



Important Ideas and Practice of Building a Student-Centered Class in Higher Vocational Colleges

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Abstract. As class construction is important and indispensable to higher vocational colleges, it is necessary to fully consider the situations of a class, and then make a targeted and personalized plan according to the realities of different students in the class, which helps to create a sound and positive atmosphere with strong cohesion, and enables teachers to smoothly carry out tasks. From the perspective of important ideas and practices of building a student-centered class in higher vocational colleges, references and opinions regarding class construction are put forward in this paper.

Keywords: Higher vocational colleges · Class construction · Ideas · Practice

1 Introduction

Classes in higher vocational colleges are the basic units for teachers to teach and counselors to manage students [1], so building a class with vitality and class style can ensure students' good learning environment and campus life. However, there are still many problems in the current class construction, such as the weakening of the collective concept of the class, the old way of class management, and the lack of personalized management in the new era. Therefore, counselors need to focus on students, care about students, and implement the concept of a new era to build a good class, striving to ensure the role of a class in educating students and improving the effectiveness of education.

2 Common Content of Class Construction in Higher Vocational Colleges

2.1 Set Class Rules

After the class rules are set, a survey and comparison have been conducted of the scores of the entire grade [2]. The data indicates that the overall academic performance of the classes has continued to improve, rising from 2 points in the first month to 3 points in the second month, and then 4 points in the fourth month, and the cases of disciplinary violations have gradually decreased while the grades have increased.

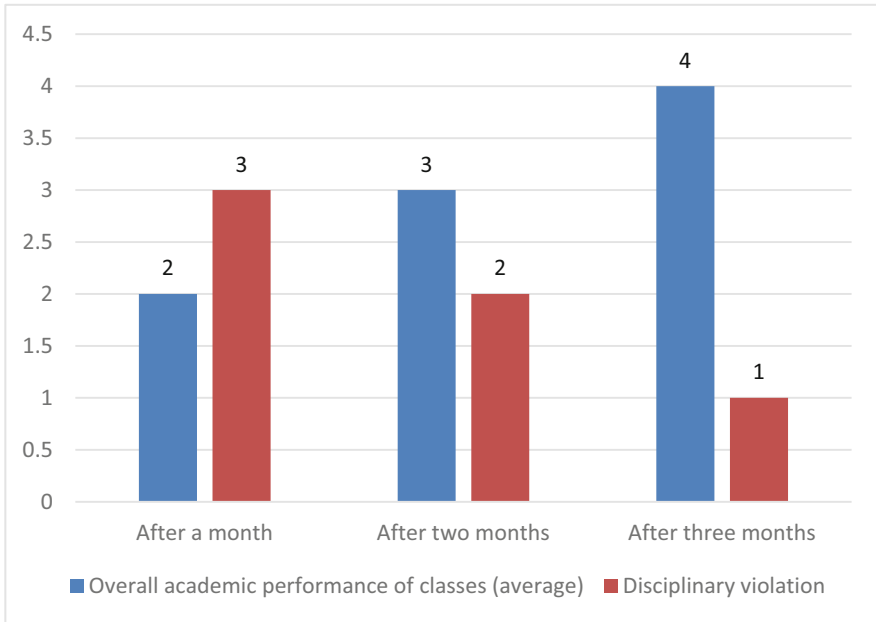


Fig. 1. Data comparison before and after class rules are set. [Self-drawn]

Figure 1 shows that, “Nothing can be accomplished without norms or standards.” A clear goal is important to class construction, which can offer students a favorable environment of unity to study. By comparison, a good classroom climate can enhance students’ sense of belonging, improve their academic performance and reduce disciplinary violations. A thorough understanding of the students’ realities and characteristics in a class is favorable for establishing corresponding class styles and rules that all members can abide by, and for meeting students’ individual needs. This can help to build a study style, shape students’ values, and assist students in recognizing their career goals and lofty ideals, thus enhancing cohesion within the class.

