Educational Collectivization: A New Exploration of Modern School System

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Abstract: The construction of modern school system has a rich connotation, its essence is system innovation, and the core is the construction of school internal management system. It is also a dynamic improvement process. Shanghai is one of the leading cities to run schools in collectivization in China. Through innovative collectivization of school running content, it has increasingly become an innovation mechanism of regional education governance, which not only complies with the construction of modern school system but also plays an important role in promoting modern school governance in reform and practice. This research believes that educational collectivization is a new exploration of modern school system construction and provides a reference for future research.

Keywords: modern school system; educational collectivization; institutional innovation

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0 Introduction

The emergence of the phenomenon of group-run education in the period of compulsory education is a positive response to the contradiction between the people’s pursuit of fair and quality education demand and the uneven development of quality education. It is an important measure for the supply-side structural reform in the education field. It is of great significance to expand the coverage of quality education[3]. Led by leading schools, educational collectivization can expand the coverage of high-quality education resources in the region, achieve the win-win of basic education fairness and efficiency, and become one of the feasible paths for the construction of modern school system. This research takes the collectivized school running in Jing’an District of Shanghai as an example, sorts out its measures to explore the modern school system, analyzes the logical relationship between collectivized school running and the construction of modern school system, and looks forward to the future improvement and development prospects of the modern school system.

1 What is the modern school system?

Since the mid-1990s, Chinese scholars have been studying the modern school system for nearly 15 years. Especially since 2003, research has received more attention from the government and academic circles. After entering the 21st century, the study of the modern school system has begun to be extended to the nationwide and almost all areas of education. Governments and scholars have incorporated public and private schools, basic education and higher education, education in developed regions, and education in poverty-stricken areas into the scope and research horizons of modern school systems.

1.1 The connotation of modern school system

The modern school system is a concept that is constantly enriched and updated in the course of practice. At present, there are many definitions of the concept of modern school system in the theoretical circle. The common point of its definition is that, aiming at the modern school system, the new political relationship is emphasized and the government gives power to schools. The modern school system emphasizes the school property right and legal person system from the economic sense, and highlight the
function of market mechanism. In the management sense, it emphasizes on expert management and democratic participation. However, there are obvious traces of imitation of modern enterprise system, because most of the research on modern enterprise system is also about the definition of clear property rights, clear rights and responsibilities, separation of government and enterprise, and management science[2].

1.2 The problem domain of modern school system

At present, the problem domain of modern school system generally includes (1) the commonality of education and public welfare, (2) the school property rights and corporate governance structure, (3) the principal power, (4) the diversified development and lifelong development of students and school evaluation system, (5) education intermediary organization construction, (6) the government reform and political school relationship, (7) the school law, and (8) public schools. These problems not only indicate that the connotation of modern school system is constantly enriched but also reflect the diffusion of current research focus and the lack of maturity of research.

1.3 The core and purpose of modern school system

Different scholars present different conclusions from different perspectives. First, from the standpoint of the government, the core of the modern school system is education order and public welfare of education[3]. Second, from the standpoint of schools, the core is school autonomy, school property rights, returns, and corporate governance. Third, from the standpoint of students and parents, the core is service, comprehensive, and diversified development of students, with distinct purpose orientation and core value orientation.

2 How is educational collectivization practice

Educational collectivization refers to the establishment of a school community based on a common school philosophy and charter under the lead organization of a core institution or brand school[4]. It realizes sharing and cooperation in school planning, daily management, curriculum construction, teacher development, and facility use so as to realize the promotion and reconstruction of the quality education resource brand in the community. Jing’an District, Shanghai, is one of the first pilot schools to run schools in collectivization. Since 2014, the practice of collectivization has been put into practice. Take Jing’an District of Shanghai as an example to show how is educational collectivization practice.

