

Abstract

This paper will review and discuss Shupe's (2008) article, "Toward a Higher Standard: The Changing Organizational Context of Accountability for Educational Results." It will also discuss my two selected research journals to support my discussion for this assignment. The application of this assignment is to interact and reflect on the learning process by analyzing the Shupe's (2008) educational research journal.

Article Overview: Shupe's (2008) Toward a Higher Standard: The Changing Organizational Context of Accountability for Educational Results

The purpose of this research is to present the full range of choices that academic institutions should provide to attain ongoing educational opportunities for students. The researchers investigated the process of implementing eight methodological modules that are currently available to colleges and universities to improve students' academic success. The researchers also assessed and established future recommendations to ensure that educational institutions meet standards for accountability.

Based on the reading, I realize that the choice to implement accountability in educational institutions is to make sure institutions help students achieve success in their academic learning. It is vital for educational faculties and others who are part of the academic institution to observe and strategize academic needs for student achievement. The article states, "In an academic institution, the choice itself-the action of collectively deciding to improve the organizational capacity of something that could affect most internal players-calls for the participation of many in the decision and requires no less than a full academic year to complete (Shupe, 2008)." I believe it is significantly important to examine organizational accountability and provide future alternatives for educational improvements.

Questions

As I read this research journal, I came across ten questions but I jotted down three main questions:

1. What is the institutional mission?
2. Who is being given the opportunity to participate in higher education?
3. What standards students are held to when they are evaluated for whether they have in fact achieved those learning outcomes?

Responses

Below is the discussion of the three main questions;

1st Question: What is the institutional mission?

I believe that the institutional mission should define the purpose and core primary objective. It should guide the organization on how to operate and provide good customer service. It is imperative to ensure that your mission statement defines what the organization is, distinguish the organization from others, and evaluate current products and services that the organization offers. It is crucial to ensure your organization mission clearly explains the purpose of your existence.

2nd Question: Who is being given the opportunity to participate in higher education?

Based on the study, students are given opportunity to participate in higher education after they graduated from high school or completed GED. They are also required to take placement test to determine their talents to participate in higher education. It is important to identify students who are competent and ready to participate in higher education. The article states, "The institution provides each student with the opportunity to create a unique demonstrated achievement record that accurately reflects his or her unique combination of capabilities

(Kennedy, 2008).” I believe the role for higher education is to provide sustainable educational needs for students to successfully accomplish their studies.

3rd Question: What standards students are held to when they are evaluated for whether they have in fact achieved those learning outcomes?

The students are evaluated to ensure that they achieve successful learning outcomes. The student evaluation should encompass assessing grade performances, standard testing, quarterly portfolios, assessment project results and others to make sure they accomplished projectable learning results. I believe that educational institutions should hold students accountable by making sure they attain knowledge and skills to prosper in their academic fields.

Two Selected Articles: Reflection

I have selected two articles: Kennedy (2008), “Contribution of Qualitative Research to Research on Teacher Qualifications” and Chesky (2011), Hoikuen or Yochien: Past, Present, and Future of Japanese Early Childhood Education to support my discussion in this assignment. The purpose of these studies is to have a better understanding of the characteristics of improving student success. The researchers discuss the interaction between knowledge and practice to provide quality educational opportunities to students. Below is the discussion of the two articles:

1st Article: Kennedy (2008) Article: Contributions of Qualitative Research to Research on Teacher Qualifications

The philosophical perspective of Kennedy (2008) article examines the relationship between teacher content knowledge and student achievement. The article states “in the case of teaching, qualitative studies can help them see how a teacher’s knowledge either misdirects practice or enhances it and see where and how educational backgrounds have their influences, if they do (Kennedy, 2008).” Teachers who have steady academic backgrounds, skills and greater

knowledge can teach in higher education. Teacher qualifications are revealed to ensure that the school hire qualify teachers who meet the hiring requirements.

2nd Article: Past, Present, and Future of Japanese Early Childhood Education

The purpose of this journal reviewed is to make sure the Japanese people and other communities around the world aware that Early Childhood Education provides realistic educational needs that help children adult develop their abilities. Japan places great emphasis on education and a high value on teaching. Equally important is the upbringing and care of the nation's children. It is generally believed that education connects children to high morality and excellent manners via daily interaction with teachers and caregivers. The Early Childhood Education is an educative program that helps children learns necessary skills for their career life path to be comparative in this competitive world.

Conclusion

After reading the authors' articles, I realize that their vision was to help students achieve affordable educational services and encouragement for their optimal development in higher education. It is significantly important to ensure that educational institution vision communicate the needs of students and make sure their career expectations are met. My overall impression after reading the three articles is that an effective leadership vision is important because you have a clear mission and purpose to successfully lead the organization.

I believe that an effective educational leader is an example of transactional leadership style because he/she helps students learn the necessary skills that will aid them in discovering a career path in the competitive world of today. The transactional leaders believe that it is important for students to attend school at an early age to start building their own career choices. It is important that effective leaders communicate how to achieve their visions and how people

will benefit, for example listening to Martin Luther King, Jr's famous speech "I have a Dream." Dr. King's vision was to liberate and ensure that all people are treated equally regardless of their gender, nationality, color and age. I believe that it is crucially important leaders communicate their visions and how they improve the lives of people in society.

Works Cited

- Kennedy, M. (Dec. 2008). Contributions of Qualitative Research to Research on Teacher Qualifications. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, Vol. 30, Iss. 4, pp. 344–367.
- Chesky, A. (Summer, 2011). Hoikuen or Yochien: Past, Present, and Future of Japanese Early Childhood Education. *Childhood Education*, Vol. 87, Iss. 4, pg. 239, 5 pgs
- Shupe, D. (2008). Toward a Higher Standard: The Changing Organizational Context of Accountability for Educational Results. *On the Horizon*, Vol. 16, Iss. 2, pp. 72 - 96.