

# Analysis of “Four-in-One” Planning and the Development of Nine-Year Education Schools in the New Era

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**Abstract:** *Based on the practical school examples, this paper argues the importance of formulating research-based school development plans, spotting issues such as teacher management, scientific research construction, and home-school cooperation that urgently need to be improved in school development as key breakthroughs in improving school quality and education quality in the next stage, and integrating them into the overall school planning in the new era to promote the high-quality school development. From the strategic perspective of optimizing school planning based on the school situations, the author analyzes the problems related to school development and planning, which has historical and theoretical significance for school development. Theoretical research in the related direction is also further explored to provide guidance for the school development in the future.*

**Keywords:** *Nine-year education schools; planning and development; Four-in-One*

## 1. Introduction

The main contradiction of the Chinese society in the new era has been transformed into that between people's ever-growing needs for a better life and unbalanced and inadequate development. This transformation also brings forth a new development direction for China's educational work in the new era. According to dialectical materialism, everything is in continual process of becoming and ceasing to be, in which nothing is permanent. With only seven years' time, Longta Experimental School has grown from a small village school to a large-scale nine-year education school, with more than 5,000 teachers and students up to the present. While the development speed and scale are unprecedented, they also bring great challenges to school management in the new development stage.

The school planning in the new era supplements the planning in the past seven years, and has certain unique characters. Meanwhile, to deal with the many problems and contradictions in the current development environment, the development goals have been redefined according to the actual school situation, and more attention has been paid to the new situation. Therefore, the new school planning has the development characteristics of the new period, as well as great significance to the school development in the future.

In the nine-year education system, the age span of students is large, which result in a large student base. With the completion of the junior high school campus, the school will be expanded to “one school, two campuses”, being composed of a primary school and a junior high school at the same time which will call for a larger-scale transformation. This requires school managers to be equipped with advanced thinking, and condense collective strength to train teachers in a targeted manner to educate students to be more independent, comprehensive and useful to society. Parents will also be re-educated to promote home-school cooperation and make school work deployment more reasonable. The purpose is to form a four-in-one school-running pattern featured by "strengthened teaching resources", "research-focused education", "home-school integration", and "groupization" to meet the needs of school development in the new era. In order to realize the high-quality and innovative school development in the new era, a systematic theoretical foundation is urgently needed. The planning of various education-related works should become more scientific through paying attention to investigation and research, and strengthening organizational promotion. The school planning should consider problems from a long-term perspective, and make cohesive arrangement of all aspects of work at the current stage so that they can correspond to each other. The upper management level should be in line with the implementation level. The school should give full play to its advantages and characteristics and the school resources should be reasonably allocated. All the administrative and teaching staff should be equipped with an innovative mindset so the

theoretical guidance related to education can be put into full practice.

## **2. Group-based school-running to boost the quality of education**

At the end of August 2020, the awarding ceremony of Longta Education Group was officially held, which marked a new chapter of group-based school running. Since that day on, the school has been working steadily to lay the foundation for a "harmonious life" for the children. With the national goal of realizing education modernization by 2035, the school has been striving to add luster to Yubei education and cultivate all-round development successors for the socialist cause.

### ***2.1. Change the development model and enhance the vitality of school running***

#### ***2.1.1. Giving play to group-based school-running advantages***

Taking advantage of the trend of the group-based school-running model, Longta Experimental School will start to promote the development of regional school clusters. Facing the contradiction between the people's ever-growing needs for a better life and the unbalanced and insufficient development in the new era, we have transformed the single and closed school development model into cluster development model. Through resource sharing and learning from each other's characteristics, we will form a wild goose queue effect and drive the rapid development of weak schools.

#### ***2.1.2. Focusing on ecological development***

Giving full play to the inner vitality of the school. Through the operation of the group, we will foster the internal force symbiosis of the alliance schools, and create an excellent education ecology within the "Longxi School District". We will also create a good ecology featured by "co-creation" instead of "filling up the gap between the weak and the poor". We will dig deep into our education connotation to enhance the school foundation and highlight the characteristics of the campus. By aggregating different advantages, we will work to improve educational quality, condense strengths and educational designs, and attach importance to innovation to open up a new pattern of school development.