2.2 Plan Class Culture

In the classes of higher vocational colleges, it is necessary to adhere to the student-oriented concept, build a new pattern in which counselors coordinate, student cadres lead, and all members participate in class management. In terms of fostering class culture, it is important to fully understand what students think, and make overall planning according to students’ majors, characteristics, situations, and other aspects in the class. The corresponding class culture should highlight the characteristics of the class, integrating students’ majors and future employment and entrepreneurship, and the specific class planning should also be based on students’ opinions and school arrangements [3].

2.3 Manage Daily Affairs of the Class

In higher vocational colleges, many daily affairs need to be dealt with concerning class construction, such as management of students' basic situation, attendance, performance assessment, volunteer service activities, and daily performance, etc. Counselors can effectively use a professional entry system for management that is not only convenient and fast but also makes it more targeted in future student management, better understanding students' psychological health and effectively teaching them according to their aptitude.

2.4 Conduct the Work of the Class Committee and the League Branch

In the class management of higher vocational colleges, it is very critical to do a good job in the ideological education of students [4]. This requires counselors to make good use of the class cadre team, hold regular meetings, and allow outstanding student cadres to play an exemplary role in the class. They can also carry out one-to-one or one-to-many activities or help groups to solve problems encountered in learning and to allow everyone to discuss together, and share learning experiences, which can enhance students' awareness of learning and promote common progress. In addition, counselors should pay attention to the key training of class cadres, so that they can be trained by uploading notices and handling various class affairs in the class, which cultivates their service and collective awareness. While training student leaders, counselors can produce incentive mechanisms to unleash their enthusiasm and creativity.

3 Common Methods of Class Construction in Higher Vocational Colleges

Before the research, first of all, questionnaires are distributed to teachers and students of different grades and majors on whether the class needs innovation, with the collection rate for questionnaires standing at 95%. Figure 2 shows that, the results of the teacher questionnaire indicate that 77% of teachers believe that it is very necessary to produce new methods to build classes, 8% of teachers feel that it is good to follow the traditional way to build classes and there is no need for innovation, and 15% of teachers hold an indifferent attitude. Figure 3 shows that, the results of students' questionnaires are similar to those of teachers, but the proportion of innovation is the largest. The data reveals that most teachers and students still hope to have a breakthrough in class construction in higher vocational colleges. It is not only necessary to maintain new ideas and new thinking, but also to consider how to make the class construction-related work more smoothly. In practice, various factors must be taken into account to effectively integrate resources.

3.1 Conduct Characteristic Class Activities

Before the research, questionnaires are distributed to different majors in different grades, indicating that 76% of the students think it is necessary, 12% of them believe it is unnecessary, and the rest of the 12% are indifferent. Figure 4 shows that, it is found that

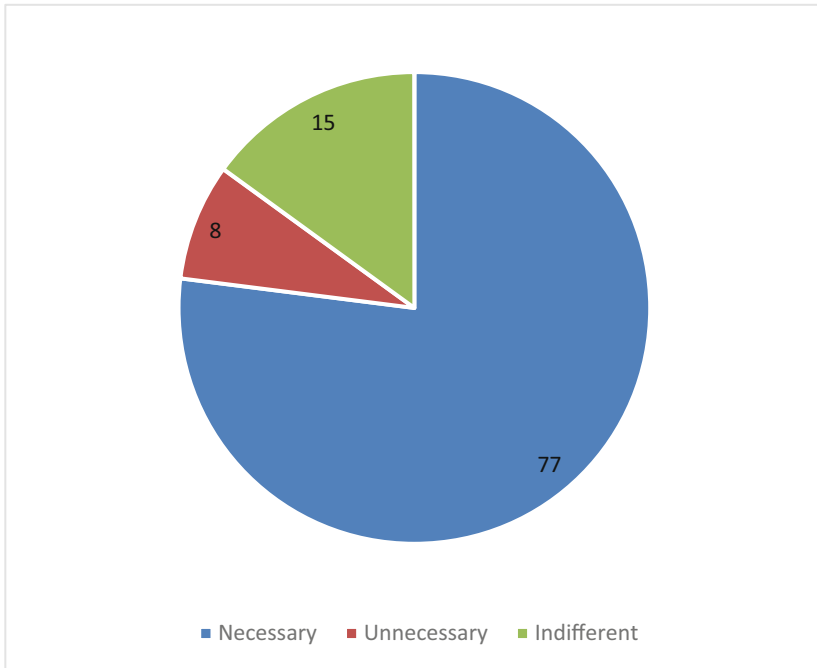


Fig. 2. Does class construction need innovation (teachers) [self-drawn]

