Korean Educational Development Institute

KEDI Envisions a World-class National Center for Educational Policy Research
Extant Research and the Policy concerning Core Academic Competency: Korea’s Preparation for the Knowledge-Based Society

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CONTENTS

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1. Introduction

Nation’s New Task is
· To heighten the basic capacity and general competency of all citizens

· To enhance the quality of her human resources through various systematic mechanism
to define the competency factors required of the citizens
to diagnose their level
to manage and raise the competency
1. Introduction

Useful Knowledge include

- the general knowledge
- skills that are both the fundamentals for, applicable to diverse fields
1. Introduction

OECD DeSeCo Project

basics for individual and social development is

- skills that are both the fundamentals for applicable to diverse fields

- the ones that help build a quality life in individual, social, and economic senses
1. Introduction

OECD DeSeCo Project

Key Competency

- to interact among heterogeneous social groups,
- to act autonomously

- to utilize tools in a interactively (language, numbers, and information)
OECD PISA

· to examine whether or not the students ready for the productive role in a society

· basic literacy, or the key competencies necessary for adult life, needed for real life
1. Introduction

Korea conducted

- research projects searching for the key competencies and raising them through education

- national policy such as restructuring school curriculum necessary for adult life, needed for real life
2. Research Trend

Research

• to clarify the factors for the key competencies

• to develop the instruments for diagnosing key competencies

• to restructure curriculum
2. Research Trend

1) Research on Clarifying Key Competency and Developing Instrument

- Chung, Bom-Mo (2000) thinking ability, creative ability, information management ability, curiosity and intrinsic motivation

- Kang, Sun-hee, Shin, Beom-seok (2002) communication ability, information literacy, teamwork, self-directed ability, problem-solving ability and 3R’s
2. Research Trend

1) Research on Clarifying Key Competency and Developing Instrument


“research on determining the standard for competencies at national level and the quality control measures for the learning system"
2. Research Trend

1) Research on Clarifying Key Competency and Developing Instrument

You, Hyun-Sook et al. (2002)

basic literacy, key competency, citizenship, job-related ability


key competency: leadership, communication, problem-solving ability, self-directed learning
2. Research Trend

1) Research on Clarifying Key Competency and Developing Instrument


a diagnostic instrument to assess the abilities at different learning stages such as elementary, secondary, and college student
## 2. Research Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ability</th>
<th>sub-factors for each ability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>- interpretive ability, role-performing ability, self-presenting ability, goal-setting ability, and message-transforming ability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem-solving</td>
<td>- problem clarification, causal analysis, alternative development, planning/execution, and performance-based assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-directed learning</td>
<td>- planning learning, executing learning, and evaluating learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>- goal-attaining ability, re-creating ability, leadership, human relations ability, and goal-orientedness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Research Trend

2) Research on Researching Curriculum

Huh, kyung-chul et al. (2000)

Flexible attitude and creativity can be at the central stage of change in the knowledge-based society, rather than the functional human being with high adaptability to the existing society,
2. Research Trend

2) Research on Researching Curriculum

So, Gyeong-hee et al. (2001)

the intellectual creativity that breaches common sense and the existing frameworks and are equipped with professionalism in one’s specialized field
## 2. Research Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Goal</th>
<th>Educational contents</th>
<th>Educational method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) from pursuing excellence for the few to pursuing excellence for all</td>
<td>1) the education for elementary function and expanding the scope of the elementary function</td>
<td>1) the education that takes into account individual differences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) from the uniform education to the education stressing diversity, such as talent, career, and aptitude</td>
<td>2) Strengthening the ability related to vocation</td>
<td>2) active construction of knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Strengthening character education</td>
<td>3) Strengthening self-directed learning ability</td>
<td>3) Stressing cooperative learning and team learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) integrated subject</td>
<td>4) integrated subject</td>
<td>4) Active incorporation of the ICT approach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. National Curriculum

The 7th Curriculum

To raise the autonomous and creative Korean citizens

1. common basic curriculum for citizens and the student choice-centered curriculum
2. differentiated curriculum
3. Increasing free activities
4. optimizing learning quantity and adjusting difficulty level
5. establishing the curriculum evaluation system
6. raising creativity and information skills
3. National Curriculum

① common basic curriculum for citizens and the student choice-centered curriculum
  - 10 years from 1st and 10th
    - general choice, enriched choice

② differentiated curriculum
  - level-based type
  - enrichment-supplementary type
    - subject choice type
3. National Curriculum

③ Increasing free activities

pan-curricular free activity hours for raising self-directed learning ability

④ optimizing learning quantity and adjusting difficulty level

- minimum requirement
- adjusted scope and level
- decreased number of required subjects
3. National Curriculum

- The spirit is to raise the key competencies
  To enhance self-directed learning ability
  To enable seeking excellence in education

- But not successful in its implementation

- Because of level-specific curriculum evaluation
  and not connected to college entrance procedure
4. Open Education

- started in Korea at a private elementary school in 1986 as an innovative classroom teaching method.
  - an integrated, autonomy-seeking education
  - flexible curricular and learning group organization
- educational method suitable for raising creativity and self-directed learning ability
4. Open Education

- since 1997, government has made it nation-wide implemented in a uniform and government-directed way

- imposed uniform manner
  Time and space
  Over-crowded classroom

- even identified as the main culprit
  that has made lowering student basic achievement level
5. Plan of MEHRD in 2005

- at the levels of elementary and secondary school to provide the opportunity to raise the key competencies
- and to provide the opportunity to receive the same education to all regardless of their socioeconomic status.
5. Plan of MEHRD in 2005

- all citizens are to receive maximal support for acquiring the basic abilities needed for social life,

- elementary school students are to be supported to acquire proper character,

- secondary school students are to be supported to acquire the key competencies necessary for social life,

- the number of the students lagging behind the elementary achievement level (3.2 percent for reading, 3.8 percent for writing, and 5.2 percent for elementary mathematics) to beneath one percent of the total student
5. Plan of MEHRD in 2005

STRATEGIES

- Strengthen education for the key competencies and the self-regulated problem-solving ability, by setting up the standard for the basic achievement level at the national scale and boosting the support for those who do not reach the set standard.

- Transform the subject-centered curriculum into the competency-based curriculum.

- Create a module for managing the curriculum and make the management flexible

- Strengthen the experience-centered character education and democratic citizenship education
6. Direction for the National Policy

- Developing various instrument to measure key competency for different levels
- Reducing the contents of education, abolishing the barriers among different subjects, and restructuring curriculum
- Enriching extracurricular activities
- Improving learning method
- Recovering the right to teach
- Improving College Entrance Examination System
Thank you for Your attention!