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Sustainable Development and Preparation for ASEAN through the Promotion of Holistic, Multicultural Education in Thailand

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Thai Education System

Thai children aged 9-13 years old

8-10 periods/day

1,200 hours/year (Not including private tutoring)

- Too much content
- Broad, general context
- Rote-learning, Memorization
- Few opportunities for problem-solving
- Few extra-curricular activities

Education Act of 1999 (Thai MOE)

- Promotes student-centered learning in curriculum
- Limited success
 - large class sizes and lack of teacher training



Regional and Global Challenges

Sustainable Development

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

(Brundtland Commission, 1987)

ASEAN Community

Goal: Sustainable living environment for the diverse peoples of ASEAN

- Political and Security
- Economic
- Socio-Cultural

"For the first time we are preparing students for a future we cannot clearly describe" ~ David Warlick

Holistic Principles for 21st Century Education:

- 1. Connectedness
 - Interdependence, Interrelationship, Participatory
- 2. Wholeness
 - Whole systems, multiple perspectives, multi-level
- 3. Being
 - Creative expression, Growth, Responsibility

Holistic education

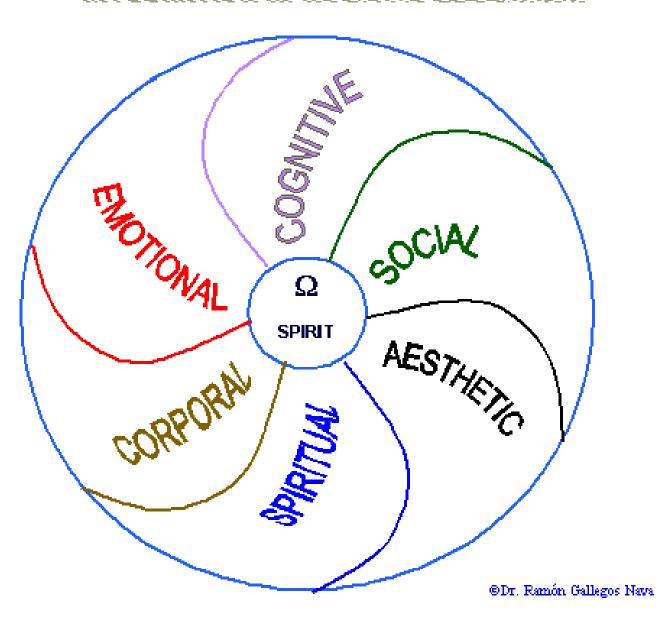
- a philosophy of education based on the premise that each person finds identity, meaning, and purpose in life through connections to the community, to the natural world, and to humanitarian values such as compassion and peace.
- a pedagogy of universal love to all beings.
- Approaches vary greatly; no single way that is appropriate for human development.

Holistic education

- It requires a renewed measure of respect and reverence for the inner life of the growing person.
- Learning is more experiential, emergent, organic, cooperative and personal than in standardized school settings.
- Tests, grades, ranking, honors and other trappings of competitive learning are greatly reduced or completely absent.

A Multidimensional Perspective

INTEGRATION IN HOLISTIC EDUCATION



"School Outside the Box" Model



- Lamplaimat Pattana School
- Founded in 2002
- Located in Buriram, Thailand
- No tuition charged
- Students chosen by lottery
- Kindergarten to Grade 9



School with no tests.

School with no bells.

School with no textbooks.

School with no ranking of students.

School Culture

"Education for complete human development"

- Respect and love every child
- Caring community of students, teachers, parents
- Teachers empowered in decision-making





