Research on the Modern Apprenticeship Teaching Model for Maritime-related Majors

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Abstract: Modern apprenticeship is a new model of vocational education, the core of which is a long-term and stable teacher-apprentice relationship. It is a teaching model that mainly takes the school and enterprise as the platform, and the master plays the leading role to train the students. The article analyzes the advantages of implementing modern apprenticeship education model for sea-related majors and the problems in the process of promotion, and puts forward feasible strategies for the existing problems.

Keywords: Marine-related profession; Modern apprenticeship; Teaching mode; Development strategy

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1. Introduction

At present, the industrial restructuring has led to the contradiction between the supply and demand of talents, and it is difficult to employ skilled talents in higher vocational schools, while enterprises are extremely short of skilled talents. The State Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security attaches great importance to the issue of talent training, and proposes a modern talent training model “enterprise school dual system, work in one”, to take the enterprise school two teachers with apprentices, alternate engineering training, off-the-job or semi-off-the-job training and other modes of joint training new modern apprentices. The pilot work of modern apprenticeship system is highly recognized by vocational colleges and enterprises. Apprenticeship system as a new talent training mode, especially suitable for the teaching of marine-related professions, we must combine the actual situation to summarize the modern apprenticeship system suitable for the development of vocational colleges and universities in China.

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2. The Development of Modern Apprenticeship System in China and its Connotation

Apprenticeship system first originated in Britain, then Germany, Switzerland, Australia and other countries have implemented apprenticeship system and reform practice, have achieved very good results. In 2014, the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China proposed the modern apprenticeship system, which aims to deepen the integration of industry and education, school-enterprise cooperation, further improve the school-enterprise cooperative education mechanism, and innovate the training of technically skilled personnel. In June 2019, Shandong proposed to comprehensively promote the modern apprenticeship system, by 2022, the province’s vocational colleges and universities through the implementation of modern apprenticeship system and other means to cultivate about 100,000 “Qilu artisan reserve talents”.

Modern apprenticeship is a modern talent training model that focuses on skills training for students through in-depth cooperation between schools and enterprises, and joint teaching by teachers and masters. Different from the ordinary college classes and the previous talent training mode of order classes and title classes, modern apprenticeship system pays more attention to the inheritance of skills, and the school and enterprises jointly lead the training of talents, set up standardized enterprise curriculum standards, assessment programs, and so on, and the curriculum content is relative to the employment requirements, which reflects the deep integration of school-enterprise cooperation.

3. Favorable Conditions for the Development of Modern Apprenticeship System in Sea-related Professions

(1) The Policy of Modern Apprenticeship System

China is a large marine country, but not a strong marine country, our party put forward in the report of the 18th National Congress “to build a strong marine country” this strategic goal, which has important practical significance for the whole country and the nation. To build a strong marine country, high-end marine talents are an indispensable human resource factor. The National Vocational Education Reform Implementation Program points out that vocational education and general education are two different types of education with equal importance. How to recognize the type of vocational education is the breakthrough point for implementing the reform program. In May 2019, the General Office of the Ministry of Education issued a notice on the comprehensive promotion of the modern apprenticeship system, requiring the comprehensive promotion of the modern apprenticeship system with Chinese characteristics of double master sportsmen in
Research on the Modern Apprenticeship Teaching Model for Maritime-related Majors enterprises and vocational schools on the basis of the previous pilot, promoting the synchronization of enrollment and recruitment, making it clear that apprentices have the dual identity of enterprise employees and vocational school students, and protecting the legitimate rights and interests of apprentices. A series of policies of the state and the Ministry of Education have laid a good foundation for the development of modern apprenticeship system for sea-related majors.

(2) Higher Vocational Colleges and Universities have Created Sufficient Conditions for the Promotion of Modern Apprenticeship System

With the reform of education system, the sea-related professions have gradually broken through the traditional teaching mode, in order to better adapt to the development needs of the society for talents, the sea-related professional education not only pays attention to the teaching of theoretical knowledge, but also focuses on the cultivation of students’ practical operation ability, the change of teaching mode has played a good role in promoting the development of modern apprenticeship system. At the same time, the institutions also actively take a series of measures to improve the teaching enthusiasm of teachers and the stability of students, such as: giving welfare allowances and research funds to teachers who take apprentices; giving basic salary protection to students who are apprentices, and fighting for the maximum rights and interests of students. Thus, it can be seen that in the process of modern apprenticeship implementation, higher education institutions have made sufficient preparation.