### ***2.2. Scientifically formulate institutional plans and establish a cultural theoretical system***

#### ***2.2.1. Strengthening top-level design***

Based on research, the school will formulate a management plan for strengthening the education group in the new era. It will improve the charter management system, project responsibility system, and education evaluation mechanism, so as to achieve mutual assignment of personnel, resource sharing, and promote harmonious progress and win-win benefits.

#### ***2.2.2. Highlighting cultural construction***

Taking characteristic development as the goal, the school will stick to the path of group-based education. From the height of cultural theory, the school will formulate its development plan scientifically, and establish a theoretical system for the group-based school-running culture.

## **3. Promote cultural construction to strengthen the cohesion of teaching staff**

At present, the school scale is expanding in an explosive manner. The number of teachers in the school has exceeded 300, with the average age of teachers being only 29 years old, and the number of students has reached more than 5,000. Under such circumstances, ideological construction has become an important issue to make young teachers integrate into the school's education course better and faster, explore their own advantages, and dedicate themselves to better perform their duties and lead a fulfilled life.

### ***3.1. Elevating ideological construction to the height of school strategy***

#### ***3.1.1. Emphasizing on ideological construction***

As an ideological system, ideology systematically reflects the current political, economic and cultural conditions of society. By guiding teachers to establish positive social ideological concepts, enhancing political identity, and promoting the inheritance of Chinese culture, the school ideology construction

work mainly aims to build a systematic, cohesive, and ideologically appealing ideology under the educational background of the new era. One of the important strategic tasks to promote the ability of school management and development is strengthening the ideological construction of teachers and consolidating the common educational ideological foundation.

### ***3.1.2. Amplifying the radiation effect of teachers' ideological construction***

Schools are an important site for ideological construction. Teachers' ideology plays an important role in cultivating the ideological and moral literacy of primary and secondary school students. Compared with parents, young teachers have a smaller age gap between students. Therefore, they are more likely to have a sense of intimacy and ideological resonance with students in the process of education and teaching, and have a strong exemplary effect in cultivating the socialist core values of primary and secondary students. Schools can take advantage of this feature to strengthen the ideological construction of young teachers, and cultivate a group of teachers with high political literacy in the new era. These teachers can serve as a guide for students, transmitting the main theme and spreading positive energy to students, guiding students to enhance their understanding of various ideological concepts so they can discern and clearly understand their responsibilities and missions from an early age. In general, the scientific construction of a high-quality team of young teachers is conducive to promoting the completion of the general task of fostering character and civic virtue, and cultivating the moral sense of young generation. It is also an important guarantee for realizing the dream of national rejuvenation.

## ***3.2. Formulating human-oriented and implementable planning scheme***

### ***3.2.1. Strengthening supervision to promote school development***

According to the development plan, the school will formulate a sound teacher supervision mechanism, guiding teachers to actively adapt to the development of the new era, actively learn advanced ideological theories, adhere to mainstream awareness, and improve their ideological and political literacy and professional level.

### ***3.2.2. Forming good characters and ethics among teachers***

Adhering to the "people-oriented" concept, the school does a good job in the construction of teachers' ideology and provides correct guidance for young teachers to promote their rapid growth and all-round development. At the current stage, organizations such as the Youth Teacher Growth and Development Association and the Young Backbone Teacher Studio Team have been established to regularly carry out related activities and pay attention to the development and growth of teachers in an all-round way.

## **4. Promote research-driven education to stimulate teachers' innovation vitality**

### ***4.1. Promoting the leading role of key projects***

In order to promote "Harmonious and Collaborative Education" as a whole and form a good atmosphere for the collective development of school districts, we applied for the key project of Chongqing's 13th Five-Year Plan entitled "Research on the Practice Model of Nine-Year Education Schools Applied to the Results of National Compulsory Education Quality Monitoring" and a number of District-level key projects. Based on research results, we have formulated the school's future planning and development methods. With the fundamental tasks of achieving value recognition, building an action paradigm, and establishing a guarantee mechanism, we play a leading role in driving the primary and secondary schools in the school district to participate in the research and practice of educational reform and development in the new era, and have added to the educational vitality of the region. Closely following the suggestions on the economic and social development plan of Yubei District in the new era, the school will also center on the main educational theme in the new era, concentrate on the educational hotspots among common citizens, and build a good education reputation. We will effectively integrate the school development into the trend of the times, and further improve the quality of education and teaching.