Aspects of Development

Inner Wisdom

SQ Spiritual Quotient

EQ Emotional Quotient

Outer Wisdom

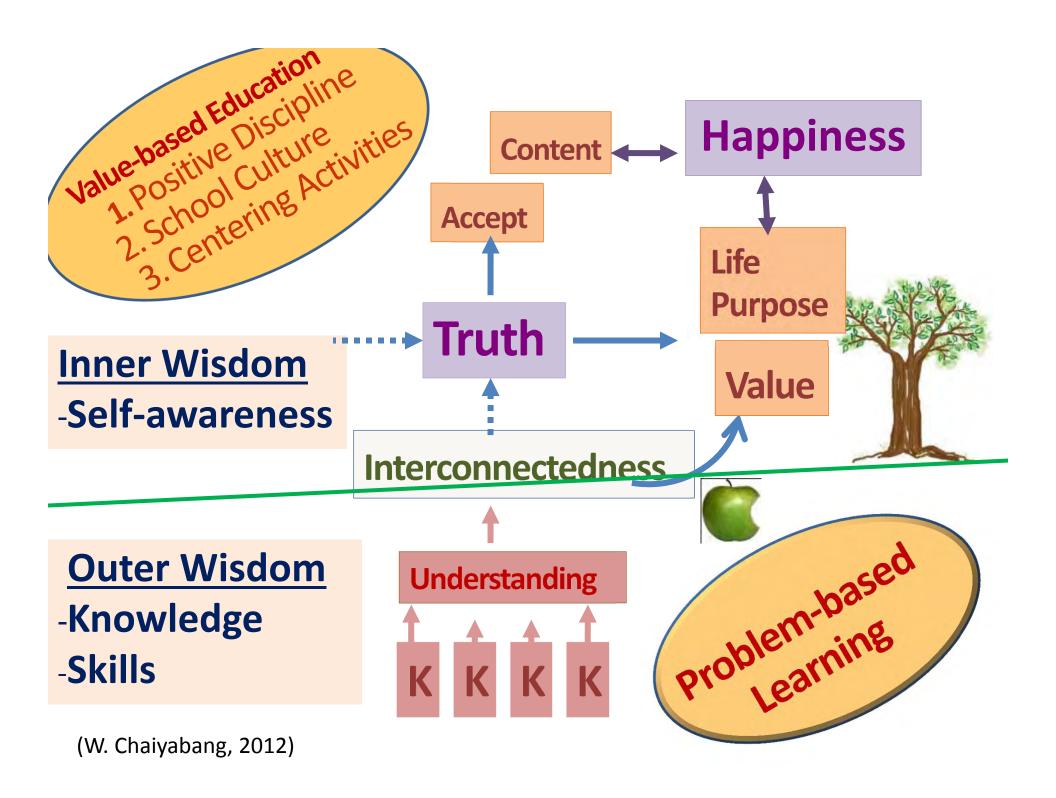
IQ Intellectual Quotient

PQ Physical Quotient



School Timetable

Time	Activity	' łæ °łı
7:30-8:00	Playtime in school yard	64
8:00-8:15	Flag Ceremony	(4
8:15-8:50	Centering Activities	
8:50-12:00	Academic Subjects:	,4
	Math, Thai, English	
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-15:00	Interdisciplinary Subject:	,4
	Problem-based Learning	34
15:00-15:30	Reflection	64
		(4
Afterschool	Teacher Planning Meetings	



Moral- or Value-based Activities Low-Brain Wave Activities, Self-Consciousness Concentration, Respect (wai), Empathy, Compassion









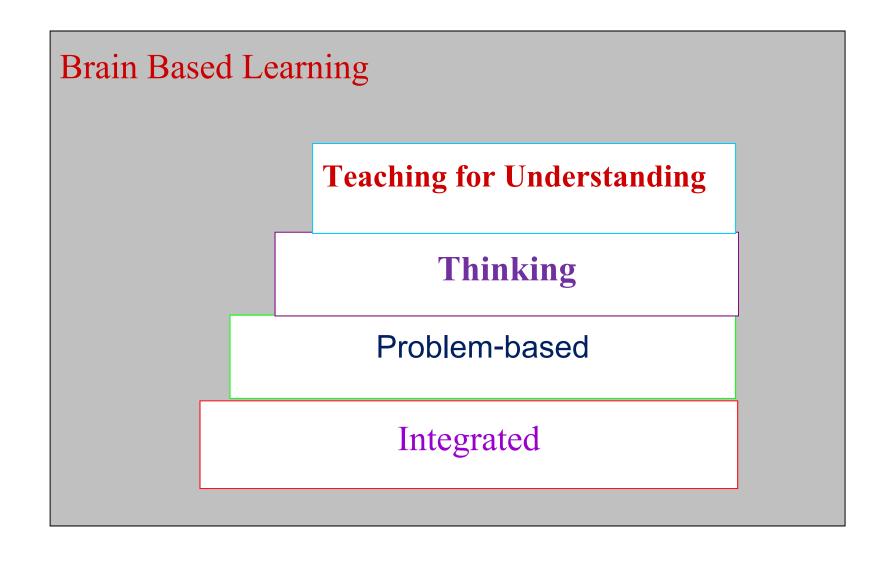




Connection to each other and nature



Framework for Interdisciplinary Learning













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Parent Involvement











A model to change Thai Education





- Training Center
 - Over 40,000 public school teachers and administrators from all regions of Thailand and with Lao PDR
 - 2-5 day workshops, Yearlong 3 phase training
- Promote Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
- Emphasis on development of school culture

School Performance

- "World Class School" (University of Tasmania)
- Cost-effective

School	Operational Cost (per student)
Lamplaimat Pattana School	37,000 baht / 12,300 USD
Local public school	43,000 baht/13,000 USD

- On national tests, students from Lamplaimat Pattana score above national average
 - Math, Thai, English, Science, Social Studies





Holistic Education for 21st Century

- Learning should be organized around relationships within and between learners and their environment while empowering learners to understand the past, live fully in the present and actively participate in creating a preferred future.
- Curriculum should be inquiry driven, interdisciplinary and integrated and based on explicit assumptions of interconnectedness, wholeness and multiple ways of being.

- Education should be a rich experiential journey of discovery, expression and mastery where students, teachers and the community learn and grow together.
- Students are challenged to find their own place in space and time and to reach the highest aspirations of the human spirit.



It isn't policy that changes practice; it's practice that changes practice.

~ Mr. Wichian Chaiyabang



