## Analysis of How to Improve the Spiritual and Cultural Literacy of Middle School Students from the Perspective of Creating a Civilized Campus Policy

## Zihao Shen<sup>1,a,\*</sup>, Guanxi Zhang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Shanghai University of Engineering Science, No. 333 Longteng Road, Songjiang District, Shanghai, 201620, China a. 2208817168@qq.com \*corresponding author

**Abstract:** From the perspective of creating a civilized campus policy, this paper analyzes the impact of the policy on the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students, as well as the current status and importance of their spiritual and cultural literacy. Through conventional classroom teaching, multimedia teaching, and ideological guidance teaching methods, the paper proposes to strengthen teacher-student relationship building, promote joint education between families and schools, and improve school democratic mechanisms. In addition, it suggests enhancing campus cultural construction to create a civilized campus atmosphere, enriching campus activities, linking theory with practice, and improving overall quality to enhance the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students. It concludes that creating a civilized campus policy helps to improve the level of spiritual and cultural literacy among middle school students. Teachers and students should firmly establish Xi Jinping's new era of value orientation, and pay attention to cultivating the inner world of students. Efforts should be made to promote the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students through improvements in various aspects.

**Keywords:** school civilization, spiritual literacy, policy, moral education, secondary education

### 1. Introduction

# 1.1. Impact of Creating a Civilized Campus Policy on the Spiritual and Cultural Literacy of Middle School Students

Since the release of the "Implementation Opinions on Deepening the Creation of Civilized Campuses" by the Ministry of Education and the Central Civilization Office in 2015 [1], various types of schools at all levels in China have continuously deepened the creation of civilized campuses and promoted the construction of socialist spiritual civilization. They have also carried out the work of creating civilized campuses and building the ideological and moral character of minors, and have achieved remarkable results in the development of students' spiritual and cultural literacy. As China's international development and influence continue to grow, middle school students not only bear the responsibility of the country's future development but also become important talents for exchanges

<sup>© 2023</sup> The Authors. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

and cooperation with countries around the world. Under the background of creating a civilized campus policy, schools continuously promote students' improvement of their spiritual and cultural literacy and ideological and moral levels, promote humanistic concepts, and help them maintain their conscience in the material civilization and spiritual atmosphere, shaping individuals with strong moral convictions.

## 1.2. Current Situation and Importance of Middle School Students' Spiritual and Cultural Literacy

The moral and ethical cultivation of middle school students is an essential component of contemporary Chinese youth development. Strengthening the education of students' spiritual and cultural literacy can promote the future development of China and enhance its international competitiveness. The importance of middle school students' spiritual and cultural literacy lies in its ability to help children better adapt to future work or study, which is of great significance to the development of a country and its national direction in the future [2]. Therefore, the improvement of middle school students' moral level is urgent and cannot be delayed any longer.

### 1.3. Research Methodology

### 1.3.1. Empirical Research Method

The author used the "Middle School Civilization Campus Standard" [3], "Shanghai Civilization Campus Creation Evaluation Index System" [4] as the research and evaluation blueprint. The author visited the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission, Municipal Science and Technology Commission, and other government departments, as well as some schools. Through on-site visits to schools and surrounding areas, interviews with school leaders, and conversations with students, the author conducted research on the development of middle school civilization campus construction and the behavior and ideological trends of students from the perspectives of education and sociology. The author identified the existing problems and challenges in the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students in Shanghai. At the same time, through a large amount of field research data and information, the author provided a solid foundation for further promoting the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students.

#### 1.3.2. Literature Analysis Method

Through literature review of relevant policies and studies on the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of Chinese middle school students, the author clarified the key issues and actual promotion situation of the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of Chinese middle school students under the background of civilization campus construction. On this basis, the author proposed a path for cultivating the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students, further promoting the development of the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students, and providing effective solutions and certain inspiring significance for middle schools to carry out civilization campus construction.

## 2. Analysis of How to Improve the Spiritual and Cultural Literacy of Middle School Students

## 2.1. Conventional Classroom Teaching, Multimedia Teaching, and Ideological Guidance Teaching Method

Spiritual and cultural literacy is a person's norm of thought and behavior, which not only affects a person's values and behavior, but also subtly affects a person's career development and innovative ability. Targeting the thinking and behavior habits of middle school students has become an important topic in the education field. It is particularly necessary to implement effective measures to improve the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students, and conventional classroom teaching, multimedia teaching, and ideological guidance teaching have played an important role in improving the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students.

Classroom teaching should emphasize the principle of "people-oriented" [5], so that students can gradually form correct thinking and behavioral habits. In classroom teaching, the "group competition" method can also be used to encourage students to apply the knowledge they have learned to practical life. At the same time, by arranging the internal decoration layout of the classroom reasonably, students can be encouraged to care for, respect, understand, and trust each other.

