

Thinking about Building a Vocational Education and Training System in Vocational Colleges in the New Era

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Abstract—The report delivered at the Nineteenth CPC National Congress proposed to improve the system of vocational education and training, and to promote integration between industry and education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges, which inspires and broadens the thoughts and paths of constructing higher vocational colleges. Great efforts should be made to perfect the vocational education and training system, which will certainly effectively drive and promote the reform and innovation in the construction and development of vocational colleges. It was analyzed by concluding the development direction of vocational education in China and counting a great deal of data. It was researched that the thoughts and paths are powerful for the vocational college construction. It was proposed that the reform and innovation measures are effective for the construction.

Keywords—Vocational College; Vocational Education; Training System; New Era

I. INTRODUCTION

At the National Working Conference on Vocational Education in 2014, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, made an important indication on the development of vocational education, and also came up with definite requirements for such development in his report delivered at the Nineteenth CPC National Congress. As a Party member and cadre at the grassroots level undertaking vocational education, the author should actively lead the vast Party members and masses in his unit to continuously strengthen their study and make implementation in an all-round way based on the development of vocational education in the new era to enable the author and every Party member to play an exemplary and vanguard role, and make contributions to the construction and development of the College[1-3].

At present, achievements of world interest have been made in the reform and development of vocational education in China. A vocational education system with the largest scale in the world has been built. Data shows that there are 12.3 thousand vocational colleges in total in China with about 9.30 million freshmen enrolled every year and students at school for nearly 27 million. Secondary and higher vocational education takes up half of secondary education and higher

education in China respectively, a vocational education and training system with the largest scale in the world has been formed basically. However, objectively, this system is also defective, and we are required to free our mind, break the barrier, build consensus and make intensive efforts to enrich, optimize and improve such system based on the new historical point, from the point of view of developing social human resources and the strategic perspective of achieving the two-century goals[4-5].

II. DEVELOPMENT DIRECTION FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN CHINA

From the Eighteenth CPC National Congress, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as its core has made significant arrangements for the development of vocational education. At the national working conference on vocational education in June 2014, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, made an important indication on speeding up the development of vocational education. He emphasized that vocational education is an important part of the national education system and the development of human resources, and we should adhere to integration between industry and education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges, stick to the combination between work, study, unity of knowledge and practice, lead all sectors of society, especially industries and enterprises, in actively supporting vocational education and endeavor to build a vocational education system with Chinese characteristics. This indication was timely and in place, and it is not only Xi's profound revelation of the development connotation of modern vocational education with Chinese characteristics, but new positioning of function, the new judgment of the situation and new deployment of work for the vocational education in China[6].

The report delivered at the Nineteenth CPC National Congress was of a clear theme, deep thought, rich connotation, extensiveness and profoundness, magnificent vigor and high inspiration. "Improve the system of vocational education and training, and promote integration between industry and education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges" was indicated, which was an explicit path as well as new

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specific requirements the Party pointed out and made for the vocational education in China for the new era.

In the report delivered at the second Party congress of our college, it was proposed that “a new educational pattern with vocational education and training of equal importance and coordinated development between primary vocational education and continuing vocational education will be formed”, which was active exploration by the Party committee of our college for implementation of the report delivered at the Nineteenth CPC National Congress, as well as a concrete measure the Party committee of our college taken based on considering the situation and the reality of the college to seek development.

Through in-depth study and reflection, the author thinks that under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, the school-running orientation has been accurate, the development direction being clear, the construction path being vivid, in the implementation of the spirit of the Nineteenth CPC National Congress in an all-round way. As a Party member and cadre, particularly as a Party member and cadre of a secondary teaching unit of the college, the author has more strong senses of crisis, mission, responsibility and urgency and should make more efforts to carry out in-depth study, explore actively and be bold in practice in such aspects as specialty adjustment, teaching reform, team construction, talent cultivation, scientific research services and training for the public so as to make a contribution to the construction and development of the college.

