Research on Current Situation of Vocational Education in China

Yongfen Xu
Yantai Gold College
Yantai, China

Abstract—Vocational education has developed rapidly in China, which has promoted the transformation of higher education from elite to mass. In 2019, Chinese government even proposed a plan to expand the enrollment of higher vocational education by 1 million. After so many years of development, vocational education has accumulated some experience in running schools in many aspects. Schools should enhance their ability to train highly skilled talents for advanced enterprises and improve the effect of running schools.

Keywords—vocational education; industry–university cooperation; order cultivation; quality education

I. INTRODUCTION

Vocational education is a main channel of higher education in China. It enriches the higher education system and promotes the transformation of higher education from elite to mass. In 1996, China promulgated the "Vocational Education Law of the People's Republic of China", which legally determined the position of vocational education in China's education system, thus opening the prelude to the development of vocational education. In 1999, the national education work conference was held and the work requirement of "vigorously developing higher vocational education" was put forward. China's vocational education has entered a new historical stage of vigorous development. The gradual establishment of a vocational education system with Chinese characteristics plays an important role in new industrialization, labor transfer and reemployment. The scale of development of vocational colleges has gradually expanded. According to online statistics, the number of students enrolled in higher vocational colleges reached 2.681 million in 2005, 5.6 times that in 1998, and the proportion of students enrolled in this specialty in ordinary colleges increased from 39.8% in 1998 to 53.1% in 2005, with an average annual increase of 1.9 percentage points. In March 2019, China proposed to reform and perfected the examination and enrollment methods for vocational colleges, to encourage more recent high school graduates and retired military personnel, laid-off workers, migrant workers, etc. to apply, and to implement a plan to expand enrollment of 1 million people in 1418 vocational colleges across the country. The enrollment plan of 1 million people, which is called the "second single recruit", will focus on developing urgently needed and livelihood-critical specialties and poor areas in high-quality vocational colleges. More than 700 students signed up for the second time in Yantai Gold Vocational College.

After so many years of vigorous development, vocational education has accumulated rich experience in running schools, which can be used for reference and promotion in many aspects.

II. QUALITY EDUCATION

Looking at the world, the renewal of educational concepts in the past half century is remarkable: periodic education has been replaced by lifelong education; the teacher center gave way to the student center. It has become a worldwide trend for discipline-based development to be competency-based and further to be quality-oriented education. Higher vocational colleges in our country are strengthening quality education in all aspects. On the one hand, it is to construct the blueprint of talent cultivation in higher vocational colleges in the new century, improve the cultural quality of college students, and build a campus culture enclosure. On the other hand, the rapid development of science and technology puts forward newer and higher requirements on the knowledge, ability and quality of employees. In terms of campus cultural information construction, Yantai Gold College insists on a high starting point and has already realized all-in-one card. System services such as data center, wireless network, broadcasting and office, student management, educational administration, monitoring, multimedia classrooms and recording and broadcasting classrooms have been put into use. The information culture construction covered by the campus not only ensures the convenience of students' life, but also creates a modern and harmonious campus. The college has also built an experimental training center that seamlessly connects with the positions of enterprises, with 9 basic laboratories, 33 specialized laboratories and nearly 100 off-campus training bases. It provides strong support for improving quality education.

III. OUTSTANDING ABILITY

The internationally popular ability-based education thought provides a theoretical basis for the reform of higher vocational education to break the discipline-based curriculum model. Therefore, higher vocational education is establishing a new theoretical teaching system, a new practical teaching system and a new student-related ability
training system according to the requirements of higher vocational training objectives, developing vocational ability training modules, and strengthening the training of students' basic practical ability and operation skills, professional technology application ability and professional skills, comprehensive practical ability and comprehensive skills. Yantai Gold College aims at serving the regional economic development and the development of the gold industry. It aims at cultivating the technical and skilled talents urgently needed by the gold industry. It makes full use of Zhaoyuan City's city brand influence as the "China's gold capital" and Shandong Zhaojin Group Co., Ltd.'s advantages in running a school in terms of capital, technology, talents, management and training conditions. It strengthens cooperation between schools and enterprises, deepens integration of production and education, integrates colleges and enterprises, innovates personnel training modes, improves personnel training quality, and makes its due contribution to the economic and social development of the region and the development of the gold industry in the whole province.

