

Labor Ideological and Political Education: Promoting the Organic Integration of Labor Education and Ideological and Political Education in Vocational Colleges

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Abstract. The content and purpose of labor education in higher vocational colleges are highly compatible with ideological and political education. It is of great significance to transform labor education based on skill education into labor education based on comprehensive education, integrate labor education into ideological and political education, and promote the ideological and political construction of labor education courses. This article analyzes the shortcomings and shortcomings of labor education in vocational colleges, and proposes to explore the construction of a "labor ideological and political" model for labor education in vocational colleges from three aspects: "for whom to labor", "what labor to do", and "how to labor". Since the release of the Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Comprehensively Strengthening Labor Education in Primary, Secondary, and Large Schools in the New Era, as well as the Guiding Outline for Labor Education in Primary, Secondary, and Large Schools (Trial) issued by the Ministry of Education, labor education has been widely promoted in vocational colleges. More and more educators have realized that labor education is not only a form of employment education and skill education, but also a form of creative education and holistic education, in order to achieve the organic integration of labor education and ideological and political education. It is also an inevitable requirement for vocational colleges to implement the fundamental task of "cultivating morality and nurturing talents" in the new era.

Keywords: Labor education; Ideological and political education; vocational colleges; integration.

1. The shortcomings of labor education in current vocational colleges

Labor education is an important component of vocational education, aimed at cultivating students' labor concepts, labor skills, and labor quality. On the one hand, vocational colleges fully recognize the importance of labor education, but on the other hand, there is a relative lack of specific measures and methods to promote and implement labor education. However, currently many vocational colleges have unclear definitions of the connotation and extension of labor education, leading to a lack of targeted and systematic implementation of labor education. For example, some colleges equate labor education with physical labor and overlook the important role of labor education in cultivating students' innovative consciousness, teamwork, and social responsibility.

A prominent feature of vocational education is the emphasis on the cultivation of professional skills. The integration of labor education and professional education is the key to improving the quality of education. However, some vocational colleges have not effectively integrated labor education with professional education in their curriculum design and teaching practice, resulting in a relatively lagging development of labor concepts and skills for students while learning professional skills. Labor education, in its essence, should cover different types and levels of labor forms. However, in some vocational colleges, the content of labor education is relatively single, lacking integration with professional education, social practice, and other aspects, making it difficult for labor education to meet the comprehensive development needs of students. Correspondingly, in the construction of labor education venues, there is also a relatively weak situation. Some vocational colleges have insufficient



allocation of labor education resources, and the development of labor education requires corresponding hardware facilities and software resources support. In the construction plan of the training base, there is a lack of reflection on the function of labor education, and the lack of tools and equipment required for labor education limits the effective implementation of labor education.

The goal of labor education should be to cultivate students' comprehensive development of labor quality, including labor skills, labor concepts, and labor quality. The evaluation of labor education should comprehensively reflect students' labor performance and labor achievements. The evaluation mechanism is an important component of educational activities and plays an important guiding role in improving education quality. However, currently some vocational colleges lack specific implementation standards and evaluation mechanisms for labor education. This unclear goal setting makes the implementation of labor education lack direction and operability. Some vocational colleges have deficiencies in the evaluation mechanism of labor education, with single evaluation standards and excessive emphasis on quantitative assessment of labor results, while neglecting the evaluation of labor process, labor attitude, and labor quality; The evaluation of labor education in some vocational colleges overly relies on quantitative indicators, such as labor time, labor volume, etc., while ignoring the more important qualities of students in the labor process, such as attitude, skill mastery, and innovative thinking. This one-sided evaluation method is not conducive to comprehensively evaluating the labor quality of students; In addition, there is a lack of effective connection between the evaluation results of labor education and the academic performance of students and the teaching evaluation of teachers.

2. Clarify the goals of labor education in vocational colleges

Vocational colleges focus on the concept of comprehensive education, research the educational content of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, improve the curriculum system of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, and explore the "ideological and political guidance" in labor education. Exploring the integration path between labor education and ideological and political education in vocational colleges is in line with the needs of the times. Labor education is an important component of education and teaching in various levels and types of schools in China. Through the implementation of labor education, it is conducive to cultivating students' scientific labor values, enabling them to love labor and the working people in life and study, form good labor habits, take pride in labor, and shame laziness; Avoiding negative attitudes such as favoring leisure over work and seeking benefits for nothing among students, thus promoting their comprehensive development.

Vocational colleges should achieve the "ideological and political guidance" of labor education, study the educational content of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, improve the curriculum system of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, continuously influence the physical and mental development of learners, strengthen students' ideals and beliefs, cultivate the spirit of craftsmanship, form professional ethics and cultivation that meet social needs, call on students to participate in the vivid practice of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, explore and publicize the typical deeds of grassroots and frontline technical and skilled talents growing and becoming talents, promote the glorious labor, valuable skills, and great creation of the times.

