

Continue to support citizens' learning and encourage "learning to be" in a crisis: How does Shanghai, as a learning city, respond to the COVID-19 outbreak

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In this special period of global response to the crisis, learning cities face new challenges and need to play an important role. Here, Shanghai, as a member of the global network of learning cities, shares with you the challenges and experiences we have faced since late January.

Context

Shanghai is China's largest city with a population of 24 million. Shanghai began its epidemic prevention and control campaign in late January, which was also the winter holiday and the Chinese New Year holiday, when most parents and children start their family life at home.

In February, Shanghai introduced a policy to extend the winter vacation for students. Meanwhile, the government requires that parents work home, which has become the main form of daily life, and parents spend more time with their children. Since early March is the usual start time for primary and secondary schools in Shanghai, the start time of primary and secondary schools and universities in Shanghai has been delayed because the outbreak has not been fully controlled. In order to ensure that students can study and use their vacation time efficiently, the city of Shanghai started online teaching in March to ensure that classes are not suspended.

After the current outbreak of the global pandemic, we found that no country is an independent individual any more, and the whole world is in a global chain. The spread of the virus has shown an obvious domino effect, which shows that the whole earth is a community of shared future. Therefore, the prevention and control of the pandemic requires the joint efforts of all countries and mutual support as a community of shared future to achieve the unified goal of pandemic prevention and control. In a country, there is also a need for cities to support each other; Only when each city is healthy can the whole country be rejuvenated.

In this special period, we need to use the concept of learning city to guide the city's development. In this special period, the development focus of the learning city is to guide the citizens to "learning to be" in the public health crisis.

No suspension of education: how does Shanghai, as a learning city, support its citizens

1. The city should care about their citizens -- the Shanghai municipal government has made information disclosure timely, always and comprehensive through open letters, press conferences and the Internet, so that citizens can get comprehensive information on the development of the epidemic and urban policies at any time. Therefore, citizens can understand and support urban epidemic prevention and control according to the overall urban planning. The city government will respond as quickly as possible to the needs of citizens, such as how to buy masks more safely and how to pick up food and supplies delivered without contact. At the same time, the city encourages agencies to cooperate with each other across departments to deal with each resident, especially the elderly who live alone without their children. Teachers in primary and secondary schools and universities will contact all students and their parents and care about the health and living conditions of each student. Institutions that serve the elderly, such as the university for the elderly, contact each student, care about their health and living conditions, and actively answer their questions on epidemic prevention and control.

2. The city should guide learning -- as a city with the concept of learning city, Shanghai actively guided citizens to learn during the epidemic. In particular, aiming at the problem of "what to learn", Shanghai city guides the citizens to carry out the study in various ways. For example, on scientific epidemic prevention, there are a lot of popular science education, from wearing masks to washing hands, from using chopsticks to not panicking, from caring about the development of the epidemic to the value of scientific and technological development for epidemic prevention, from caring about health to caring about economic development and social inclusion, all of these have become the content of learning for all citizens. In this special period, how to keep healthy and carry out physical exercise, how to strengthen the care and tolerance for others, how to enhance the awareness of sustainable development, how to prevent the recurrence of poverty, etc., are all citizens in the initiative to learn. To be implemented in every family, Shanghai actively advocates and guides family learning and family construction, conducts family reading, encourages intergenerational learning, participates in housework, and guides every family to care about the development of the country and the city, especially supports medical workers. Shanghai municipality emphasizes the improvement of citizens' learning ability and leads them to improve their ability of epidemic prevention through continuous study, which not only guarantees the health and safety of themselves and their families, but also supports the city's epidemic prevention work. The spirit of "All for one, one for all" has been fully developed.

3. The city should provide targeted resources -- during the epidemic prevention and control period, Shanghai provided a large number of online learning resources and opened a number of online learning platforms for its citizens. At the beginning of February, Shanghai Oriental Pearl's Bestv, SiTV interactive and Dongfang TV all responded to the education department's "no suspension of classes" by launching the "no suspension of classes, learn at home" educational products, covering more than 30,000 online quality courses of all ages. Since March, the Shanghai municipal education commission has formulated a unified "foundation" plan for online education in the city. Focusing on the 12 grades with different students in primary and high schools, the Shanghai municipal education commission broadcasts high-quality video lessons through TV stations at the same time every week to ensure that each grade "unify the teachers, unify the content and unify the curriculum". Meanwhile, primary and secondary schools are required to carry out teaching interaction and answer questions after class according to the principle of "one school one policy" and "one policy one student". At the same time, Shanghai also trains teachers' online teaching skills, strengthens teachers' teaching ability, establishes a teaching community, organizes all the universities and primary schools to carry out online education, carries out compulsory cultural extracurricular activities, and designs special courses for students to enrich students' home life.

4. The city should enhance citizens' sense of hope -- cities should constantly share learning experiences, spread good ways and methods for citizens to learn, enhance their knowledge of epidemic prevention and control, and enhance their confidence in fighting with the epidemic. With the help of information technology, the interaction between the government and citizens is more and more frequent, and all kinds of learning organizations and teams are playing a great role. Therefore, Shanghai citizens have many channels to understand the progress of the epidemic prevention and control in Shanghai and can share many kinds of learning results. As a result, people are increasingly confident that they can weather the crisis. Shanghai has also been spreading to the public the heart-warming deeds of the first-line anti-epidemic medical staff and other staff, and the public together to accumulate and transfer confidence. By the end of February, Shanghai had sent nine batches of 1640 medical staff to support Wuhan. Shanghai residents saw the improvement of the overall situation of Wuhan and were proud of Shanghai's support and help to Wuhan.