IV. INDUSTRY-UNIVERSITY COOPERATION

At present, all vocational colleges are deepening the cooperation between production and education, encouraging new modes such as "front factory and back shop" and chain running schools, improving the professional level of vocational schools, and promoting the concentration of vocational education resources to superior schools. At present, the vast majority of higher vocational colleges have initially realized the goal of "cooperation between industry and university, win-win between school and enterprise". How to establish and perfect a multi-channel, multi-level and three-dimensional partnership of production and study cooperation and build a win-win mechanism is one of the decisive factors for the successful operation of higher vocational colleges. At present, the core problem of higher vocational education is "fewer training bases". The author has communicated with teachers in vocational colleges before. In some colleges, the internship site is usually the teacher's own contact. Who can the teacher contact? Generally, the student is looking for the student who is the leader. The student lets the student practice on the teacher's face. That is to say, the internship site is difficult to contact. The opportunity for the student to practice in the enterprise is very few. In some schools, the student is simply allowed to contact the internship unit. The internship effect is greatly reduced. The reason why enterprises are unwilling to accept internship students is mainly related to the safety of students. Safety is a big problem. Who is responsible for the problem? This requires the corresponding supporting policies of the state to solve the worries of enterprises so that enterprises can accept students' internship with confidence. This problem is relatively easy to solve for Yantai Gold Vocational College, because the college is run by a state-owned enterprise, and the school and the enterprise are a leader. The college closely runs the school around the industry, and has established a close cooperation relationship with China's gold industry giants (Zhaojin Group, China Gold Group, Shandong Gold Group). Combining with the characteristics of the industry and the needs of the enterprise, the college jointly determines the student training plan to realize the "seamless connection" between student enrollment and employment. The training and employment bases of the college include: Zhaojin Gold & Silver Refining Co., Ltd., Shandong Guoda Gold Co., Ltd., Zhaojun Gold Jewelry City, Mengjinyuan Jewelry Co., Ltd., Baitai Group, Shenzhen Tongxin Jewelry Processing Group, Shenzhen Green Jewelry Co., Ltd., Zhaojin Futures Co., Ltd., China Securities Co., Ltd., Shanghai Gold Exchange, and the national comprehensive utilization demonstration base of Zhaojin Mining Technology Center — Zhaojin Mining Jinchiling Gold Mine. State-level green mines — Zhaojin Mining, Yingezhuang Gold Mine, Xiadian Gold Mine and other listed companies have dozens. Therefore, running schools together with industrial enterprises can effectively avoid the problem of lack of training bases.

V. ORDER CULTIVATION

The "order-based" talent training mode is that the college and the human resources department of the enterprise jointly study the employment planning and training plan, and implement it through signing a commission agreement or in the form of an official document of the enterprise, so as to realize the talent training goal. In recent years, many higher vocational colleges pay attention to research and constantly solve new problems in the employment of graduates, gradually explore the system and mechanism of "order-based" vocational education, and create a flexible and open "order-based" talent training mode. The employment of graduates has achieved satisfactory results. Yantai Gold College has signed two professional order cultivation agreements with zhaojin mining co., ltd and Shandong Hongyuan environmental protection science and technology group, namely, mineral processing technology and metal and nonmetal mining technology. For those students who are admitted to these two majors, the enterprise will reimburse the tuition for the students year by year during their study. This order-based training method is welcomed by the majority of students, especially poor students.

VI. EXCELLENT COURSES

The construction of excellent courses in higher vocational colleges in our country has all started. Through the construction of excellent courses, the overall teaching level of the school can be improved, and gradually echelon of teachers with reasonable structure, stable personnel, high teaching level, advanced teaching methods and good teaching effect can be formed. Because the content of excellent courses requires foresight, it can timely reflect the latest achievements in this discipline, absorb advanced teaching experience, integrate excellent teaching reform achievements, and play a positive role in cultivating skilled talents.

VII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The quality of education should not remain in words, but should have a series of effective monitoring and evaluation systems. The core of higher vocational education is the
quality of personnel training. At present, the Ministry of Education has started to deepen the reform of teaching and personnel training modes by means of information technology. Building excellent courses; Reform the "quality project" in 12 aspects such as college public English teaching, as well as the 5-year undergraduate education quality assessment and the higher vocational and technical personnel training level assessment. From a microscopic point of view, higher vocational colleges have also set up teaching quality monitoring and evaluation systems. For example, a factor questionnaire and a test questionnaire are prepared to investigate students. At the same time, with the help of work analysis, sample analysis of students' written homework, production products, graduation design and other works, and with the help of behavioral observation, observe students' classroom learning behavior, experimental training behavior, recess activity behavior and so on, strive for a comprehensive evaluation of teaching quality, and accordingly propose improvement measures to promote the full realization of quality objectives. Winning the competition is also one of the evaluation indicators. The students of Yantai Gold College have won many awards in the competition and won the second prize in the national competition of the 14th "Invention Cup" National Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition for Higher Vocational Colleges in only 19 years. The second and third prizes of the "2019 China skills competition national skills competition for skilled workers"; Third prize of "Shanghai Cooperation Organization National Professional Skills Competition"; Students participated in the 16th College Jewelry Design Competition, and the work "Awakening Lion" won the third prize and so on.

VIII. OPTIMIZING THE TEACHING STAFF

At present, in order to improve the overall level of teachers, various higher vocational colleges have taken various forms of quality education and professional training for teachers, such as education with high academic qualifications, "double-qualification" teacher team construction, computer network technology training, etc. Through continuing education and training, gratifying achievements have been made in optimizing the structure of teachers, renewing their educational concepts and improving their quality. A group of teachers have been trained and brought up to adapt to scientific and technological progress and social development in the 21st century. Yantai Gold College has a strong faculty, with nearly 100 employees with intermediate and above professional titles. It has organically combined the practical ability of enterprise engineers with the theoretical ability of professional teachers, and has established a "double-qualified" faculty with high academic level and strong professional skills. To ensure that students learn the latest professional knowledge, the school requires all teachers to set a good example and cultivate students' professional quality.

IX. CONCLUSION

In a word, China is in a critical period to speed up the modernization drive, and economic and social development faces many important and arduous tasks. The key is to train a large number of high-skilled talents who can solve the difficult problems of production technology. As a higher vocational college that trains application-oriented technical skilled talents, it must change the traditional concept of talent training, actively adapt to social needs, strengthen cooperation with industries and enterprises, deepen reform, accelerate development, and enhance the ability to train high-skilled talents for advanced manufacturing, modern agriculture and modern service industries. Therefore, higher vocational education will focus on connotation construction, adjust professional structure, pay attention to improving quality, improve school efficiency, seize opportunities, give full play to the enthusiasm of all aspects of society, and promote the sustained and healthy development of higher vocational education in our country.

REFERENCES