Multimedia teaching methodology is a teaching approach that combines traditional classroom teaching methodology and information technology to realize a student-centered multimedia teaching method. Students can obtain information through audio-visual means, which is beneficial to fully utilize the advantages of graphics, animation, and speech to help students understand the content they are learning in a more effective way. In addition, teachers can use multimedia to enrich classroom teaching content, making classroom teaching more lively and interesting. Furthermore, multimedia teaching methodology can also enhance the independent thinking ability of middle school students.

Ideological guidance teaching methodology does not strictly adhere to a certain process in the traditional classroom, but adopts some practical methods to help students explore the content of the class. This enables students to receive effective guidance in their thoughts and actions, thus helping them establish correct values and personality traits. It is also effective in helping primary and secondary school students establish the correct values, form positive emotional attitudes, and implement a system of praise and reward [6]. It can explore the favorable factors of different age groups in transmitting positive energy, and maximize the happy and sincere atmosphere to promote emotional communication and the ability to acquire extensive knowledge.

### 2.2. Strengthening the Relationship Between Teachers and Students, Promoting Parentschool Cooperation, and Implementing Democratic Mechanisms

Strengthening the relationship between teachers and students, promoting parent-school cooperation, and implementing democratic mechanisms have been emphasized as the environment of Chinese schools improves. Strengthening the relationship between teachers and students and enhancing their trust and understanding can effectively promote the improvement of students' spiritual and cultural qualities and create a civilized campus atmosphere. First, mutual trust between teachers and students is extremely important as it can effectively promote students to achieve better learning outcomes [7]. Secondly, strengthening the understanding between teachers and students is also essential. When there is mutual understanding between teachers and students, it will improve the classroom atmosphere and promote the formation of a civilized campus environment. In summary, strengthening the relationship between teachers and students and enhancing their trust and understanding play an important role in promoting the formation of a civilized campus atmosphere.

With the development of society, more and more families are facing the situation of "dual-income" households [8], which has led to a growing problem of weakened communication between parents and schools. Children who are in a long-term state of "semi-isolation" outside of their families and schools may inevitably affect their learning and growth. In order to better promote the growth of children, it is particularly important to strengthen communication between parents and schools and to play the role of parent-school cooperation in education. On the one hand, the education that children receive in school should not only consider the school, but also the parents. It is also important not to interfere too much with the education that children receive in school, as too much interference can affect the mutual respect and trust between teachers and parents. On the other hand, it is necessary to strengthen the education of teachers. Through various forms of education for teachers (such as organizing award ceremonies, special treatment rewards, and thematic training sessions), teachers can correctly understand the education that children receive in school. In summary, strengthening the parent-school relationship and playing the role of parent-school cooperation is necessary and inevitable, and it is an essential step in promoting the growth of primary and secondary school students. However, it should be understood that both teachers and parents have their own unique advantages and should complement each other.

In addition, the democratic evaluation mechanism has significant implications for the dual management of schools and families [9], contributing to the enhancement of the spiritual and cultural qualities of middle school students. Firstly, the democratic evaluation mechanism promotes the participation of schools. Under the democratic evaluation mechanism, the school is no longer a dictatorial system but a diversified system that can accommodate different voices. Secondly, the democratic evaluation mechanism promotes cooperation among families and helps middle school students develop self-awareness of their own performance and emotional expression. Therefore, the formation of a democratic evaluation mechanism is necessary for enhancing the spiritual and cultural qualities of middle school students in the Chinese educational environment.

# 2.3. Strengthening Campus Culture Construction and Creating a Civilized Campus Atmosphere

With China entering a new era of socialist market economy, remarkable achievements have been made in the development of Chinese higher education, and the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students has also received attention. In order to improve the spiritual and cultural literacy of middle school students, it is essential to strengthen campus culture construction.

Firstly, it is necessary to improve various rules and regulations, strictly implement campus cultural regulations and codes of conduct, and make the school's rules and regulations and codes of conduct one of the important aspects of students' growth, so that they become the behavior model of learners. Besides, these rules and regulations will keep core socialist values in learners' minds [10]. Secondly, it is important to strengthen the education and self-cultivation of teachers. Teachers are the most important part, and also the most direct part that affects students' ideological and conscious formation. Teachers can gradually improve students' spiritual and cultural literacy through guiding education, mobilizing education, and developmental education in teaching. Thirdly, it is crucial to increase publicity efforts. Through various colorful campus cultural propaganda activities, the campus cultural concept can be promoted, the campus cultural atmosphere can be formed, and children's ideological and moral cultivation can be influenced. Diverse forms of propaganda can attract children's attention, guide their thinking direction, and create positive energy. Excellent traditional Chinese culture, outstanding ancient Chinese poetry works, and some popular songs can be promoted, some of which reflect true human feelings. Finally, it is important to emphasize practical education. Combining theoretical education with practical education is one of the most effective ways to promote the growth of middle school students [11]. Various internship experiential education courses should be constantly

carried out at different age stages. Through participating in various forms of internship experiential education courses, middle school students can truly appreciate the content of campus culture and integrate many problems to view them.