4. Constraints of Developing Modern Apprenticeship Teaching Mode for Sea-Related Majors

(1) The Lack of Scientific Development Guidance Concept of Sea-related Professional Education

As a new education model, modern apprenticeship system runs through the whole process of learning, practice and employment of students. But the sea-related profession has its own special characteristics, both under the jurisdiction of the Education Bureau, but also under the jurisdiction of the Maritime Bureau, there is no subordinate relationships between the two, which will lead to the Education Bureau focus on education management and ignore the combination of teaching and practice, the Maritime Bureau focus on the practical, but lack of educational experience. Such constraints have curbed the rapid development of marine-related professional education.

(2) Disconnect between Teachers’ Theoretical Knowledge and Practical Skills

At present, most of the vocational colleges and universities still have the situation that teachers serving in marine-related majors have high education
and solid theoretical foundation, but they do not have any practical production experience, and the practical operation classes are basically led by the masters of enterprises to complete the students. Therefore, in the teaching process, the teacher level has appeared the teacher’s own knowledge theory and practice disconnect, more unable to give students a comprehensive education.

(3) Institutions Don’t Have Enough Funds to Equip Practice Vessels, and Students’ Practice Effect is Not Satisfactory

Because of the special nature of the sea-related professions, in order to create better practice effects for students, the institutions need to have their own practice vessels, but the purchase of vessels requires a large economic investment, many institutions cannot afford to buy vessels, so the practice of many institutions can only be simulated simulator training operations for students, the whole process of practice gains very little.

(4) Some Students and Parents Cannot Accept the Modern Apprenticeship System

At present, the modern apprenticeship system still belongs to a new talent training mode, lack of sufficient publicity, part of the students and parents lack of in-depth understanding of this system, and even think that the apprenticeship system is not conducive to the future employment of students, cannot accept the apprenticeship system, which to a large extent hindered the implementation of the modern apprenticeship system.

5. The Development Strategy of Modern Apprenticeship Teaching Mode of Sea-related Professions

(1) Focus on Cultivating Students’ Professionalism and Inspiring Students’ Learning Enthusiasm

The ultimate purpose of modern apprenticeship system is to let students learn professional knowledge effectively and cultivate students with practical ability to meet the needs of social development. Therefore, the cooperation process between colleges and enterprises should focus on cultivating students’ professionalism and help students establish correct professional outlook and values. Students’ enthusiasm for learning can be stimulated in various ways, such as inviting outstanding talents in the industry to give lectures to students in institutions, and improving students’ recognition and passion for the industry.

(2) Develop a Suitable and Positive Reward Program for Perfect Teaching Management to Encourage Outstanding Talents to Join the Development Work of Modern Apprenticeship System

In view of the special characteristics of sea-related professions, the title rating of carrying out two certificates of college teacher qualification and senior crew
certificate can be adopted to supervise the all-round progress development of teachers. At the same time, incentives and certain salary rewards can be used to attract and encourage excellent captains or crew members to actively participate in the development process of the modern apprenticeship system.

(3) The Relevant Departments’ Policy Support for Promoting Modern Apprenticeship Work

To actively play the key role of government policies on the development of modern apprenticeship, after the General Office of the Ministry of Education issued the “Notice on the Comprehensive Promotion of Modern Apprenticeship”, we should actively urge all relevant departments to cooperate in the development of relevant development programs, from tax concessions and other multifaceted measures to encourage the initiative and enthusiasm of enterprises for participating in the development of modern apprenticeship work.

(4) Simultaneous Enhancement of Teachers’ Theoretical Knowledge and Practical Ability

In view of the disconnection between theoretical knowledge and practical operation ability of some teachers of marine-related majors, we actively cultivate teachers’ joint development in both theoretical knowledge and practical ability, in other words, teachers should not only have the qualification certificate of teaching in colleges and universities, but also have the qualification certificate of senior crew members and be able to have certain practical work experience at sea. Talents with such qualifications can hold dual positions, as teachers with solid theoretical knowledge in schools and skilled crew members in enterprises. With such strength, they can effectively guide students’ learning and practice, be a role model for students, and cultivate more excellent talents for the society.

6. Conclusion

The implementation of modern apprenticeship teaching mode of sea-related professions cannot present immediate effect. At present, the implementation of modern apprenticeship system has played a certain role in promoting the teaching of sea-related professions, and at the same time, there are many places that we need to improve gradually. In the future development process, we still need to make up for our shortcomings, increase the full cooperation between the school and the government as well as the enterprises, and jointly promote the development of modern apprenticeship system smoothly, and cultivate more excellent talents for the marine industry.
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