Epilogue



Photo 1 A student's painting of school life

A junior secondary student in Shanghai completed the beautiful painting above. It showcases the student's interpretation of school life. It depicts students performing a variety of tasks, from reading books, to playing the violin, having drinks and even napping in the midst of lush greenery. It's a lovely picture of school life – one where students are able to enjoy a holistic education and experience life. It also reminds me of the inscription on the stone mentioned in the introductory chapter. 'Learn painstakingly, experience joyfully' expresses the aspiration of Shanghai education in a nutshell.

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Commenting on Shanghai's PISA achievements, Chester E. Finn Jr., who served in President Ronald Reagan's Department of Education opined:

Wow, I'm kind of stunned, I'm thinking Sputnik, ... I've seen how relentless the Chinese are at accomplishing goals, and if they can do this in Shanghai in 2009, they can do it in 10 cities in 2019, and in 50 cities by 2029. (Top test scores From Shanghai stun educators, *The New York Times*, December 7 2010)

But Finn is only half right. It is true that Shanghai has indeed achieved much and showed the world what other Chinese cities may be able to achieve in the future. But that's not *all* that Shanghai is capable of. Shanghai remains resolved to press on, constantly seeking to improve and excel.

We've only read the beginning of the Shanghai story.

Blurb

Ranked as a 'stunning success' by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Shanghai has attracted worldwide attention since its impressive performance in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). Shanghai also stands out for having the world's highest percentage of 'resilient students' – students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds who emerged as top performers.

Learning from Shanghai: Lessons on Achieving Educational Success offers a close-up view of Shanghai by exploring the key factors that explain its exceptional success in education.

Highlights of the Book:

- Offers in-depth and original analysis of the policies, people and practices that underpin Shanghai's educational success;
- Combines scholarly research and the author's personal insights;
- Includes empirical research conducted in Shanghai schools and with Shanghai school leaders, teachers, students and other educational stakeholders from 2011 to 2012; and
- Identifies factors in educational success, using Shanghai as a case study for policymakers, academics, educators and the general public.

About the Author

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Glossary of Chinese Terms

- A thousand soldiers and horses crossing a single-plank bridge [qianjun wanma guo dumuqiao] 千军万马过独木桥
- All for the sake of the student [yiqie weile xuesheng] 一切为了学生
- Allow the sheep to roam freely without supervision [fangyang] 放养
- Backbone teacher [gugan jiaoshi] 骨干教师
- Balance [junyun] 均匀
- Bundled school management [kunbang banxue] 捆绑办学
- Change ten thousand times without departing from the original position [wanbian buli qizhong] 万变不离其中
- Children should not interject when adults are talking [daren jianghua, xiaohaizi buyao chazui] 大人讲话, 小孩子不要插嘴
- College entrance rate [shengxuelü] 升学率
- Compete based on aspiration and not extravagance, on diligence and not intelligence, on improvement and not foundation [bubi kuoqi bizhiqi, bubi congming biqinfen, bubi jichu bijinbu] 不比阔气, 比志气, 不比聪明, 比勤奋, 不比基础, 比进步
- Constructing a dialogue style school culture [duihuaxing xuexiao wenhua jianshe] 对话型学校文化建设
- Core points [hexindian] 核心点
- Counterpart schools [duikou xuexiao] 对口学校
- Design lessons based on the best developmental period, and teach based on the highest zone of proximal development [an zuijia fazhanqi sheke, chuang zuijin fazhanqu shijiao] 按最佳发展期设课, 创最近发展区施教
- Difficult points [nandian] 难点
- Dissimilar conception [xiangyi gouxiang] 相异构想
- Do not let your child lose out at the starting line [burang haizi shuzai qipaoxian shang] 不让孩子输在起跑线上
- Double famous project [shuangming gongcheng] 双名工程
- Eat from the big pot [chi daguofan] 吃大锅饭
- Educating humans is the priority [yuren weixian]育人为先
- Educational balance [jiaoyu junheng] 教育均衡

