

Q. No. Unit-III (10) :-

What are the principles of Curriculum construction? State the steps involved in curriculum construction.

Ans. to the Q. No. Unit-III (10) :-

Title :- 'The principles of Curriculum construction and also the steps involved in curriculum construction'

Introduction :-

In the Paper-09 i.e. 'Foundations of Curriculum Development', I got the assignment topic, 'The principles of curriculum construction and also the steps involved in Curriculum construction.' Before going to discuss about this topic, first of all I want to explain the meaning of curriculum construction.

Meaning of Curriculum Construction :-

Curriculum is the heart of the Education. The term 'Curriculum' has

been derived from a Latin word 'currere', which means 'a race course' or 'a run way' on which one runs to reach a goal.

Curriculum is a tool in the hands of the teachers to give training to children in the art of living together in the community. It is a tool which considerably helps to inculcate those standards of moral action which are essential for successful living in society and for getting true satisfaction out of it. It is very essential that the curriculum should be based on sound principles.

Now, I am going to discuss about the principles of Curriculum Construction and also the steps involved in curriculum construction in detailed.

Main Discussion :-

The Principles of Curriculum Constructions :-

Curriculum construction which forms an important part of curriculum development. It is an essential that the curriculum should be based on sound principles. The following are the principles should be kept in mind when framing a curriculum:—

① The Conservative Principle :-

It has been stated that nations live in the present, on the past and for the future. This means that the present, the past and the future needs of the community should be taken into consideration. Thus, the function of the school is to preserve and transmit the traditions, knowledge experience and way of life to the present generation.

(ii) The forward looking Principle :-

Curriculum subjects and materials should be forward looking so that the child is able to solve the various problems. The capacity for adjustment should also enable the child to modify the environment according to his needs.

(iii) The creation principle :-

These subjects should be assigned prominent place in the curriculum which develop the creative and constructive capacities and abilities of children. The objectives of education is to discover and to develop special interests, tastes and aptitudes.

(iv) The activity Principle :-

The curriculum should be taught in terms of activity and experience, rather than of knowledge to be acquired.

and facts to be stored. Growth and learning take place only where there is an activity. 'Experience' rather than 'instruction' is to meet the needs of the various stages of growth.

(v) Child-Centric Principle :-

Curriculum should be child-centered. The interests, needs, capacities, abilities, age and the level of intelligence of children should be kept in full view and close attention while constructing a suitable curriculum.

(vi) Principles of individual difference :-

Psychologically, all individuals are not alike, Individuals differ in abilities, interests and aptitudes. The curriculum should be framed in such a way so that every individual can have opportunity for self experience and development. This means that the curriculum should be based on the

psychology of individual difference.

(vii) Principle of Character building :-

Curriculum should provide those activities and experiences which promote human and social values. There should be provision for a number of co-curricular activities.

(viii) Principle of Community centered :-

Requirements of the community must also be reflected in the curriculum. A child belongs to the society and he will remain in the society so, curriculum must enable the child to adjust in the society properly. This is possible only when purpose of the society is fulfilled. Thus, sociological foundations of education must also be taken into account while developing curriculum for the child.

(ix) Principle of Loyalties :-

The curriculum should be planned in such a manner that it teaches a true sense of loyalty to the family, the school, the community, the town, the province, the country and the world at large. It should enable the child to understand that there is unity in diversity.

(x) Principle of developing Democratic spirit :-

As India has accepted the ideal of a democratic republic curriculum should contain and emphasize those activities and experiences which promote democratic spirit, feelings and attitude in the children together with democratic behaviour patterns based on democratic ideals and values.

These are all about the various principles for Curriculum Development.

The steps involved in Curriculum Construction :-

The process of curriculum construction is a multi-step ongoing and cyclical process. Though the different models of curriculum development differ in terms of the steps and their sequence in the construction of a curriculum, there is general consensus that following steps are important in this regard :-

(1) Planning the Curriculum :-

The first important step in curriculum construction is planning the curriculum. It is the process through which the arrangement of curriculum plans or learning opportunities are created. It involves deciding upon goals and emphases, determining curriculum content, selecting learning resources and classroom procedures, preparing for the duties of teaching, evaluating progress

and looking toward next steps. The process of planning a curriculum involves research that reviews recent issues and trends of the discipline. This step includes :-

(i) Identify the problems or issues :-

The need for curriculum development usually emerges from a concern about a major issue or problem. Before going to construct the curriculum, the problems or issues of the topic should be identified.

(ii) Form Curriculum development team :-

Once the nature and scope of the issue has been broadly defined, the members of the curriculum development team can be selected. Topics covered this section include —

(a) The roles and functions of team members.

(b) a process for selecting members of the curriculum development.

(c) principles of collaboration and teamwork.

(iii) Conduct needs assessment and analysis

There are two phases in the needs assessment process. The first is procedure for conducting a needs assessment. Analysis is the second part of this needs assessment step, describe the techniques of the curriculum construction.

(2) Developing the Curriculum :-

Once the planning for the curriculum has been done after studying the issues, trends and needs of students curriculum developer should build a philosophy that will guide the development of curriculum. The purpose of the philosophy is to describe the fundamental beliefs and inform the process of instructions. It also helps in deciding the goals and objectives of the curriculum.

③ Organizing the Curriculum :-

The organization of curriculum objectives should reflect the philosophy and the preferences of the teachers who will use them. The organization may be used on grade level of students, units, topics, sequence of knowledge or big ideas. Thus, the delineation and sequencing of content through objectives provide information to teachers for effectively implementing the curriculum.

④ Implementing the Curriculum :-

Implementing the curriculum means putting the new curriculum into practice. The process of curriculum development does not end with the publication of the new curriculum, but it continues with the implementation, updating and evaluation of the curriculum. The implementation of any new curriculum requires time and

support. It is important to note that the new curriculum to be fully implemented and integrated into day-to-day practice requires proper time and support.

(5) Evaluating the Curriculum :-

While implementing the curriculum it is important to update the curriculum and keep it as living, changing document. At the end of process of curriculum development a careful evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the curriculum must be done in order to improve it for future use. The detailed review and analysis of the information on the impact of the curriculum and its strengths and weaknesses forms the foundation for the next round of curriculum development and improvement.

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Conclusion :-

In this assignment, I had discussed 'the various principles of Curriculum construction and also the steps involved in curriculum construction' in detailed.

At last, we can concluded as Curriculum is a tool in the hands of the teachers to give training to children in the art of living together in the community. It is a tool which considerably helps to inculcate those standards of moral action which are essential for successful living in society and for getting true satisfaction out of it. It is very essential that the curriculum should be based on sound principles.

Reference:-

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