

Investigation and Research on Safety Education in Village Elementary Schools in Counties

—With Nanxian County, Hunan as an Example

Yihan Zhang

Hunan Normal University, Changsha, Hunan, 413000, China

Abstract: The basic education in the new period has changed quickly, and all kinds of education departments have strengthened safety education by various approaches; however, the students' safety accidents across the country have still happened frequently, so the people have spontaneously paid attention to and reflected on the students' safety education issue, especially the safety education in the elementary schools where the students are younger. In this paper, the village elementary schools in the counties have been taken as the research object, and the research methods such as documentary method and interview method have been adopted to analyze the current situation of safety education in the village elementary schools in Nanxian County from the aspects such as safety education management, safety education content, safety education awareness, safety education effect and safety education approach.

Keywords: County region; Village elementary schools; Safety education

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.26549/jetm.v1i1.572>

1. Research Origin and Research Value

1.1 Research Origin

The events that the elementary and secondary school students' drowning events frequently happened in all the places of Hunan before the beginning of summer in 2017, among which Yiyang City "May 13" Student Drowning Event caused the high attention from the society. In addition, the events such as "Yuyu Xu's Telecommunication Fraud Event" in Shandong and "College Student Linlin Zhang's Missing Event" in Henan reflected that the students have the very weak safety protection awareness. The schools implemented the safety education but the effect was barely satisfactory; especially for the elementary school students, the safety education shall be strengthened because their power is weak. According to the relevant data, nearly 16,000 elementary and secondary school students died in China every year, that is, 40 elementary and secondary school students would die abnormally every day. It has been 21 years since the first "National Elementary and Secondary school Stu-

dent Safety Education Day" in March 1996 in China till this year. During this period, Guidance Outline of Public Safety Education in Elementary and Secondary Schools and Measures for Safety Management of Elementary and Secondary Schools and Kindergartens to emphasize and normalize the safety education work across the country. However, with the development of current society, increase of the safety education approach and concern of all sectors of society, the students' safety accident rate has still been in the higher level, and we shall have to reflect where the safety education problems of the elementary and secondary students lie in to find the solutions to the problems, thus reducing and even completely eradicating such accidents.

In China, there are so many people in the villages so the safety education problems in the village elementary schools have deserve attention. According to the statistics of statistical yearbook of Hunan, there were a total of 4,678,102 elementary school students in Hunan in 2013, and there were 3,649,255 elementary school students in the rural areas (counties, towns and villages), accounting for

78% of the elementary school students in Hunan; therefore, the safety problems in village elementary schools deserve thinking and exploration. This paper will analyze the current situation of safety education the village elementary schools in Nanxian County, find the problems and put forward the suggestions on the safety education development of village elementary schools in Nanxian County by investigation and research on the village elementary schools in Nanxian County.

1.2 Research Value

1.2.1 Theoretical Value

There has been a lot of research on the safety education of elementary schools at home and abroad but most of the researchers have selected the urban elementary schools as the research object and few researchers have researched the village elementary schools. This paper has selected the village elementary schools in Nanxian County, Yiyang City, Hunan as the research object and has provided the theoretical support for the education departments in Nanxian County and even the safety education of China's village elementary schools.

1.2.2 Practical Value

The author has found the problems in safety education of elementary school students in Nanxian County by investigation and research, and has traced the source and thoroughly looked into the reasons, thus finding the solutions. It has made for the Government of Nanxian County and the education departments of Nanxian County to learn about the current situation of safety education of village elementary schools, to provide the true basis for developing the education policies of village elementary schools in Nanxian County.

2. Safety Education Overview

2.1 Safety

The word "safety" is not strange, and it is often used in our daily life; however, what is its meaning on earth?

The Great Chinese Dictionary says safety has two meanings; the first means safety with no danger; the second means protection and preservation. Weber International Dictionary also explains the meaning of safety from two aspects; the first means the state with no danger, fear or uncertainty; the second means various measures of defense and protection to preserve such state. In English-Chinese Security Terms Dictionary, "safety means the general term of the allowable risk degree, comparatively no worry of harm and damage probability decline". The absolute safety without any danger or accident completely does not exist in the real world.