most classmates believe that it is necessary to carry out characteristic activities, so in the class construction of higher vocational colleges, it is important to carry out multi-level and multi-dimension activities to improve students. Before various activities are implemented, the characteristics of students' majors, realities, needs, and the distribution of males and females should be considered so as to create class activities with corresponding features [5]. Activities can be carried out including class meetings, league classes, volunteer service activities, and themed education so that students can establish good interpersonal relationships in a pleasant atmosphere, enhance their collective sense of honor, and create a good class atmosphere. While students' theoretical learning is strengthened, they should also continuously expand their horizons and improve their comprehensive practical ability.

3.2 Pay Attention to the Use of New Media

After preliminary research and questionnaires, it is concluded that 82% of teachers and students feel that it is necessary to use multimedia, and only a few teachers and students believe that the traditional class construction using blackboard chalk would be more effective than multimedia. Figure 5 shows that, it can be seen that in the class construction work of higher vocational colleges, good communication, and interaction publicity skills can be achieved through relevant Internet technologies, and teachers and students all believe that it is very important to apply multimedia to the whole process of teaching

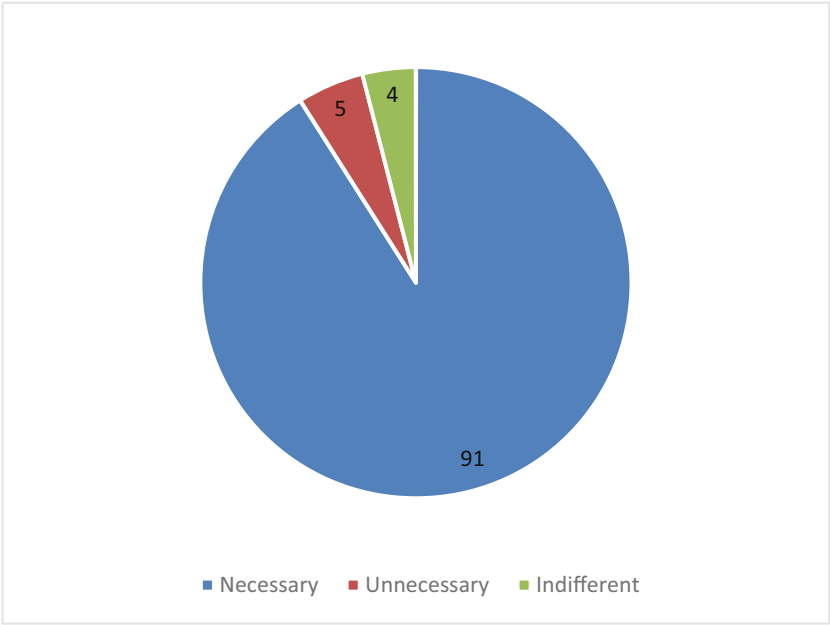


Fig. 3. Does class construction need innovation (students) [self-drawn]

