NEQMAP Webinar

How to ensure universal learning? Findings and experiences from Asia-Pacific

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Discussion

- 1. How are the low-performers identified? Is there a mechanism to detect early signs of low-performing students?
- 2. How are the resources allocated to schools to ensure equity across schools?
- 3. How are teachers supported to help low-performing students?
- "Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"



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"Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"



1. Introduction

Korea has acknowledged:

- The importance of identifying low-performing students at an early stage of learning through assessment, and
- The importance of providing proactive educational interventions to support them at various levels

• NAEA has been implemented:

- National Assessment of Educational Achievement
- For quality assurance and improvement of effectiveness of education, together with rigorous research



2. Dilemmas of nation-wide evaluation

- NAEA played a major mechanism role in detecting early signs of lowperforming students:
- It has been used to measure the students' learning outcomes and characteristics, to evaluate the effectiveness of the national curriculum, & to provide systematic support
- Some local-level assessments on students' learning are also conducted
- Some concerns & challenges:
- National-wide top-down assessment may cause stress to the students
- The assessment results open to public may create unwanted consequences: e. g. leading to evaluation of teachers' teaching, schools' accountability, teacher organizations' objections against to the practice of the assessment, etc.
- Changes of the specifications of the NAEA have been made often, according to social demands and the government's education policies, resulting in difficulties to identify, diagnose, remedy and support low achievers in a stable, consistent manner



NAEA (National Assessment for Educational Achievement) & LDA (Local Diagnostic Assessments for Curriculum Subjects) 2012

Age	School Level	Grade	Assessment	Targeted Subject	Developer/ Administrator
17	High School	3			
16		2	NAEA	Korean, Math, English	KICE
15		1			
14	Middle School	3	NAEA	Korean, Math, English	KICE
13		2	LDA (교과학습 진단평가)	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	Local Offices of Education
12		1	교과학습 진단평가	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	Local Offices of Education
11	Primary School	6	NAEA	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	KICE
10		5	LDA (교과학습 진단평가)	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	Local Offices of Education
9		4	LDA (교과학습 진단평가)	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	Local Offices of Education
8		3	LDA (교과학습 진단평가)	Korean, Social Science, Math, Science, English	Local Offices of Education
7		2			
6		1			

3. NAEA's provision of evidence-based results

- NAEA has provided ample & rich information
- Evidence-based research data of students' learning outcomes & academic achievement have contributed:
- to improving schools' effectiveness, students' learning and teachers teaching, and the relating policies and research



4. NAEA as a major mechanism for identifying and supporting lower achievers

- Purpose:
- to measure students' learning outcomes and identify the characteristics and trends of learning, and to evaluate the quality of education
- Specifications of NAEA:
- a representative, annual nation-wide evaluation
- a census assessment for the targeted groups
- 2009 ~ 2012: administered to all pupils of the target grades

 6th of primary, 3rd of middle & 2nd of high school students

 (3rd of middle schoolers = 15 years old, 2nd of high schoolers = 17 years old)
- 2013 and onwards: only 3rd of middle & 2nd of high school students, with no primary school students involved
- Subjects: Korean, Math and English
- Students' level: determined by their attainment of basic academic level suggested in the national curriculum
- Four categories: set out in accordance with the achievement standards of the national curriculum: *outstanding, average, basic, and below-basic levels*



5. Use of the NAEA results

- KICE provides individual schools with assessment results, for learning guidance
- Informed to the individual schools and to the public, including the percentages of by-subject achievement levels (average or higher, basic, below basic), school improvement, etc.
- Since 2014, no NAEA to primary school is put in place, LDA (Local Diagnostic Assessment for Curriculum Subjects) has played a major early detector role

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"Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"



$\sqrt{}$ The gap is acknowledged:

- There is the educational achievement gap among the students in the big cities/towns and small villages/rural areas
- It is important to reduce the gap and increase the equity of education across the schools, throughout the country



$\sqrt{}$ Proactive interventions are implemented:

- Provided to the schools located in small villages/rural areas with special, extra educational promotion and support
- Greater autonomy in student selection, recruitment allowed; additional budget support for building dormitories and improving old facilities, and placement of additional teachers are provided
- Free EBS (Educational Broadcasting System) learning materials (807,000 sets) for ESCS students who need extra social caring (public assistance recipients: 209,000 students) are provided
- Operations of after-school programmes in the rural areas with on-line contents and distance education methods accompanied with ICT devices
- Provide high-quality programmes available for all students in the country by supporting 1,000 new after-school programme instructors in rural areas, and in the areas with high concentration of students from lower-income and multi-cultural families (MOE, 2016)

→ "Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"

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1. How are the low-performers identified? Is there a mechanism to detect early significantly of low-performing students?

How were the resource and beaten to schools to ensure equity across schools?