2.2 Safety Education

Education means a kind of social practical activity to cultivate the people with purpose, plan and organization. Essentially, safety education is also a social practical activity to cultivate the people but different scholars have had different opinions due to different concern perspectives. Some scholars have thought that from the perspective of man, the school safety education means that the school managers and educators cultivate and train the students in terms of knowledge, safety awareness and skills according to their situations at different stages. Some scholars have thought the from the content, safety education means the measure to maintain the life safety and education to prevent accidents and also means the guidance of life safety endangered due to the lack of mental safety at the same time. Our research thinks that safety education means the education activity to promote the students' safety awareness, safety knowledge and safety skills with purpose, plan and organization based on maintaining the students' life safety according to the students' age grades, and it not only emphasizes the education content and people, but also combines with the safety education management and safety education so as to be able to comprehensively grasp the connotations of safety and safety education.

2.3 Safety Education of Elementary Schools

Currently, safety education of China's elementary schools has not have the clear definition; instead, it has come from the laws and regulations developed by the national government; for example, Guidance Outline of Public Safety Education in Elementary and Secondary Schools has stipulated safety education from education object, content and education methods. This paper focuses on the school, family and society of the village elementary school students and the research thinks it is the education activity to strengthen the students' safety knowledge, skills and awareness based on guarantee the students' life safety.

3. Survey Methods and Current Situation of Safety Education of Village Elementary School Students in Counties

3.1 Survey Object

According to the description of the statistical yearbook of Hunan, there were a total of 8,286 village (county, town and township) elementary schools in Hunan in 2013, accounting for 89% of the elementary schools in the whole province; there were 181,463 teachers, accounting for 80% of the total teachers in the whole province; there were 3,649,255 village elementary school students, accounting for 78% of the elementary school students in the whole province; the total expenditures of education

expenses in Hunan in 2013 were RMB 105,998,150,000, including the expenditures of RMB 30,000,210,000 of the elementary schools, accounting for 28%.

Nanxian County belongs to Yiyang City, Hunan, and it is located in the interior of Dongting Lake in the border area of Hunan and Hubei. It has 13 towns and 2 townships in total and the total land area of 1,321 km². In 2009, the population in the whole county reached 794,100; in 2016, there were a total of 121 elementary schools, more than 4,200 teachers and more than 28,200 elementary school students at school. This research has surveyed 489 students and 169 teachers of 6 village elementary schools in 5 towns and townships within Nanxian County.

3.2 Survey Method

In this survey process, based on the combination of the domestic and foreign research data, the current situation of safety education of village elementary school students in Nanxian County, and the interview method has been mainly adopted to conduct the in-depth interview with some elementary school students, parents, teachers and school principals randomly and made the record.

3.3 Current Situation of Survey

By the longer interviews and result conclusion and sorting, the current situation of safety education of village elementary schools in Nanxian County has been outstanding in the aspects such as safety education consciousness, safety education management, safety education content, safety education approach and safety education perception.

3.3.1 Current Situation of Safety Education Consciousness

The main safety education awareness of this interview focuses on the research on importance of safety education, relations between safety education and study and attitude toward safety education. In terms of importance of safety education, most of the students, parents and teachers have realized the important position of safety education; for the relations between safety education and study, some students and teachers have not had the correct understandings, and some students and teachers have even thought that they have the relation of waning and waxing; in terms of attitude toward safety education, both the students and teachers have had positive feelings and attitude.

3.3.2 Current Situation of Safety Education Management

By surveying and learning about the 6 village elementary schools, the safety education management of the schools has mainly included education and teaching, campus safety environment, accident treatment mechanism, evaluation and supervision. Comprehensively speaking, safety educa-

tion management of schools has been in the medium level and safety education management has been good. In terms of safety education and teaching, the situation has been general. Specifically speaking, the schools have had the specific time arrangement in the aspect of safety education and teaching and have had the professional teachers and education resources, but the schools have not organized the safety education examinations and have a deficiency in the assessment link; the campus safety environment has been general, and the potential safety hazards have existed in individual aspects. For example, the classrooms have not been equipped with the fire extinguishers; the schools' doorkeeper supervision has not been in place; the non-native personnel can come in and go out freely; in terms of accident treatment mechanism, most of the students, parents and teachers have thought that the schools can timely treat the campus emergencies well, and it has been found that the schools have had the emergency plans in the interviews and surveys; Evaluation and supervision have been good.