2.1 Promote educational collectivization form and innovate management mechanism

According to the modern school system, the school management is “standardized,” and the management mode of overall coordination is implemented within the group. Education groups set up the board of directors of the group and appoint principals, vice principals and middle-level managers of each campus. At the same time, a perfect discussion regular meeting system, supervision evaluation system and quality evaluation system has been established[5]. These measures actively promote the construction of a modern school system, and improve flat and standardized management. At the same time, a parents’ meeting will be set up to give full play to the role of the society and parents in participating, publicizing, supervising, and perfecting the school running and better play the effect of collectivized school running.

2.2 Unify educational collectivization concept and focus on cultural integration

School culture is an important spiritual force to unite school members and the motive power of school development. Under the common educational vision, the school pays attention to the integration and intercommunication of each school’s culture. At the same time, the group pursues individualization and specialization and avoids homogenization of each school’s development.

2.3 Strengthen teacher training and optimize the allocation of human resource

The group advocates the development concept of “teachers first” and regards the construction of teachers as the key of group education. Through “the famous teacher project”, systematically promote the teacher development community strategy. This project means that the group school arranges teachers with rich teaching experience for young teachers, so that they can grow up quickly. Moreover, the group school innovates the cadre flow mechanism of teachers, optimizes the allocation of human resources in each
school, promotes the professional growth of teachers, and builds a group of high-quality teachers.

3 The relationship between educational collectivization and modern school system construction

3.1 The modern school system is a dynamic concept constantly enriched and developed

In the process of collectivization of school running, we must adhere to the construction of modern school system and pay attention to such issues as government decentralization, school running autonomy, democratic management within schools, and the joint participation of parents in society[6]. The essence of the construction of modern school system is institutional innovation. Therefore, in the process of collectivized school running, it is necessary to introduce modern school management system, reform and innovate school operation mechanism and management mode, and promote the healthy and orderly development of collectivized school running. Under the leadership of the group council, schools have greater autonomy in running schools. They can set development goals by free planning, innovate school management mechanism, and give full play to the participation and supervision of parents and the society on school management.

3.2 The core of modern school system is the construction of school internal management system

The implementation of educational collectivization and the establishment of modern school system can better regulate schools and innovate internal management mechanisms. Education groups should establish a long-term development plan, improve rules and regulations, and straighten out the relations among internal decision-making, implementation, supervision and guarantee. In terms of quality evaluation, value identification, cultural integration, and other aspects, the school is guided by the idea, guaranteed by the system, standardized by the quality standards, and boosted by the assessment and evaluation to promote and improve the construction of modern school system.

3.3 The construction of modern school system has a richer connotation

Collectivized school runs independently according to law integrates resources between school and society and establishes a platform for communication, integration, innovation, and development between schools, so as to realize interaction and mutual assistance between school, parents, and community[7]. It builds an education and teaching system that is open to the society, gives full play to the complementary role of social resources to school education, and further improves the process of democratic management of schools and enhances the synergy, competitiveness, and innovation of schools, especially the entire group.

3.4 The construction of modern school system is a dynamic improvement process

The promotion of educational collectivization is a continuous process. In the process of running a group school, we must stick to the goal of building a modern school system, take the common education vision as the soul, and take a high degree of dedication and responsibility as the foundation. Collectivized school-running should form a new pattern of multi-party participation and joint governance. Education groups should strengthen the cooperative relationship among families, society and government, and put them into the supervision mechanism to jointly promote the development of collectivized school-running.

4 The future prospect of educational collectivization under the construction of modern school system

The purpose of educational collectivization is to play a leading role in brand schools, expand the coverage of high-quality degrees, and meet the growing demand for quality education. With the continuous advancement of urbanization, more and more new schools will emerge. However, it is impossible for a famous school group to accept new members without restrictions. How can the local schools lead the development of new schools with limited resources? This is a question worthy of deep thinking. In this case, the research on the school regeneration mechanism is gradually put on the agenda. The school regeneration mechanism mainly focuses on the question of how far one group can break away from the group and form another group as the core school, which involves a series of issues. For example, what are the standards for group schooling maturity? Is there a certain measure? Is there a time limit? How long will it take after the break to form a new education group as a core school? To discuss these issues, we need to listen to the opinions of all parties and deeply study the
regeneration mechanism of schools, so as to truly promote the sustainable development of collectivized schools.

References