Vocational colleges establish a student labor education cooperation mechanism of "school enterprise government society", close the cooperation relationship between industry enterprises and vocational colleges, provide comprehensive support for the implementation of labor education practice activities, enhance the operability of integrating labor education into ideological and political education, and ensure that labor education is integrated into the times, life, and ideological and political education.

3. Enriching and improving the content of labor education

The labor education in vocational colleges should adhere to the principle of "cultivating morality through labor", transforming labor education based on skill education into labor education based on comprehensive education. Students should form a Marxist labor concept, firmly establish the concepts of labor being the most glorious, labor being the highest, and labor being the greatest, highlight the two-way communication and connection role of professional ethics education in labor education and ideological and political education, and solve the problem of "what kind of labor to do".

As a direction and battlefield that Chinese universities must firmly grasp in adhering to the socialist direction of education, ideological and political education plays an important leading role in the entire process of talent cultivation. Ideological and political education involves a wide range of content. Vocational colleges must avoid the situation of "greed for perfection" in achieving the integration of labor education into ideological and political education, and promote the organic integration of labor education and ideological and political education. Firstly, from the perspective of student outlook on life and values education, seek the integration of labor education and ideological and political education; The second is to seek the integration of labor education and ideological and political education from the perspective of ideological and moral education.

In the past, labor education, as a tool, was more focused on solving individual livelihood problems. However, in the new era, labor education should ensure that people obtain a sense of self existence value and significance, while also aligning with socialist modernization construction. With the changes in labor forms in the era of artificial intelligence, corresponding adjustments should be made to the content, form, and methods of labor education, returning to the essence of labor education. Vocational colleges should explore effective paths suitable for labor education in the new era.

Vocational college students, as the main force of the country's manufacturing power, builders and witnesses of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, are the main target of ideological and political education in vocational colleges, as well as an important group to inherit and promote the spirit of craftsmanship. Clarify the integration of labor education into ideological and political education for vocational college students, and fully consider the cognitive characteristics, emotional needs, and group characteristics of vocational college students as the training foundation and conditions; Under the premise of considering the particularity of vocational college students, explore the theoretical basis, practical situation, and effective path of integrating labor education into ideological and political education in higher vocational colleges, and cultivate a large number of "great country craftsmen" who are suitable for the economic and social development needs of the Guangdong Hong Kong Macao Greater Bay Area.

4. Building an Effective Labor Education System and Mechanism

To implement the education model of "labor ideology and politics" in vocational colleges, it is necessary to mobilize the enthusiasm of various entities such as society, enterprises, and families to implement a labor education implementation mechanism, combined with the regional industrial structure, traditional culture, and talent demand, to ensure that labor education is integrated into the times, life, and ideological and political education, and to construct a practical and feasible "how to work" problem. Labor is the prerequisite and foundation for the historical existence of human society, and it is also the fundamental force driving the continuous progress of society. The Chinese nation has ushered in a historic leap from standing up, becoming prosperous to becoming strong. With the development of technology and industrial transformation, the form and mode of labor have shifted from individual physical labor to cooperative compound labor.

With the advent of the artificial intelligence era and the reduction of industrial development's dependence on physical labor, the instrumental value of labor education is shifting towards a humanistic value of "body brain integration" and "comprehensive development". Labor education is

no longer just a tool for physical labor, its inherent humanistic value is excavated, and labor education has become a part of social value construction. The transformation of industrial and technical personnel required for economic and social development from "quantity" to "quality" means that labor education should pay more attention to the improvement of labor skills and comprehensive quality. Only by establishing a scientific educational philosophy can we guide the direction of labor education and move forward along the way. Vocational colleges construct a practical implementation path for the integration of labor education and ideological and political education, fully drawing on effective practices and successful experiences of course ideological and political education in teaching, management, and other aspects, to form a "labor ideological and political" training model, which includes the following three aspects:

One is to promote the curriculum of labor education. Under the guidance of the overall goal of promoting the comprehensive development of students, schools will fully integrate different forms of labor, such as physical and mental labor, industrial and agricultural production, simple and complex labor, cultural and technological learning, and ideological and political education, and cannot neglect them. The second is to promote the practicality of labor education. Labor has a natural practical attribute, and labor education focuses on action, so as to experience and comprehend in labor. In both embodied and present labor situations, it cultivates students' initiative, innovation, coordination, and adaptability, making labor education an important support for promoting students' comprehensive development. The third is to promote the innovation of labor education. Vocational colleges should consciously expand their educational content based on the continuous updating and replacement of labor forms, and adjust corresponding educational methods in a timely manner according to the transformation of educational content. Special attention should be paid to modern, knowledge-based, and information-based labor education, in order to establish an open system of labor ideological and political education.

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