- Empirical cycle [xunhuai shizheng] 循坏实证
- Entrusted management [weituo guanli] 委托管理
- Exam is the baton [kaoshi shi zhihuibang] 考试是指挥棒
- Expanded course [tuozhanxing kecheng] 拓展型课程
- Experimental demonstration schools [shiyanxing shifanxing xuexiao] 实验性示范性学校
- Expert style teacher mentoring training [zhuanjiaxing jiaoshi daijiao peixun] 专家型教师带教培训
- Fair development [gongping fazhan] 公平发展
- Famous teachers, famous principal project [mingshi mingxiaozhang gongcheng] 名师名校长工程
- Famous Teacher's Studio [mingshi gongzuoshi] 名师工作室
- Focus on strengthening [zhongdian jiaqiang] 重点加强
- Force-feeding the duck [tianyashi] 填鸭式
- Form teacher [banzhuren] 班主任
- Foundational course [jichuxing kecheng] 基础型课程
- Foundational points [jichudian] 基础点
- Group mentoring [tuandui daijiao] 团队带教
- Hard indicator [ying zhibiao] 硬指标
- High scores [but] low abilities [gaofen dineng] 高分低能
- Home-made lessons [jiachangke] 家常课
- Hoping your son will be a dragon, your daughter will be a phoenix [wangzi chenglong, wangnü chengfeng] 望子成龙, 望女成凤
- Human beings are willing to die for money and birds are willing to die for food [renwei caisi, niaowei shiwang] 人为财死, 鸟为食亡
- Human-oriented [viren weiben] 以人为本
- If you don't have (high) college entrance rates, you cannot survive today. If you only have (high) college entrance rates, you cannot survive tomorrow. [ni meiyou shengxuelü, ni guobuliao jintian, ni zhiyou shengxuelü, ni guobuliao mingtian] 你没有升学率,你过不了今天。你只有升学率,你过不了明天。
- Inner strength [neigong] 内功
- Inquiry/Research course [tanjiuxing, yanjiuxing kecheng] 探究型, 研究型课程
- Integrated ability assessment [zonghe nengli ceshi] 综合能力测试
- Intensive teaching [jingjiang] 精讲
- Interview guide to top primary school admission [mingpai xiaoxue ruxue mianshi zhinan] 名牌小学入学面试指南
- Joyful education [yukuai jiaoyu] 愉快教育
- Junior secondary graduating exam [chuzhong biye kaoshi] 初中毕业考试
- Junior secondary school entrance exam [zhongkao] 中考
- Key-point or focused school [zhongdian xuexiao] 重点学校
- Learn painstakingly, experience joyfully [keku xuexi, kuaile tiyan] 刻苦学习, 快乐体验
- Language [yuwen] 语文
- Leading subject teachers [xueke daotou jiaoshi] 学科带头教师
- Learning by doing [zuozhongxue] 做中学

- Learning from books [shuzhongxue] 书中学
- Lesson preparation group [beikezu] 备课组
- Loosen one's grip on things [fangshou] 放手
- Lone soldier at battle' [danbing zuozhan] 单兵作战
- Master-disciple mentoring [shitu daijiao] 师徒带教
- Material essay [cailiao zuowen] 材料作文
- National basic education curriculum reform's teaching research finding [quanguo jichu jiaoyu kecheng gaige jiaoxue yanjiu chengguo] 全国基础教育课程改革教学研究成果
- National college or higher education entrance exam [gaokao] 高考
- National standardised exam for student admission into ordinary higher institutions in China [zhongguo de putong gaodeng xuexiao zhaosheng quanguo tongyi kaoshi] 中国的普通高等学校招生全国统一考试
- Neighbourhood counterpart enrolment [jiujin duikou ruxue] 就近对口入学
- New episode of Meng's mother selecting a neighbourhood [xin mengmu zelin] 新孟母择邻
- No one should be deprived of an education, no matter how poor you are' [zaiqiong yebunengyou qiongjiaoyu] 再穷也不能有穷教育
- No studying without writing [budong maobi budushu] 不动毛笔, 不读书
- One exam to determine the rest of your life' [yikao ding zhongshen] 一考定终身
- One day as my teacher, the rest of my life as my father [yiri weishi, zhongshen weifu] 一日为师, 终身为父
- One lesson that is polished many times, conducted many times and revised many times [yike duomo, yike duoshang, yike duogai] 一课多磨, 一课多上, 一课多改
- One man show [virentang] 一人堂
- Open the classroom door to create learning together [dakai jiaoshi damen, gongchuang xuexi gongtongti] 打开教室大门, 共创学习共同体
- Open-day system [kaifangri zhidu] 开放日制度
- Organisation [zuzhi] 组织
- Oriented towards student development [yi xuesheng fazhan weiben] 以学生发展为本
- Permanent registered address [hukou] 户口
- Post-tea house teaching [houchaguanshi jiaoxue] 后茶馆式教学
- Prenatal education [taijiao] 胎教
- Promotion and appointment committee [pinren weiyuanhui] 聘任委员会
- Public or open lesson [gongkaike] 公开课
- Quality [suzhi] 素质
- Quality-oriented education [suzhi jiaoyu] 素质教育
- Ouota allocation policy [minge fenpei fa] 名额分配法
- Random lesson observation [suitang tingke] 随堂听课
- read read, discuss discuss, practise practise, talk talk, do do [dudu, yiyi, lianlian, jiangjiang, zuozuo] 读读, 议议, 练练, 讲讲, 做做
- Reform on life experiment and experiment life [shenghuohua shiyan, shiyan shenghuohua geige] 生活化试验, 试验生活化改革

