On the Cultivation of Artisans' Spirit in Higher Vocational Education

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Abstract: Under the background of Chinese economic development, the country has conducted in-depth research on the innovation-driven development strategy. Various industries have reformed and innovated from a “manufacturing” to a “creative” direction. Therefore, new requirements have been put forward for vocational education. Cultivating “craftsman spirit” is the main cultural concept of modern vocational education. The difference between vocational education and general education is that it mainly trains applied talents, and “craftsman spirit” as an excellent moral culture in vocational education is indispensable in talent training. The cultivation of craftsman spirit should start from the student age, run through the whole stage of students' learning, combine the characteristics of colleges and enterprises to jointly cultivate, realize win-win situation for both sides, and play an important role of craftsman spirit.

1. Introduction

Since 2016, the Chinese government has incorporated the “craftsman spirit” into its work report for 4 consecutive years. Against this background of emphasis, higher requirements have been put forward for vocational education in vocational colleges. As an important part of Chinese national education system, vocational education is mainly aimed at training high-quality, high-management and high-quality service talents. However, at present, Chinese internal vocational colleges only pay attention to the training and learning of students' vocational skills, ignoring the relevant training of vocational spirit. Therefore, it is necessary to integrate “craftsman spirit” into vocational education so as to provide professional professional talents for the country and society.

2. The Meaning of “Craftsman Spirit”

“Kaogongji” records: “those who know create things, those who are skillful in describing and keeping them, the world is called work. All works are done by sages “[1]. From this passage, we can know that the ancients attached great importance to manufacturing technology and spirit. The “craftsman spirit” at this stage has the same basic meaning as this passage. What does the craftsman spirit mean? First of all, the spirit of craftsman is mainly a kind of spirit and perseverance for occupation, a kind of perseverance with preciseness and exceeding spirit for work, and a lifetime of doing one thing and insisting on doing the best. It can represent a kind of professional spirit and morality when applied to modern occupation. It is also an important quality needed in modern occupation to pursuit uniqueness in design, excellence in work quality and perfection in technology.

At the same time, there is no standard definition of “craftsman spirit”. It mainly represents a kind of professional spirit and quality that loves one's post and is also an effective embodiment of people's values. Therefore, “craftsman spirit” is a cultural spirit that integrates people's professional values and professional behaviors and ethics in their work. With the continuous progress of social civilization, in a macro sense, it is the moral pillar of a country's rapid development, and also the spiritual source of the Chinese nation. On the basis of creation, with respect to work as the standard, to provide the country and the people with high-end services and high-quality products, this is the important connotation of “craftsman spirit”.

3. The Importance of Integrating “Craftsman Spirit” into Vocational Education

First, the social aspect. The biggest problem in education is how to cultivate professional talents with high quality and morality, so as to provide excellent foundation for enterprises, national development and personal development [2]. I remember Ren Zhengfei, chairman of Huawei in China, said: “Huawei's success depends on its firm goal, dedication, silent dedication and hard work.” Seemingly bland words can reflect the professional strength that Huawei's “craftsman spirit” has given each employee, and success runs through the whole company.

Second: students. For the students themselves, the purpose of studying hard for ten years is to have a certain strength in the future career to hold important positions in the enterprise and have a good development. At the same time, in the efforts over the years, they must have the craftsmanship and ingenuity of “craftsman spirit” to ensure that their hard and soft strength can meet their own career planning requirements and the needs of employment units [3]. Generally speaking, the students' hard strength includes the basic knowledge and relevant professional skills they have learned. Soft power includes students' attitude towards work, their sense of cooperation with colleagues and their innovative spirit of work content. These abilities can make students feel at home in their future jobs. They can not only finish their work tasks with high quality, but also improve their other abilities in their spare time. They can combine their knowledge base and social experience to realize a high-quality life.

Third: School. As the cradle of cultivating talents, the school has given higher requirements and expectations to the cultivation of students by the state and society. In school education, moral cultivation is the foundation and knowledge transmission is the goal. The school is mainly to train the nation's future talents and builders. On the basis of imparting knowledge, the most important thing to pay attention to is the cultivation of morality. The “craftsman spirit” is applied to instill this spiritual culture into students' daily learning and life, so that students can establish correct outlook on life, values and world outlook in learning. Only in this way can the specific needs of society and the country for talents be met, and then the country's specific goal of “five items” for talents development be realized.

Fourth: the national side. China has gradually transformed from a “manufacturing” country to a “creative” country. Therefore, in order to promote the development of this background and realize the overall upgrading of Chinese manufacturing industry, a large number of professional and innovative talents are needed, and the comprehensive cultivation of talents cannot lose the “craftsman spirit”. Any staff in a high-end manufacturing enterprise cannot abandon the “craftsman spirit” in their work. Only by truly integrating the “craftsman spirit” into the actual work can they realize the attention to production details, the effective innovation of products, the rigorous pursuit of work and the continuous improvement of quality, which are also an indispensable cultural concept and moral spirit in Chinese manufacturing industry [4].

4. An Effective Way to Cultivate “Craftsman Spirit” in Vocational Education

In order to promote the development and innovation of the national economy and various enterprises, the “craftsman spirit” must first be integrated into vocational education to provide professional and high-quality talents for the country and society. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the training of talents in vocational education so as to realize the national and social demand for talents.