3.3.3 Current Situation of Safety Education Content

According to Guidance Outline of Safety Education of Elementary and Secondary School Students, the safety education content has included psychological health education, social safety education, public health education, accidental injury education, network and information safety education, natural disaster education and other event education. It can be found by interviews that school safety education content has been more comprehensive, that the natural disaster education and education of other events influencing the students' safety has been most concerned, that network and information safety education has been weakest and that the psychological health education teachers have paid more attention but the students have ignored.

3.3.4 Safety Education Approach

According to the survey on the village elementary schools in Nanxian County, in terms of implementation mode, the schools have generally not set up the specialized safety education courses, and instead, the safety education has mainly permeated into the head teachers' daily management; the head teachers have taught the safety knowledge to the students by language expression, and occasionally they will distribute the safety knowledge brochures, unite the families to strengthen the students' safety education under the unified arrangement of the schools and education management departments, and will unite other social departments such as fire brigade in very few cases; in addition, the level of the unite education has also been limited due to the restriction of the geographical position and

school conditions.

3.3.5 Current Situation of Safety Education Perception

It has been found by interview that in terms of the current situation of safety education perception, the teachers and students think that they have had the higher perception but actually their awareness of safety problems has been not enough and shall be further strengthened and improved.

4. Safety Education Improvement Strategy of Village Elementary Schools in the County

4.1 Pay Attention to the Group Differences of the Village Students

The village elementary school students' characteristics shall be focused on to provide them with the most suitable education, enrich the education content and add the specific content of practical operation not only just limited to the books and characters. The diversified education methods such as following WeChat safety knowledge public account, safety education knowledge debate competition, safety knowledge answer and case explanation and other popular methods at present shall be adopted; meanwhile, the schools shall strengthen the attention on the left-behind children and elementary school students, and they shall not only strengthen the education on the students but also more contact and communicate with the parents, and concern and care for the safety of the left-behind students as possible.

4.2 Combination of Teaching and Safety Work

Teachers shall not only explain the principles, teach the knowledge and solve problems, but also instruct the safety education knowledge.

Especially in the village elementary schools, the safety education shall be concerned all the time. In the survey, we have found that the village elementary schools have not had the teachers specially teaching the safety knowledge so all the teachers especially the head teachers should teach the safety knowledge. Therefore, all the teachers should more or less bear the responsibility of safety knowledge education while teaching the academic knowledge.

4.3 Improve the Safety Education System in the Village Schools

The village elementary school in Nanxian County has universally paid attention to the safety education work but in the whole education system, the complete system has

not formed; most of the schools have not developed the assessment mechanism, and the safety education content has also been old.

The village elementary schools in Nanxian County should pay attention to make safety education work living and normalized and improve the attitude of emphasizing when accidents occur and not controlling it when nothing happens at the ordinary times; meanwhile, they shall strengthen and improve the whole education system, form a set of complete system from safety emergency plan, safety knowledge education, safety facilities, specific practice, daily records and effect feedback to be well documented.

4.4 Establishment of the Safety Networks of Government, Families and Schools

The schools shall also strengthen the contact with the students' families to link together and form the composited force while strengthening the safety knowledge education; meanwhile, the schools shall also strengthen communication with the government sectors, strive for support and renovate the campus surrounding environment under the leadership of the government to build the stable environment for the safety of village elementary school students and also be able to attract the social public attention on the safety of village elementary schools.

References

- [1] Siliang Chang. Educational Management[M]. Changsha: Hunan University Press, 2006. (in Chinese)
- [2] Yuzheng Wang. Current Situation and Problem Research of Primary and Secondary Safety Education[D]. Nanjing Normal University, 2011. (in Chinese)
- [3] Shufang Liu. Existing Problems and Solving Strategies Research of Primary School Safety Education in Rural Areas[D]. Hebei Normal University, 2012. (in Chinese)
- [4] Jinxue Wang, Yourong Wang. Students' Safety Education is the Key Premise of Building Safe and Harmonious Campus[J]. Learning, 2001(08). (in Chinese)
- [5] Aizhong Chen. Thought on Walking out of Trouble of Primary and Secondary Safety Education[J]. Modern Education Science. 2010(10). (in Chinese)
- [6] Chuting Zhang. Outline of Educational Theory[M]. Changsha: Hunan Education Press, 1999. (in Chinese)
- [7] Peng Sun. Study of PE Safety Education Intervention of High School[D]. Beijing Sport University, 2013. (in Chinese)
- [8] Agran PF. School Transportation Safety. Pediatrics, 2017.