### ***4.2. Using collective wisdom to boost high-quality school development***

A school of vitality should also be a school of innovation. In order to stimulate the creativity of the school, it is essential to innovate the educational designs. The previous "design" was mainly limited to the design of teaching, such as lesson planning, classroom design, and so on. In today's world when the

complexity of education and the arduousness of reform are becoming increasingly prominent, and when big data, artificial intelligence are being integrated into smart classrooms and online and offline education, design thinking should be introduced into all aspects of schools. To this end, we have been carrying out the "School Innovation and Development Project Design and Evaluation" activity on an annual basis. At present, dozens of excellent projects have been initially formed, most of which come from the collective wisdom of front-line teachers. We are using the "design thinking" in the new era to stimulate and mobilize the ingenuity of teachers, and guide schools to update their working and scientific research methods.

#### **4.3. Strengthening exchanges of famous teachers among brother schools in Chongqing**

We have established cooperative relations with Chongqing No. 8 Middle School, Xu Beihong High School, Yubei District Experimental Middle School, Yubei New Airport Area Primary School and other schools. All projects involve research on the overall development of the school, which has important guiding significance for stimulating the vitality and promoting the active development of the school. At the same time, according to the connotation development plan, the school also encourages teachers to study the problems in education and teaching, which will be integrated into the school-based curriculum and serve as theoretical support of the school. Currently, the school is witnessing a prospective development situation in which different new ideas are blossoming simultaneously.

### **5. Building a high-quality home-school cooperation and co-education mechanism in the new era**

In the school governance work in the new era, the current generation of parents who are pursuing high-quality education presents new characteristics and new changes. According to students' real needs for healthy growth and all-round development, the school will explore and build a new type of harmonious and symbiotic home-school partnership, and cultivate the trust mechanism and cooperation mechanism between home and school. The school will also actively explore the problems of home-school cooperation in the new era, and strive to actively explore the home-school synergy and co-education practice mechanism of high-quality education through value guidance, problem orientation, demand drive, organization and implementation, and model operation.

The school has a good support environment from families and the society. In the next stage, we will take labor education as an important carrier to promote education in the new era, and actively create a good environment for supporting labor education and quality education by the whole society. The school carried out an in-depth study on the "Opinions on Comprehensively Strengthening Labor Education in Universities, Middle Schools and Primary Schools in the New Era", and explored the pattern of multi-party linkage and coordinated promotion. Meanwhile, through multiple ways such as surveys and discussions, the school plays an active role in publicizing labor education to families and the society .

Through home-school cooperation and co-education, the school actively explores new methods to stimulate the vitality of school development. In this process, it is important to give play to the school's main body status and spirit. To this end, we take the school's initiative in formulating development plan as the starting point. Through the implementation of the school development plan, we aim to stimulate the school's initiative in developing home-school co-education and in promoting the school's guidance on education. Taking the school development plan as a carrier, we also aim to change the pattern of home-school cooperation and improve the school's service ability.

To sum up, we believe that the school's greatest autonomy is its right to formulate develop plans. In other words, the school plays the decisive role in how it develops. To this end, we have since very early formulated the tasks and objectives of initiatively formulating development plans, integrated the school's school-running philosophy, development goals, development tasks and measures into the school's development plan, and in the process continuously innovated the school planning. Through years of continuous promotion and hard work, the awareness and ability of the school to seek proactive development have been continuously enhanced, and the school-running vitality and the school's social reputation have also been continuously demonstrated.

The development of the school comes from the vitality of teachers and students. It is the continuous injection of fresh blood by teachers and students that keeps to enhances the school's vitality. By striving to create conditions to empower teachers and students and let every teacher and student participate in the school's school-running and decision-making process, the school thereby enhances its overall leadership. From the strategic perspective of a four-in-one integrated development pattern featured by "strengthened teaching resources", "research-focused education", "home-school integration", and "groupization", the

school formulates its development plan scientifically in a bid to open up a new situation for the development of the nine-year education school system in the new period.

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