III. THOUGHTS AND PATHS FOR THE VOCATIONAL COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION

“Improve the system of vocational education and training, and promote integration between industry and education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges” has become the specific arrangements for our implementation of the spirit of the nineteenth CPC National Congress, an important project for breaking and resolving the development dilemma of vocational education and an significant strategic task of boosting the development of vocational education in China. Though this sentence only contains 21 Chinese characters, the author feels that it has very rich connotation after hearing experts’ analysis and its own reflection. The author considers that “improve the system of vocational education and training” constitutes the task and goal, “promote integration between industry, education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges” is the path in such sentence. The improvement of the system of vocational education and training should be realized by promoting the integration between industry and education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges. This sentence can also be interpreted as “improve the system of vocational education and training”, the means and route and “promote integration between industry, education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges”, the task and goal, namely to achieve the integration between industry, education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges, by improving the system of vocational education and training. No matter how it is understood, its first and second halves

correlate, support and promote each other and is completely positively related.

The word “training” is explained as cultivating and drill to develop physical capacity and intelligence in a Chinese dictionary, which is a generalized concept. But the training in “vocational education and training”, in the opinion of the author, is a concept with concrete connotation, neither simple cultivating and drill, nor non-degree education and continuing education as it is widely believed, but refers in particular to “vocational training”, namely an organized behavior of knowledge, skill, standard, information and belief transmission, and moral education. It can also be understood as a modern information process of goal planning and setting, knowledge and information transmission, skill drill, task completion evaluation, result exchange and announcement being taken to enable people to reach the expected level and improve the goals, fighting capacity, personal ability and working competence through certain technical means of education and training in order to achieve unified technical standards and standardized operations.

For the meaning of “improve” in “improve the system of vocational education and training”, the author thinks it has three main meanings as shown in the Fig.1. First, the hierarchical structure and promotion path among secondary vocational education, higher vocational education, vocational underground education and vocational master education should be established and perfected in China. Second, such training projects as professional techniques and skills and management and attainment based on post (group) should be set up, and the hierarchical structure among the same category of projects should be improved and the progressive relationship among inter-level knowledge, ability and quality should be perfected. Third, the mutual supporting points and promotion relationship between vocational education and vocational training should be defined and refined. A system structure with the various levels of vocational education as the basis, vocational training projects for vocational growth, improvement of specialized knowledge, technical skills, cultural quality and management level of entrants, postholders and personnel of job transfer as the task and the overall advance of the level of social human resources should be established. Those who have not accepted vocational education can also improve their vocational abilities and levels through continuous vocational training.

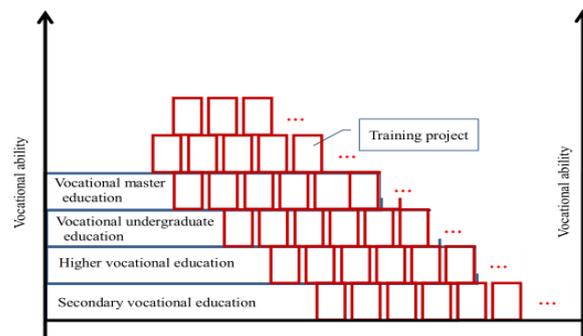


Fig. 1. Schematic Diagram of Vocational Education and Training System Structure

IV. REFORM AND INNOVATION

Both vocational education and vocational training are rooted in profession to promote the vocational abilities of people, making up an organic whole. The improvement of the vocational education and training system is an important responsibility that the state vests to the competent administrative authority, and the government is required to plan vocational education and training as a whole at the national level and administer them by a department as far as possible to avoid unnecessary handicap and internal friction due to administration by multiple departments. Vocational colleges, mainly responsible for carrying out vocational education and training, should take the improvement of the system of vocational education and vocational training as their own important historical mission, and even consider it as the impetus and path to comprehensively boost their reform and development. The author thinks that vocational colleges (hereinafter referred to as the colleges) should start from the following.

