Career Education in Korea

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Overview

Recent Career Education Policy Reform

Career Education R & D at KRIVET

Future of Career Education
Part 1

OVERVIEW : EDUCATION IN KOREA
Education System

- Pre-School
  - Age 3-5
- Elementary School
  - Age 6-12
  - Age 13-15
  - Age 16-18
- Secondary Education
  - Age 13-15
- Middle School
  - Age 16-18
- High School
  - Age 19-29+
- Academic High School
- Specialized High School (Vocational High School)
- Special School (Foreign Language, Science and Gifted, Meister High School)

Specialized High School

- Graduate School
  - Age 19-29+
- University of Education
  - Age 19-29+
- Technical College
- Junior College
- Industrial University

Compulsory Education

- Elementary School
  - Age 6-12
  - Age 13-15
  - Age 16-18

- Middle School
  - Age 16-18

- High School
  - Age 19-29+

- Academic High School

- Specialized High School (Vocational High School)

- Special School (Foreign Language, Science and Gifted, Meister High School)
Education System

- **Compulsory Education** (1st-9th grades, age 6-15)
- **Almost no selection until high school**
- **High school types**
  - Academic school
  - Specialized school (vocational schools),
  - High schools with specified objectives
    (Meister school, Foreign Language schools, Science Education, Arts schools, etc.)
  - Academic high school and specialized schools
    (80% vs. 20% by number of students in 2012)
  - Vocational high school students decreased from 45% in 1980-1990
- **Severe competition for ‘elite’ colleges and universities**
Excellence of Education

Korean Education has been getting attention from many countries including USA

- High scholastic achievement (OECD PISA 2009)
  - Literacy in reading Ranked 1st ~ 2nd
  - Math Ranked 1st ~ 2nd
  - Science Ranked 2nd~4th

- Underachievement rate
  - 7.2% (2008) → 2.6% (2011)

- University (higher education) achievement rate
  - 51% (2008) → 58% (2011)
Changes in Structure of Education

Rapid Increase of College Attendance Rate

Increasing Proportion of Professionals
Proportion of college graduates and Professionals

Cooling out college aspiration?

Increase job opportunities?

Proportion of college graduates (25-34)

Proportion of professionals
Importance of career education has been emphasized for the following three reasons

- School education has not been successfully linked with jobs

- Many students entered universities or colleges without having deep consideration about their career and interest after graduating high school.

- How to respond to the gap between supply and demand in career education field?
  - Cooling out the college aspiration? vs. Increase the job opportunity?
Part 2

RECENT CAREER EDUCATION POLICY REFORM
Career Education Policy : Evolution

2009
- “Career and Occupation” is added as a regular education subject at school

2011
- Career teachers are allocated to high schools (1,201 schools)

2012
- Ministry of education science and technology announced the first nationally achievable career education goal - “School career education goal and achievement standard”
  - Pre-announcement of legislation for “Career education improvement act”
  - Career teachers are allocated to middle schools

2013
- 84% of schools are expected to have a career teacher (2,999 schools).
Career Education in Korea

- Enhancing Students’ Career Activities
- Enhancing Schools’ Career Education
- Reinforcing Teachers’ Career Education Competency
- Enlarging Family and Communities’ Participation in Career Education

Career Support System
Strengthening Career Education Support System
Career Education in Korea

Student
- Career education curriculum
- Work-based career education
- Career camp
- Career exhibition

School
- Reinforced foundation for career education
- Career education specialized schools
- Career education contents
- Career activity rooms

Teacher
- Career teachers
- Career education training for principals
- Research competition of best career education practices

Family & Community
- Career education for parents
- Cooperation with community
- ‘Dream Letter’

Career Support System
- Support local education authority for career education practice
- Center for Career Development at KRIVET
- CareerNet

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Part 3

CAREER EDUCATION R & D AT KRIVET
Center for Career Development has played a significant role throughout the whole implementation process of policies on Korea’s career guidance since its opening in 1999.
Center for Career Development at KRIVET