3. How are teachers supported to help low-performing students?

"Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"

- Schools or teachers are not left alone, but shared the accountabilities and supported within the educational systems
- Two representative policies to support low-performing students, which explain how teachers are supported to help low-performing students



"Schools for Improvement" & "Do-Dream Schools"

1) Overview:

- Needs for coping with the results of evaluative studies \rightarrow a proactive strategic intervention
- Driven by a strong governmental initiative plan, <u>'Zero Plan for Below-basic-level Pupils'</u>
 (2008)
- Implemented since 2009 as major national strategy to ensure <u>'Basic Academic Achievement of All Pupils'</u>
- Schools with a high percentile of below-basic in the NAEA were designated as Schools for Improvement
 - primary schools: more than 5%
 - middle & high schools: more than 20%
- Either designated by MoE or self-applied
- Renewed as "Do-Dream" Schools

2) Aims, Strategies & Operations:

Aims

To minimize the number of below-basic pupils in academic achievement
- reducing the gap among the pupils
- ensuring every pupil to be equipped with the key
competencies of national curriculum

Strategies

diagnostic, management system

empowering professionalism

strengthening school accountability cooperation between schools and communities

Support for Schools for Improvement

Operations

Governance

wellbalanced
school
autonomyaccountability

Software

customized, tailor-made learning programmes

Humanware

recruiting, utilizing capable human resources

Networking

close relationships, cooperation with local communities

Hardware

facilitative learning environments

3) Cooperative implementation system:

Ministry of Education

Provision of holistic & comprehensive strategies, support systems for teachers, schools:

designs policy, sets fundamental principles, allocates expenditures, provides financial & administrative support ...

Local Communities & Charities

Offer institutional, professional facilities & resources ...

Municipal & Provincial Offices of Education

Support policy implementation:

Provide financial support, given more accountability & autonomy, provide administrative & human resources, offer teacher education programmes ...

Schools for Improvement

Research Institutes (KICE, KEDI...)

Conduct research, offer data-based implications, support with on/off line instructional programmes, & teachers professional development programmes, provide Learning Clinique, School Consulting...

4) Accountability of the Schools for Improvement:

- offer instruction in curricular subjects, apply <u>multi-dimensional systematic</u> <u>approaches</u> for underachieving pupils or those left behind as a result of any difficulties, including ADHD or depression
- develop diagnostic & remedial programmes, and learning monitoring & management programmes
- identify and analyse factors contributing to the under-achievement of pupils
- intensify customised learning, and apply cognitive, psychological and affective approaches according to the pupils' levels of achievement and types of difficulties
- strengthen teacher and parent education programmes
- receive cooperative and collaborative support from the ministry, municipal/provincial/local offices of education, research institutions, and other local communities and charities

1) Overview:

- Not a new idea or policy, but a continuing policy of Schools for Improvement
- A more integrated policy
- To systematically support low achievers
- Implemented together with "Learning Clinic"
- The dreams and talents of low achievers will be opened

2) Background:

- Since 2013, NAEA for primary school has been abolished
- In 2013, the percentage of low achievers has increased
- Various learning factors that have played a negative role such as <u>ADHD</u>,
 emotional & behavioural problems need to be concerned more professionally and systematically
- <u>Integrated</u>, comprehensive & student-centered approach
- Interconnected network among diverse policies, human recourse, communities, etc.

3) Targets Schools:

- Schools apply, municipal/provincial offices of education designate *De-Dream Schools* (primary schools: 70%, middle schools: 30%)

4) Supporting Contents:

- Identify, diagnose the factors causing learning difficulties and under achievement
- Provide with tailor/individualised support: parents consulting/education, students consulting, learning coaching, out-school remedial healing/care

Students(Under-Achievers): Yi, Gang, Jung, Choi, Oh & Jang (2014: 13)

Lack of care (challenged, broken, multicultural families, etc.



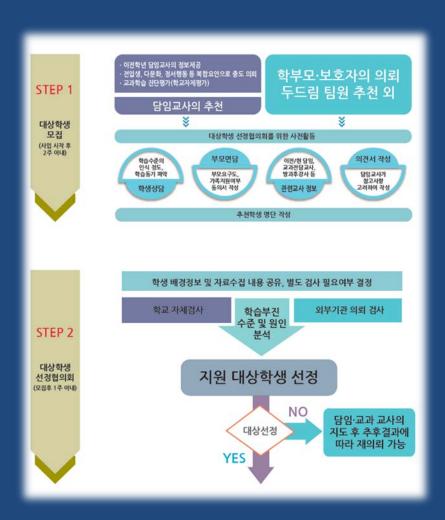
Learning Difficulties (fall behind, deficit, slow leaners, etc.)

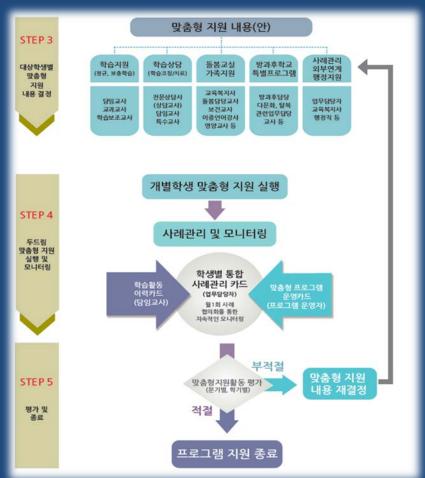
Emotional/Behavioral Problems (ADHD, depress, unstable, lack of attention, bulling, etc.)

Do-Dream Support Contents: Yi, Gang, Jung, Choi, Oh & Jang (2014: 18)



Operational process: Yi, Gang, Jung, Choi, Oh & Jang (2014: 40-41)





• Support for teachers:

- Teacher education programmes for professional empowerment
- Activation of in/out-school learning communities, workshops, seminars
- Allocation of professional instructors & consultants for Learning Clinic
- Provision of consultants groups to support Do-Dream Schools operation
- Utilisation of peripatetic instructors/counsellors
- Offer parents education programmes
- Intra-school collaborations
- Networking & cooperating with welfare, care centers/communities including hospitals, medical clinics, social workers, etc.
- Selection, award, dissemination events with good school cases
- Inclusive of on & off-line support

and more....





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Thank you!

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Korea Institute for Curriculum and Evaluation