4.1 Improve Vocational Education Programs and Create an Educational Environment of “Craftsman Spirit”

In vocational education, the teaching content for students is not only about knowledge transfer, but also needs to pay more attention to management and assessment [5]. Therefore, in order to realize the effective cultivation of students’ “craftsman spirit”, we should first perfect the relevant cultivation scheme, incorporate “craftsman spirit” into the cultivation scheme, and implement it in
the whole teaching process. In each item, the meaning of “craftsman spirit” and teaching philosophy are integrated, so that students can realize the importance of this spirit to their own future development and improve their ideological awareness. Secondly, it is necessary to integrate “craftsman spirit” into students' professional courses, which also runs through the whole teaching process. For example, the establishment of teaching objectives, the practice of teaching process, the evaluation of teaching assessment, etc., and the need to combine knowledge with practice, enterprises and institutions can take joint training to carry out practical training courses, so that the “craftsman spirit” can be integrated into the practical training process with higher quality. Finally, a strong cultural atmosphere of “craftsman spirit” should be created in colleges and universities to change the traditional idea of only academic qualifications, enhance their ideological awareness, so that students can truly understand the specific meaning of “craftsman spirit”. It is also necessary to let students know that professional work skills are as important as noble “craftsman spirit”, so that they can fully integrate “craftsman spirit” into their own career development, so as to truly promote the future career development of students.

4.2 Improve the Quality of Teachers and Strengthen the Cultivation of “Craftsman Spirit”

In the process of students' learning, although the state emphasizes the “student-oriented” education concept in quality education, as a disseminator of knowledge, teachers still need to occupy the main educational position, and then use their own cultural and professional level and professional quality to achieve the teaching objectives with high quality, and strive to cultivate students into professional quality talents [6]. Teachers' educational ideas and methods will directly affect the cultivation of students' “craftsman spirit”. Therefore, the campus should attach importance to the quality of teachers, improve the overall quality of teachers, give full play to the exemplary and leading role of teachers, and establish a high-quality teaching team with the spirit of love and dedication, continuous improvement of professional quality and professional innovation ability, which will affect students' professional teaching and development in the overall process of teaching, thus improving students' professional quality and moral pursuit. Secondly, it is necessary to set up a platform for teachers to take up their posts on campus, and to cooperate with excellent enterprises so that teachers can get the opportunity to take up their posts, so that the unique “craftsman spirit” in enterprises can affect teachers' work and improve teachers' comprehensive quality and professional ethics. Finally, it is necessary that every teacher in the teaching team should have professional knowledge and skills and excellent professional quality, so that the excellent enterprise spirit can be scientifically promoted in school education, and thus cultivate a new generation of outstanding talents with “craftsman spirit” for the country and the society.

4.3 To Promote the Development of School-Enterprise Integration, and to Establish a Cultivation Carrier for “Craftsman Spirit”

In vocational education, emphasis is mainly placed on the cultivation of students' practical operation so that their professional skills can meet the needs of enterprises for talents. Therefore, in the process of cultivating students' spirit of craftsman, enterprises and schools need to be effectively integrated, relying on the professional training of enterprises in schools, so as to realize the cultivation goal of “spirit of craftsman” [7]. The cultivation of craftsman's spirit cannot be completed overnight. It requires long-term accumulation of knowledge and skills to fully endow the spirit to students' actual career. First of all, schools should attach importance to basic education and play its basic role. They should integrate the cultivation of students' basic knowledge with the cultivation of professional spirit and morality. In students' practice, they can better integrate the “craftsman spirit” so that students can experience the real “craftsman spirit” in their study and practice. Secondly, it is necessary to strengthen the cooperation between schools and enterprises, to enhance the interaction and mutual benefits between schools and enterprises. Both sides should use their own advantages to establish a practice base with the cultivation atmosphere of “craftsman spirit” and give full play to the leading role of campus culture and enterprise culture in the cultivation of students. Finally, we need to give full play to the educational role of teachers and lecturers in enterprises. The moral spirit of teachers and lecturers in enterprises should be integrated
into the students' training courses to continuously cultivate the “craftsman spirit” of students. On the basis of ensuring students' solid learning of basic knowledge, we need to comprehensively cultivate their professional practice ability, ensure that students can take up their posts immediately after employment, and meet the employment needs of enterprises. At the same time, it also promotes the healthy growth of students in practice, thus providing a professional talent foundation for the improvement of enterprise benefits and enhancing the comprehensive strength of enterprises. Therefore, promoting school-enterprise cooperation is an indispensable part of vocational education and plays an important role in the cultivation of “craftsman spirit”.

5. Conclusion

To sum up, vocational education is an important stage for students to step into society and enter enterprises. Therefore, not only should students' basic knowledge and professional skills be cultivated, but also quality and cultural education should be strengthened to enable students to fully understand the specific meaning of “craftsman spirit” in practice. In the continuous economic transformation and development of our country, in order to meet the basic goal of national economic transformation, vocational colleges should constantly innovate educational concepts and methods to ensure their long-term development while ensuring the needs of enterprises for talents. Correctly integrate the “craftsman spirit” into students' vocational education, deeply explore the training scheme of moral talents in vocational education, train more comprehensive talents with production, management, construction and innovation for the society, and promote the comprehensive development of social enterprises and the country.

References


