and mutual penetration, so as to jointly promote the all-round development and healthy growth of Chinese primary and secondary school students. Under the background of the new era, the realization of the purpose of labor education needs the joint efforts of schools, families, society and other aspects. It is difficult to achieve and carry out only by relying on one aspect, which requires the construction of a trinity coordination education mechanism of school, society and family, and the joint development of labor education in various aspects. Through labor education, students can maintain continuous communication with the outside world, make them closely connected with social life, and better integrate into the current talent training system, so that they can better participate in social practice. At the same time, when carrying out labor education, teachers should not only guide students to systematically learn the relevant knowledge of labor education and master the basic theories of labor education, but also help students to understand the universal significance of labor education more deeply and grasp the basic laws of labor activities.

## ***2.3. Cultivate students' labor values in the new era***

At present, the main place of labor education is the campus, and the labor education activities inevitably affect the working habits and working concepts of the people in the primary and secondary schools. Labor education organically combines labor, technology, culture and other factors together, breaking the traditional teaching mode based on books. The introduction of labor practice activities can not only help students learn knowledge not learned in books, but also help students explore, understand and create the most fundamental requirements of labor education in real life. It can make students realize that we must rely on labor to create a better life, and only by labor can we achieve national prosperity and prosperity, so as to stimulate students' labor consciousness, carry forward the spirit of labor, attach importance to labor activities and respect all kinds of personnel engaged in labor activities, develop good working habits, and form the concept of being proud of labor and ashamed of laziness. Resist the wrong idea of overreaching, coveting pleasure and getting something for nothing. Labor education has an important function, through labor can enhance students' physique, improve students' moral cultivation, can effectively promote the cultivation of students' ability, improve students' ability. Labor is the essence of human existence, through activating the inner development power of man, so that he can become a "complete man". Labor education in primary and secondary schools can enable students to personally experience labor, experience the feeling of labor, understand the world, and cultivate enthusiasm for labor and good habits of loving labor.

## **3. The predicament existing in the current labor education in primary and secondary schools**

In recent years, with the attention of all sectors of society to labor education, various schools have taken various measures, so that labor education has made great progress, but there are still many problems to be solved.

### ***3.1. The concept of labor education is weak***

At present, the main reason that labor education in primary and secondary schools has not made effective progress is that the concept of labor education is weak. Students passively accept labor education and lack labor consciousness.<sup>[1]</sup> But the weak concept of labor education mentioned here not only refers to the students themselves, but also includes school leaders, teachers, and parents of students. Under the influence of the concept of exam-oriented education in the past, both schools and parents are only "performance-based", students only need to do one thing, that is, to improve their

academic performance, and the rest of the things do not need to worry about. At home, many parents do all the housework at home so that children can have more time to study; In school, leaders and teachers will also avoid wasting students' learning time, try to reduce labor, under the influence of family and school, students are used to "clothes and food", think that labor is not what they need to do. Under the influence of this concept, it is very easy to cause students to lack the most basic life skills and become a "nerd" who only reads books. To sum up, it can be seen that whether it is educators, parents or students themselves, the consciousness of labor education is generally lacking, and the degree of attention to labor education is also very insufficient.

### ***3.2. Labor education lacks effective support***

At present, there are many problems in the labor education of primary and secondary schools in our country, such as the lack of teachers, the lack of curriculum arrangement time, the lack of teaching facilities and so on. When carrying out labor education in primary and secondary schools, due to the lack of full-time labor education teachers, most of them are part-time teachers in various subjects, and the overall ability of teachers in labor education is weak, the basic knowledge, basic skills, basic concepts lack of correct understanding and comprehensive grasp, it is difficult to guide students to carry out inquiry learning in teaching. At the same time, in order to improve the learning effectiveness of various subjects, the hours of labor education in schools are occupied by other subjects, and a complete set of labor education textbooks is lacking, and the school lacks a unified standard place for labor education, so students lack practical hands-on opportunities in daily study and life, and there is no way to absorb and understand the relevant knowledge of labor education.

### ***3.3. Lack of labor education evaluation system***

Because the school pays insufficient attention to labor curriculum, there is no specific teaching program and no unified evaluation standard for labor skills when implementing labor education. Some schools only understand labor education as cleaning the classroom and maintaining school health, so that labor education becomes a monotonous and boring activity, and can not evaluate the labor results obtained by students in a timely and effective way, so that the teaching quality of labor education can not be improved. In addition, due to the difference between the implementation effect of labor education and the implementation effect of general subject education, it is difficult to use specific quantitative indicators to measure. Schools or local education authorities have not issued relevant documents on labor education evaluation standards, and teachers can only evaluate students' labor education according to their own experience, without a unified evaluation scale.<sup>[2]</sup> Therefore, the implementation effect of labor education in primary and secondary schools is not ideal.