Firstly, the adjustment should be made to internal institution and mechanism. The existing management system of colleges should be deconstructed based on practical needs to reset the responsibilities of internal teaching units and functional departments so as to enhance the supervision responsibility for the implementation and quality of vocational training. Relevant rules and regulations and incentive measures should be introduced, and related management assessment indicators should be refined. Internal institution adjustment and mechanism innovation can support and guarantee the construction of the system of vocational education and training, only by which can the educational pattern with vocational education and vocational training of equal importance be formed step by step.

Secondly, the decisive role of integration between industry, education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges should be enhanced. The concept of personnel at high and low positions inside colleges should be unified to reach consensus that the system of vocational education and training must be improved by deep integration with industries and deep cooperation with enterprises and be oriented by demand of the "market", namely industries and enterprises, to design the curricula of vocational education and develop projects of vocational training rather than be divorced from reality to act blindly and indulge in empty talk.

Thirdly, the symbiosis and distinction between vocational education and vocational training should be made clear. Cultivation and training of talents with professional skills, improvement of comprehensive vocational quality of the targets to be educated and boosting the development of industries and enterprises constitute the common goals of vocational education and vocational training. The real demand of post group in enterprises are also the main basis for the specialty construction of vocational education and the development of vocational training, both of which have the same origin. In other words, vocational training is a booster and tester for vocational education which is a ballast and power source for vocational training. The curricula of vocational education are more systematic and professionalized,

for which comprehensiveness is highlighted, but vocational training projects are of more qualification and specialization, for which timeliness is stressed; both have an obvious relationship of symbiosis and distinction, and such curricula and projects can be transformed to support projects and complement each other.

Fourthly, the construction of specialties (group) should be taken as the core. Specialties (group) are the basis of colleges, the carrier for meeting economic and social development needs and the foundation for realizing the goal of talent cultivation. It's easy to understand that vocational education takes specialties as the core, and vocational training is more centered on specific technique or skill. But why does vocational training also takes specialties as the core? For this question, we should treat it from an internal point of view. Specialties (group) are the basis and advantages of colleges, and though the training projects for the specific posts in enterprises don't point to certain specialties, they can be drawn and combined from such specialties (group) to achieve the training goals. Therefore, for colleges, specialties (group) become the carrier and core for establishing and improving the system of vocational education and training, and the level of specialties (group) directly affects the level and development sustainability of such system.

Fifthly, the curricula of vocational education and the projects of vocational training should be linked. The vocational education in colleges are provided within a long period, for which it's very difficult to synchronize the content taught and economic and social development and keep pace with the demand of industries and enterprises, but they can be absolutely resolved by short-term vocational training projects to enable students or employees knowledge and skills to meet the practical work needs. The specialty curricula content in colleges is in update and adjustment with the development of enterprises, and typical basic training projects can be drawn and refined from such specialty curricula. In addition, the specialty training projects customized based on enterprise needs can also be included into the specialty curriculum system, and such projects and curricula can support and transform between each other in a perfect system of vocational education and training.

Sixthly, the talent of every individual can be given full play to and all-around cultivation should be made with respect to the teaching staff construction. The requirement for improving the system of vocational education and training poses higher requirements for the specialty ability, teaching level, practical experience, professional quality and learning capacity of teaching staff. Based on their specialty group and the agreement with economic development of the region they are located in, colleges should tease and divide their existing teaching staff and comprehensively consider the abilities, potential, ages, specialties, educational background, practical experience and the like of professional teachers to divide such teachers into such three types as teaching, training and compound types, and different fields are emphasized for different types. All-round cultivation covering teaching ability, training ability, practical experience and the like should be provided for new teachers to train them as compound-type professional teachers.

V. SUMMARY

To “improve the system of vocational education and training, and promote integration between industry, education and cooperation between enterprises and colleges” is of rich connotation and has become the rule for the development of vocational education in China and the basis for guiding vocational colleges in actively adjusting their educational positioning and constructing the pattern with vocational education and training of equal importance, which we should study and practice in great depth in concrete work to promote the reform of the college in an all-round way so as to give play to the important role of vocational education in the social human resource development system.

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