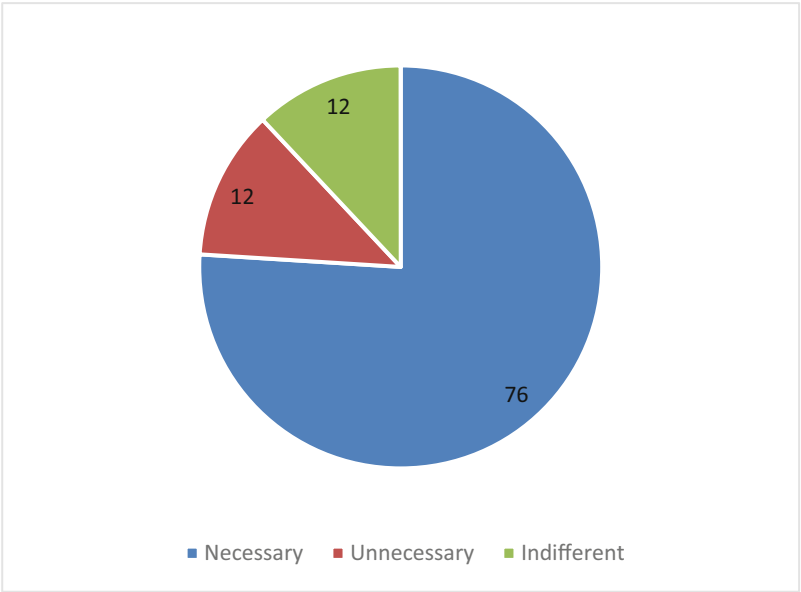


Fig. 4. Is it necessary to carry out special activities [self-drawn]

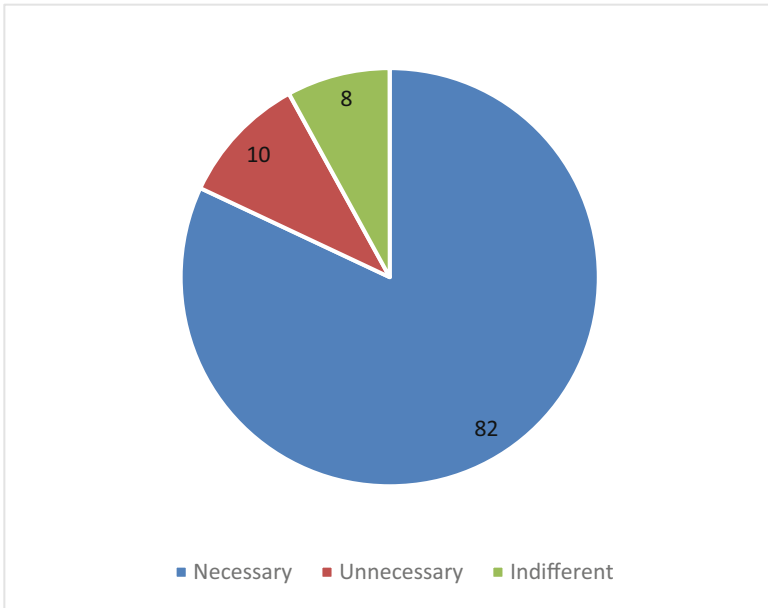


Fig. 5. Is it necessary to pay attention to the use of new media [self-drawn]

and daily life. As Almost all college students in the new era have a smartphone, the communication of related work can be achieved through WeChat, QQ, and other platforms, and at the same time, teachers can understand students' daily life, ideological thinking, and learning practice through various self-media platforms. Only by fully understanding students' concerns can teachers offer guidance to students' behavior and ideology. Besides, a series of activities can also be carried out with the help of new media platforms, such as allowing students to make videos of their creations or literary and artistic works with a combination of pictures and texts and display them on the Internet to compete for various awards. Moreover, teachers should make good use of school resources, such as various evening galas, theatrical performances, and other opportunities, to encourage talented students to show themselves, which not only enhances students' self-confidence by meeting their needs for personal performance but also present the beauty of contemporary vocational college students. Various class activities that are worthy of memory can be made into videotapes, CD-ROMs, etc. for preservation. Through a series of class activities, students can get involved, and express their thoughts, which can stimulate a sense of community, unit the class, and help counselors thoroughly understand students' thoughts and behaviors.