Greater importance of career development to the nation and each individual

Increased need to expand the career guidance concept, previously focused on college entrance

Emergence of the need to establish a lifelong job development support system and a central body for career development

Study on Career and Jobs
Career Guidance
Life-long Education
Job Information
Creation & Extension
Career Expert Training

01 Change
Advanced industries Knowledge-based economy

02 Competitiveness
Globalization

03 Lifelong occupation
Extension of average lifespan

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Improving CareerNet

Background

- Established in 1999 with financial support from Ministry of Education
- To assist people’s career development from life-long learning perspective

Characteristics and Services

- Portal site for youth Career Development
- Providing Career Information (Education and Occupation in text and multimedia forms)
- Online Career Counseling
- Career Assessment (Interest, Aptitude, Maturity, Value, etc.)
- Career Education Programs for teachers
- 6.58 million members

http://career.go.kr

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## Increase of CareerNet Use

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<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of New Members per year</th>
<th>No. of New members per day</th>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>2,517</td>
<td>6,581,791</td>
<td>427,819,938</td>
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Composition of CareerNet Users

Members joined in 2012

- Elementary: 46.2%
- Middle: 28.1%
- High: 18.5%
- College: 3.2%
- Adult: 2.9%
- Teacher: 1.1%
Online Career Counseling through CareerNet

Number of online career counseling responded (approximately 119,000 accumulated cases)

- Elementary: 6.0% (629)
- Middle: 38.3% (4037)
- High: 46.3% (4876)
- College: 5.5% (580)
- Adult: 3.7% (391)
- Teacher: 0.2% (17)

Proportion of career counseling cases responded by group

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Career Education Subject: ’Career and Occupation’

- Adoption of ‘Career and Occupation’ subject in school as an elective course
  - High schools in 2008, Middle schools in 2009
  - Elementary school (creative-flexible activity not subject) in 2010
Training for Career Teacher

- Training of Career Teacher
  - In 2009-2010, 1,500 teachers were selected across 16 regional office of education as career teachers in general high schools.
  - In 2010-2011, 1,500 teachers were trained for career teachers:
    - Selected, trained, and placed for vocational high schools and private high schools.
    - Additional 1,500 teachers were trained and placed including middle schools.
Placement of Career Teachers

- Placement of Career Teacher
  - High schools in 2011, Middle schools in 2012
  - 84% of middle and high schools in 2013

![Bar chart showing the placement of Career Teachers in 2011-2012 and planned for 2013. The chart includes data for public middle, private middle, public high, and private high schools.](chart.png)
Establishing National Standard and Indicators for Career Education

**Purpose**

- Provide systematic and seamless learning and experience for career development to students
- Linkage and differentiation of career education among school levels
- Develop foundation skills and creative career plans

**Process**

- Analyzing previous research and other countries’ national standards (UK, US, Denmark, Canada etc.)
- Advisory group composed of experts, teachers, etc.
- Making the first version by Center for Career Development at KRIVET
- Review and examine the feasibility and relevance of the standards by career education teacher at school levels

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Goals of Career Education

Objectives of Elementary level (E)
Objectives of Middle level (M)
General High(GH) Specialized High (SH)

I. Self Understanding and Social Development
II. Understanding World of Work
III. Career Exploration
IV. Career Design and Preparation
Part 4

FUTURE OF CAREER EDUCATION
: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES
Providing customized career counseling service for individual students

Providing extensive career experience opportunities (e.g. specific semester for students’ career exploration)

Increasing use of technologies (e.g. Smart Book, Tablet PC)

Reinforcing connections with career education experts from all over the world

Keywords for Future Career Education

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References


CareerNet Website

http://www.career.go.kr/cnet/front/eng/eng_home.do

KRIVET Website http://eng.krivet.re.kr

MEST Website http://english.mest.go.kr