## **4. Exploration of the solution to the current predicament of labor education**

### ***4.1. Schools should establish the labor education goal with the cultivation of students' labor values as the core***

First of all, we should cultivate students' consciousness of labor, and labor education should not just float on the surface, but should be really carried out. In labor education, students should use their hands and brains to exercise and consciously resist unrealistic concepts such as getting something for nothing and getting rich overnight. It should be made clear that physical labor is one of the forms of student labor education, not the whole content of labor education curriculum.<sup>[3]</sup> Moreover, the growth of students should realize the coordinated development of "morality, intelligence, body, the United States and labor" in five areas, rather than "performance-only theory". Secondly, teachers should guide students to understand and transform the world, and labor education is the main way for students to understand and transform the world. Systematic labor education in school education can help students establish correct labor concepts and correct life orientation in labor. Finally, the setting of labor course should conform to the age characteristics of students, mainly physical labor, hand and brain combination, in practice should pay attention to the cultivation of practical skills, strengthen students' labor experience, improve the level of labor skills. Life is created through labor, and life is also created through labor. Integrating life and life into the goal setting of labor education can effectively stimulate the interest and needs of students. At the same time, the labor education curriculum should focus on the comprehensive development of students, pay attention to the exploration and analysis of the "true, good and beautiful" labor stories, and encourage students with advanced deeds, so as to meet the

requirements of current education to cultivate comprehensive talents.<sup>[4]</sup>

#### ***4.2. We will strengthen the training of labor education teachers and raise the level of labor education for teachers***

To improve the quality of labor education in primary and secondary schools, we must pay attention to the training of teachers, improve the professional skills of labor education and the comprehensive cultural quality of teachers, and establish a professional and standardized team of labor education teachers. At present, the labor education staff of primary and secondary schools in our country has the problems of low quality, small quantity and low degree of specialization, and it is urgent to carry out professional training to further improve their professional quality. First of all, by holding special lectures, special seminars and other forms, teachers can understand the value of labor education, curriculum concept, curriculum positioning, etc. and in the process of exchange and discussion, help teachers understand and grasp the curriculum guidance outline, teaching methods and teaching content of labor education and other aspects of knowledge, so as to deepen teachers' further understanding of the value of labor education. The second is the cultivation of labor skills, including labor knowledge and classroom teaching skills. Under the new historical conditions, the teaching staff of labor education must constantly learn new professional knowledge, master new professional skills, and enhance their professional knowledge, professional skills and teaching skills through off-campus training, demonstration teaching, competition, organization of teaching and research activities. Finally, labor education is not carried out in isolation, but combined with other courses, to break through the boundaries of disciplines, the knowledge of various disciplines together, to carry out cross-professional teaching, in order to enhance teachers' comprehensive ability and ability to integrate courses. At the same time, it is also necessary to establish an effective incentive mechanism to stimulate the enthusiasm and creativity of teachers. Through the evaluation of teachers' teaching quality and teaching effect, excellent teachers are commended and rewarded to encourage their continuous improvement and innovation in teaching.<sup>[5]</sup>

#### ***4.3. Improve the labor education evaluation system***

The implementation of labor education evaluation system is the key link to check the effect of labor education. Educators can construct labor education evaluation system from three aspects: the purpose of labor, the process of labor and the result of labor. The purpose of labor is mainly evaluated from the perspective of whether students engage in labor activities voluntarily rather than to complete the tasks assigned by the school and teachers. The labor process mainly considers whether the students are active, optimistic, active and serious in the process of labor activities, and can actively accept and adopt the guidance of others in the labor process. The results of labor are mainly reflected in whether students can make their parents and schools satisfied with their labor results, and most importantly, whether students can learn a basic skill through labor activities, such as washing clothes, planting and maintenance of plants, and so on. Educators should establish the labor education evaluation system in the comprehensive evaluation file of students, and take it as an important index to measure students. At the same time, in the evaluation of students' labor results, attention should be paid to mobilizing the participation of students, parents, teachers and other aspects, so that students can better understand their own labor from the perspective of multiple subjects, and improve students' labor enthusiasm. It should be noted that students' self-evaluation as the subject of labor cannot be ignored, so that students become the protagonists of their own labor activities. At the same time, in the process of constructing the activity evaluation system, we should give full play to the function of positive reinforcement. When students perform well, we should not be stingy to praise and praise students and encourage students to actively participate in labor.

#### ***4.4. Multi-party subject to work together to carry out labor education***

In order to carry out labor education effectively, it is far from enough to rely only on the role of school education, which needs to build a trinity of school, family and society. At the school level, schools should effectively carry out labor education, clarify the goals of labor education, emphasize guiding students to establish a Marxist labor concept, scientifically design labor courses according to students' characteristics, adopt flexible and diverse teaching forms, fully mobilize students' labor enthusiasm and initiative, rationally arrange activities inside and outside the classroom, and organize and carry out labor education for all staff. At the family level, parents should abandon unscientific concepts such as "only score theory", let children participate in daily family labor, do not miss various

practical opportunities in daily life, encourage children to actively participate in labor, let children at least learn basic survival skills such as laundry and cooking, encourage students to actively participate in various labor activities during holidays. At the same time, It is necessary to establish an atmosphere of advocating labor in the family, and parents should pay attention to their words and deeds, so that they can gradually form a love for labor in daily life. At the social level, we should give full play to all kinds of social resources to provide necessary guarantee for the work of labor education. Governments at all levels should actively coordinate and guide all kinds of enterprises and factories, expand practice sites, support schools in organizing students to enter enterprises and factories to carry out production activities within their capacity, and mobilize welfare institutions, women's federations and other public welfare organizations to provide platforms for students to carry out volunteer services and other public welfare activities.

## 5. Conclusions

To sum up, the goal of labor education is to make students' labor activities rise from "knowledge" to "love", and transform their love of labor into simple life attitude and spiritual quality. In order to carry out active and effective labor education activities, teachers should combine the characteristics of students' cognitive structure development and the laws of physical development, and grasp the needs of the development of The Times. To effectively carry out educational practice activities with the theme of cultivating morality, improving intelligence, improving health, promoting beauty and promoting innovation through labor, it can enable students to adapt to the needs of the development of the new era and achieve comprehensive and coordinated development.

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