- Relation or human connection [guanxi] 关系
- School-based research-training [xiaoben yanxiu] 校本研修
- School developmental and supervisory appraisal [xuexiao fazhanxing dudao pingjia] 学校发展型督导评价
- Schoolwork standard exam [xueye shuiping kaoshi] 学业水平考试
- Scores are really the fairest [fenshu caishi zui gongzhengde] 分数才是最公正的
- School choice [zexiao] 择校
- School choice fever [zexiaore] 择校热 School's special characteristics [xuexiao tese] 学校特色
- Second phase curriculum reform [erji kegai] 二期课改
- Seek the truth, foster originality and live up to the name of teacher [qiushi chuangzao, weiren shibiao] 求实创造, 为人师表
- Shanghai story [Shanghai gushi] 上海故事
- Shanghai training project for famous principals [shanghaishi mingxiaozhang peixun gongcheng] 上海市名校长培训工程
- Special-grade teacher [teji jiaoshi] 特级教师
- Steer the rudder according to the wind's direction [suifeng zhuanduo] 随风转舵
- Student as the subject [yi xuesheng wei zhuti] 以学生为主体
- Student-oriented [xuesheng weiben] 学生为本
- Suifeng zhuanduo [steering the rudder based on the wind's direction] 随风转舵
- Taking what is long to make up for what is short [quchang buduan] 取长补短
- There are no students who cannot be taught well, only teachers who cannot teach well [meiyou jiaobuhao de xuesheng, zhiyou jiaobuhao de laoshi] 没有教不好的学生,只有教不好的老师
- Talking all the way [mantangguan] 满堂灌
- Tea house teaching [chaguanshi jiaoxue] 茶馆式教学
- Teacher to talk less and listen more, students to diligently discuss and ask questions [laoshi shaojiang duoting, xuesheng qinyi shanwen] 老师少讲多听, 学生勤议善问
- Teacher [jiaoshi or laoshi] 教师或教师
- Teachers' congress [jiaodaihui] 教代会
- Teaching quality test [jiaoxue zhiliang jiance] 教学质量检测
- Teaching-research groups [jiaoyanzu] 教研组
- The top has its measure, the bottom has its countermeasure [shangyou zhengce, xiayou duice] 上有政策, 下有对策
- The words of children are harmless [tongyan wuji] 童言无忌
- Thursday award [xinqisi jiang] 星期四奖
- To develop every student [weile meiyige xuesheng de fazhan] 为了每一个学生的发展
- To develop the lifelong learning of every child [weile meiyige haizi de zhongshen xuexi] 为了每一个孩子的终身学习
- To give a student a cup of water, a teacher should have a bucket of water [yaogei xuesheng yibieshui, jiaoshi ziji yinggai you yitongshui] 要给学生一杯水,教师自己应该有一桶水
- To haggle over every point [fenfen jijiao] 分分计较

- Trainee teacher [shixi jiaoshi] 实习教师
- Two-tier government, two-tier management [liangji zhengfu, liangji guanli] 两极政府, 两极管理
- Uniformity of schools [qianxiao yimian] 千校一面
- Value of (exam) scores [shuzhi] 数值
- Vocational qualification [zhuanke] 专科
- With labour comes reward [youlao youchou] 有劳有 酬
- Work regulation (draft) on research group for secondary teaching [guanyu zhongxue jiaoxue yanjiuzu gongzuo tiaoli (caoan)] 关于中学教学研究组工作条例(草案)
- Zone of proximate development [zuijin fazhanqu] 最近发展区

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