3.3 Emphasize the Management of the Academic Environment in Classes

In higher vocational colleges, it is imperative to create a positive academic environment for some students who love learning and to enhance the initiative of all students in all aspects. In daily teaching, more methods such as practice can be used to apply students' theory into practice, so that their practical ability can be trained, and their theoretical

knowledge can be effectively transformed into practice [6]. In terms of practice, more opportunities can be provided for students to encourage them to participate in social practice, and some recruitment positions, such as the “Blue Bird Program”, can be offered to hone students’ skills and improve their comprehensive strength. Also, teachers must ensure that students can learn some social skills in school, in order to better prepare for society in the future. Furthermore, teachers should do a good job of offering students employment guidance through data and experience to help them quickly filter for their jobs and companies. In addition, teachers must encourage students to grasp professional and social knowledge, etc., so as to better adapt to society.

3.4 Focus on Hierarchical Management

Figure 6 shows that 95% of students have needs, and only 5% of them have no needs. As students have different needs, some are eager to be noticed while others yearn for a favorable classroom climate, more communication, and more activities. This means hierarchical management is very important in the class construction of higher vocational colleges and the one-size-fits-all approach applied in the past management should be avoided [7]. It is necessary to maintain flexibility and diversity in management and conduct corresponding guidance and management according to the students’ characteristics and personalities. Teachers should encourage student cadres to help other students, and serve their classes and classmates, allowing them to play an exemplary role so as to make concerted efforts to create a positive class environment. At the same time, teachers should pay more attention to students with financial difficulties and those who have problems

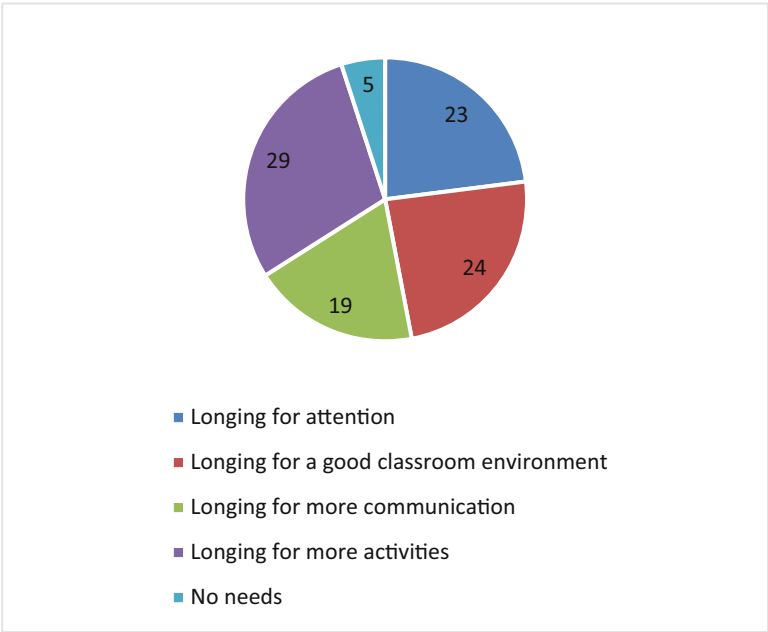


Fig. 6. Students’ needs [self-drawn]

with adapting to school life, taking actions to ensure students' life and mental health, solving problems in a targeted manner, and then adopting corresponding assistance measures. Counselors should play their leading role and student cadres should function as a bridge to allow all students to create a new class order. Teachers should conduct classified teaching according to students' different situations and aptitudes. While paying attention to students' studies, teachers should also care about their psychological health, helping them better adapt to life, make progress in their studies, fit into the collective life, and participate smoothly in collective activities. Counselors should do a good job in class management, attach a great deal of importance to communicating with students, care about students in all aspects, and give timely help to students who encounter difficulties to relieve pressure and avoid bad consequences.

4 Conclusion

The class construction and management of higher vocational colleges should be student-oriented, and based on the realities of students and classes, to fully mobilize effective resources, jointly establish a good class atmosphere, and optimize the teaching environment and level, which allows counselors, class cadres, and all students to play their role. In addition, a reasonable division of labor helps to build a good class in higher vocational colleges in the new era, so that students can achieve all-round development while learning and living in a convenient, and beautiful environment.

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