Community education: build the world around people to live and learn, and pay special attention to the special needs of families, care for the elderly

Since February, the community has been the most important unit in epidemic prevention and control, because everyone is a community member and all the families are in the community.

Shanghai has 16 district-level community colleges, 212 street (town) community schools, more than 5,800 residential (village) committee learning centers, tens of thousands of buildings, good-neighborly sites, central households and classrooms, as

well as more than 50,000 community educators. It is an important force for Shanghai to build a learning city. During this outbreak, community education played a significant role and continues to develop.

1. More community educators and citizens participate in community service, become community volunteers, carry out service learning, problem solving learning, project learning. Specific work, including making telephone calls and WeChat contact to community residents, statistics gathering, analysis of all kinds of data, taking temperature from the people in and out of the community, reminding residents to wear masks, contacting from the airport, station residents returning to the community, and helping community residents understand various policies. In some international communities, community educators serve as translators for language and cultural communication. For some floating population, urban migrant workers, to care about their lives; some communities require 14 days of self-isolation, with community volunteers helping to deliver rice, food and daily supplies to their homes.

2. Community education provides citizens with targeted learning resources.

The first stage: in order to serve the needs of the public more accurately, Shanghai sorted out the resources and carefully created the cloud "Air Class" for the lifelong learning of the "housebound" Shanghai citizens, which was welcomed by the citizens.

The second stage: online after a period of time, according to the data platform and user feedback, further analysis of the learning demand, with the Shanghai education resource center, Shanghai people learning network, the Shanghai sports institute, Shanghai education press expands, popular science education promotion center and other multilateral cooperation, in the "Air Class" launched the second batch of resources, including Shanghai net 6375 micro course door, the old learning network video class 1942, famous poetry reading video 30, "home life" leisure sports curriculum 10 doors, "health lecture hall", "popular science and epidemic prevention curriculum" and other resources. As of February 25, classroom on the air had more than 94,000 visitors and 266,000 views.

The third stage: carry out the activity of "epidemic knowledge Quiz". At the municipal (district) level, universities and community colleges for the elderly launched the "200 questions on epidemic prevention knowledge" activity, the public participation enthusiasm is very high.

3. Community education encourages multiple types of online learning, and encourages students and families to carry out distinctive learning projects, so as to enable more community members to participate in learning, constantly enrich their home life and improve themselves.

For example, Xu Xiaoping, a tai chi instructor at Minhang university for the elderly in Shanghai, first learned from her daughter how to use the Internet to teach online live streaming. In early February, when teacher Xu's news was posted on the WeChat group of tai chi classes, it was immediately responded to. Everyone in accordance with the requirements of the teacher Xu, the installation of software, learning the

operation steps. From 10 am to 10:30 am every day, hundreds of students from Minhang, Qingpu, Songjiang, Xuhui, Putuo and even Sichuan, Zhejiang and Fujian provinces in Shanghai stood by their mobile phones to watch live videos and interact with Xu. If you don't understand something, you can ask questions on the spot. Mr. Xu will give answers after class or before class the next day. If students miss the live broadcast, they can watch the replay and practice by themselves.

For example, in Wujing town, Minhang district, Shanghai, teacher Liu of the community learning center invites the community residents to learn origami together through the Internet. The interested residents can scan the code into the group. Soon there were more than thirty people in the group. In the study, we learn, communicate and solve problems together, lively and interesting. In some families, when an elderly person is learning to fold paper, her wife will join in, and the children will come together and become a family study.

Shanghai residents life-long learning "Air Class" integrates with Shanghai MOOC for education for the elderly, Shanghai community education classes, cloud view lifelong learning classroom, citizens online learning projects, project of lifelong learning humanities walk, and other resources platforms, through a computer terminal and mobile, provide online resources platform for citizens to actively response to the outbreak. On the platform, there are "fashion and life art", "scientific diet", "24 solar terms folk culture", "citizen accomplishment", "fitness qigong ba duan jin" and other education MOOC for the elderly in Shanghai. There are "Pens paint Shanghai in pale colours", "Calligraphy Art - regular script series", "scientific life - food safety", "become intelligent parents", "Shanghai dim sum production" and other Shanghai community education micro-class.

4. A focus on special groups based on the idea of inclusion. Shanghai adheres to the spirit of the Medellin conference. Each community provides targeted community support for special families, special old people, children and other vulnerable groups, people who need to be isolated, and people returning to work. Keep close contact with these special groups, pay close attention to their health condition and life needs, care about their life difficulties, and provide help for their home study and life.

5. Shanghai is actively developing creativity of community education. Each district and community school in Shanghai actively develops its own creativity and actively promotes the diversified learning of its residents. Each community learns from and influences each other, so that each community in Shanghai can give play to its own characteristics and form a unified cohesive force. All communities work together to serve the citizens of Shanghai, ensure their safety and health, and work together to promote the quality of the citizens, so as to contribute to the epidemic prevention of Shanghai and even China.

Final Thoughts

During the special period when the pandemic spread around the world, Shanghai, like

many other cities, was in the crisis and exerted its own capacity to deal with the crisis.

Facing the pandemic and the complexity of the global situation, we need to continue to absorb the complexity of the French thinker Edgar Morin, adhere to the concept and goals of sustainable development of the UN, and firmly believe that pandemic prevention and resistance is a battle of human solidarity. Shanghai fights side by side with other cities in the world, shares the experience of learning city construction in the special period. We firmly believe that mankind will eventually overcome the virus and the world will embrace a better tomorrow.