In recent years, with the development of society, the promotion and popularization of the core values of civilization have become an important issue in current social development. Promoting excellent and civilized core values, providing positive energy for students, not only contributes to the healthy development of students' body and mind, but also is an important measure for the comprehensive implementation of civilized campus actions.

Firstly, in promoting excellent and civilized core values, ideological and moral propaganda should be carried out. At the same time, diversified cultural exchanges should be expanded to promote excellent and civilized core values through various cultural exchange activities. Secondly, in order for students to receive the influence of positive energy, the school should also attach importance to reasonable education guidance for students. In addition, teachers should also inspire students to think rationally and uphold integrity through multifaceted educational methods. Thirdly, some beneficial experiential activities can also be carried out within the school to promote students' understanding and practice of excellent and civilized core values. Through relevant experiential education activities, schools can enable students to experience real emotions and moral principles in practice, so that they can move forward bravely and fearlessly in their future life journey.

### 2.4. Enriching Campus Activities and Improving Comprehensive Quality

In order to enhance the spiritual and cultural qualities of middle school students, enriching campus activities is an important means, especially sports activities. In recent years, with the development of education in China, schools have also begun to increase investment in sports activities, thereby promoting the physical and mental health development of students.

By continuously increasing investment in physical education, schools can promote students' enthusiasm in physical and mental development. In response to the current situation where campus sports activities are not rich enough, various forms of campus sports activities should be carried out in a diversified manner.

In fact, enriching campus sports activities is not only conducive to promoting students' physical and mental development, helping them enhance their physical fitness and endurance [12], but also helping them inherit excellent traditional culture, promote teamwork spirit, cultivate correct moral emotions, strengthen physical fitness, and form positive energy.

In summary, enriching campus sports activities from the educational environment is an important way to help middle school students enhance their civilized and spiritual qualities. Through various sports activities, not only can students' physical and mental development be promoted, but it can also help inherit excellent traditional culture, promote teamwork spirit, cultivate correct moral emotions, strengthen physical fitness, and form positive energy.

### 3. Conclusion

## 3.1. The Benefits of the Policy of Creating a Civilized Campus to Enhancing the Level of Spiritual and Cultural Literacy of Middle School Students

In recent years, the policy of creating a civilized campus has been widely used in secondary schools. The policy of creating civilized campus helps to improve the spiritual and civilized literacy level of secondary school students. First, the campus supervision mechanism has been strengthened. Schools can carry out relevant extracurricular activities to help secondary school students understand different cultures. In addition, relevant departments inside and outside the campus should take timely actions to develop, on the one hand, some effective civilized campus construction programs that can truly

reflect local characteristics. On the other hand, conflicts between various parties within the campus should be minimized. It should also carry out some relevant publicity activities that are beneficial to promote the formation of civilized behavior habits of secondary school students. In short, it is necessary to promote civilized behavior habits of secondary school students through the above related work.

## 3.2. Establishing Xi Jinping's New Era Value Orientation among Teachers and Students and Emphasizing the Cultivation of Students' Inner World

Quality determines a person's growth, and the cultivation of spiritual and civilized literacy among secondary school students becomes especially important. Therefore, teachers and students on campus should firmly establish Xi Jinping's new era values and focus on the cultivation of students' inner world so that they can have the correct values. On the one hand, teachers and students should strive to improve their teaching to implement the policy of creating a civilized campus. On the other hand, psychological counseling services for students should be strengthened. In addition, emphasis should be placed on developing independent thinking skills in creative practices. In short, teachers and students should firmly establish Xi Jinping's new era values and focus on the cultivation of students' inner world. Only in this way can students have the right values and the ability to think independently to deal with future problems.

## 3.3. Promote the Development of Spiritual and Civilized Literacy of Secondary School Students Through Improvement Efforts in All Aspects

First, schools should pay attention to the development of spiritual and civilized literacy of secondary school students in education. Secondly, the relevant authorities should also provide relevant policy support in the development of spiritual and civilized literacy of secondary school students in schools so as to effectively promote the civilized growth of secondary school students.

In conclusion, in order to promote the development of spiritual and civilized literacy among secondary school students, all parties should spare no effort to improve and work together to promote the development of spiritual and civilized literacy among secondary school students.

### 3.4. Limitations

This paper analyzes the development of middle school students' spiritual and moral character under the background of creating a civilized campus, and proposes further measures to strengthen the development of middle school students' spiritual and moral character. This provides effective solutions for Chinese middle schools to carry out the construction of civilized campuses. However, the research conducted is limited by its focus on the part of a purely qualitative research. Further quantitative research can be added to incorporate a mixed research method, where qualitative research and quantitative research can be used cooperatively to form a more comprehensive research paradigm. When there is a specific research area that qualitative research cannot resolve, quantitative research can be of help. This mix research method, in the view of the author, produces a more reliable result under a comprehensive perspective.

#### **Acknowledgments**

The inspiration for this paper stems from the thoughts and work achievements of the corresponding author during his tenure as an intern inspector for the Spirituality and Civilization Office of the Publicity Department of Xuhui District Committee in Shanghai, regarding the deepening of the achievements in building a national civilized urban area.

This paper has had the privilege of receiving support and funding from the Deputy Director of the Spirituality and Civilization Office of the Party Committee's Publicity Department at Shanghai University of Engineering Science, Mr. Wang Yan, who oversees the research project "Optimization of Intercollegiate Volunteer Service Mechanism from a Systemic Perspective in the New Era of Youth Volunteer Actions" (2022ZYLX43) for the academic years 2022-2023. The author expresses gratitude to Mr. Wang Yan for his dedicated guidance and genuine care.

Special thanks go to Professor Geoff Hayward, the Director and Professor of Education at the University of Cambridge, for his recognition of the author's academic research abilities. Gratitude is also extended to Mr. Wang Xuhui, Associate Professor at Central University for Nationalities, for guiding the research methodology of this paper. Appreciation is further extended to Mr. Zhou Jialiang, Deputy Minister of the Security Department at Shanghai University of Engineering Science, for his insightful and constructive comments on the paper, as well as to Professor Yang Juan, Director of the Contemporary Marxism Research Center at Shanghai University of Engineering Science, for her support of this paper. The author expresses gratitude to all these experts.

Thanks are extended to the Spirituality and Civilization Office of the Publicity Department of Xuhui District Committee, the Communist Youth League Committee of Xuhui District in Shanghai, Shanghai Nanyang Model High School, Shanghai Shixi Middle School, and other participating schools for their substantial support in the empirical research work of this paper. Gratitude is expressed to the Communist Youth League Committee of Minhang District in Shanghai for their fruitful cooperation in the qualitative research aspect of this paper, as well as to the Communist Youth League Committee of Shanghai University of Engineering Science for their support.

Special thanks are given to Mr. Zhang Guanxi for his strong support and timely and meticulous assistance in the writing of this paper.

### References

- [1] Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, Central Civilization Office. (2015). Implementation Opinions on Deepening the Creation of Civilized Campus. Retrieved from http://www.moe.gov.cn/srcsite/A06/s33 25/201510/t20151014\_213368.html
- [2] Chen, H. (2023). The Hundred-Year Evolution and Development Experience of the Communist Party of China's "How to Cultivate People" Ideology. Journal of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition), 31(04), 25-40. DOI: 10.13806/j.cnki.issn1008-7095.2023.04.003.
- [3] Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, Central Civilization Office. (2015). Standards for Civilized Campus in Middle Schools.
- [4] Shanghai Education and Health Work Committee of the Communist Party of China, Office of the Shanghai Civilization Campus Creation Evaluation Index System. (2021).
- [5] She, S. (2015). China's Dream of Chinese Spirit. Wuhan University Press.
- [6] Zhang, T. (2020). Study on the Emotional Investment of High School Students' Learning from the Perspective of Caring for Education. (Doctoral dissertation, Huazhong Normal University). DOI: 10.27159/d.cnki.ghzsu.2020.0 04161.
- [7] Liu, H. (2022). Construction of Basic Education Data Governance Model and Bottom-Level Practice Research. (Doctoral dissertation, East China Normal University). DOI: 10.27149/d.cnki.ghdsu.2022.000828.
- [8] Tang, Y., & Zhao, Y. (2023). Analysis of Parent Satisfaction and Influencing Factors of After-School Services for Primary and Middle Schools: Based on the Investigation of 8 Counties (Districts) in X Province. Journal of Jilin Provincial Institute of Education, 39(02), 73-80. DOI: 10.16083/j.cnki.1671-1580.2023.02.012.
- [9] Chen, C. (2022). Improving the Evaluation System of Primary and Secondary School Teachers and Stimulating Their Potential: Inspiration from the Evaluation of Teachers in Developed Countries. Educator, (02), 19-21.
- [10] Wang, P., & Ma, J. (2019). Integration of Core Socialist Values into the Cultivation of Core Competencies of Middle School Students. Teaching of Ideological and Political Courses, (09), 8-10.
- [11] Ji, M. (2023). Research on the Construction of the Curriculum System of Labor Education for Middle School Students. Teaching Management and Education Research, 8(07), 80-82.
- [12] Wu, R. (2022). Creating Diverse Teaching Situations to Improve Students' Learning Efficiency. China School Sports, 41(12), 60-61.