Chapter 6

Ecology of the School
Learning Objectives

- Define the school’s function as a socializing agent.
- Discuss the macrosystem influences on the school affecting its function—educational policy, school choice, diversity, and equity.
- Discuss the chronosystem influences on schools—societal change, technology, health, and safety.
- Discuss the mesosystem influences on schools—linkages between school and child, school and family, school and media, school and community.
The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life. Plato
The School as a Socializing Agent
School Purpose

- From society’s perspective
  - Transmit cultural heritage

- From the individual’s perspective
  - Acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to become self-sufficient and participate effectively in society
The School

- **Universal**
  - Open to all

- **Formal**
  - Methodological

- **Prescriptive**
  - Provides directions based on custom
Table 6.1 Goals for Schooling in the United States

A. Academic Goals
   1. Mastery of basic skills (reading, writing, arithmetic) and fundamental processes (communicating ideas, using information resources)
   2. Intellectual development (accumulate general knowledge; think rationally, independently, and critically; solve problems; be curious)

B. Vocational Goals
   3. Career/vocational education (select a suitable occupation based on interest and abilities, develop appropriate work attitudes and habits, become economically independent and productive)

C. Social, Civic, and Cultural Goals
   4. Interpersonal understanding (various values, relationships, cultures)
   5. Citizenship participation (understand history and representational government, make informed choices, contribute to the welfare of others and the environment)
   6. Enculturation (awareness of values, behavioral norms, traditions, achievements of one’s culture and other cultures)
   7. Moral and ethical character (evaluate choices, conduct, develop integrity)

D. Personal Goals
   8. Emotional and physical well-being (develop self-awareness, coping skills, time-management skills, healthy habits, physical fitness)
   9. Creativity and aesthetic expression (develop originality in problem solving, be tolerant of new ideas, appreciate various forms of creativity)
   10. Self-realization (evaluate abilities and limitations, set goals, accept responsibility for decisions made)

What goals were achieved in your schooling experience?
21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems

- Learning and Innovation Skills – 4Cs
  - Critical thinking
  - Communication
  - Collaboration
  - Creativity

- Life and Career Skills

- Core Subjects – 3Rs and 21st Century Themes

- Information, Media, and Technology Skills

- Standards and Assessments
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Professional Development
- Learning Environments

http://www.p21.org/overview
California Common Core

HTTP://WWW.CDE.CA.GOV/RE/CC/
Macrosystem Influences
Macrosystem

- Educational Policy
  - Separation of church and state

- School Choice

- Diversity and Equity
  - Title IX (gender equity)
  - Bilingual/Multicultural Education

- Disability
No Child Left Behind

- Designed to address achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their peers
- Parents can transfer to schools with track records of academic success and safety.
The Obama Administration Pledge: College Completion Challenge

- Increase student completion rates by 50 percent over the next decade
- President Barack Obama has set forth an ambitious agenda for U.S. postsecondary education
Improving Child Care Access to Promote Postsecondary Success Among Low-Income Parents

Goal: The community is committed to eliminating the achievement gap by 2020

- Early Learning
- Home and Community
- School and Classroom
- College/Career Success
Elementary Schools within City of San Jose
2005 to 2009 CST Mathematics (Source: CDE)
Percent Proficient and Advanced by Ethnicity

Percent Proficient and Above

- **Average**
- **Asian**
- **White/Non Hispanic**
- **African American**
- **Hispanic**

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

33%
School Choice

- **Magnet School**
  - A public school that offers special educational programs, such as science, music, or performing arts, and draws students from different neighborhoods by choice
School Choice

- **View:** Waiting for “Superman
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKTfaro96dg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKTfaro96dg)
  Waiting for Superman Official Trailer

- **Discussion:**
  1. What are today's concerns about our public education system?
  2. What are our options?

- **Charter School**
  - A school, which is authorized and funded by a public school district, formed by a group of parents, teachers, or other community members with a shared educational philosophy
Predicting Success

- Learning Ability
- Socioeconomic Status
- Language Proficiency
- Family Involvement
- Effective Teaching
Terms

- **Cultural Assimilation**
  - The process whereby a minority cultural group takes on the characteristics of the majority cultural group

- **Melting Pot**
  - The idea that society should socialize diverse groups to blend into a common culture
Terms

- **Cultural Pluralism**
  - Mutual appreciation and understanding of various cultures and coexistence in society of different languages, religious beliefs, and lifestyles
Terms

- **Bilingual & Multicultural Education**
  - Education in the student’s native language as well as English, respect for the student’s culture and ethnicity, and enhancement of the student’s self-concept
  - Raise to the Top Program (Obama Administration Initiative)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVQFrFQtIhs &feature=related

Bilingual education Act

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzEk6MHqDeY

The State of Bilingual Education 30 Years Later
Disability

- **Disability**
  - Reduction in functioning of a particular body part or organ, or its absence

- **Handicapism**
  - Assumptions and practices that promote the deferential and unequal treatment of people because they are different physically, mentally, or behaviorally
Disability

- **Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA)**
  - Addresses the education of individuals with disabilities

- **Inclusion**
  - The educational philosophy that all children are entitled to participate fully in their school and community

http://www.sccoe.org/programs/inclusion-collaborative/
IEP

- Individualized Education Program
  - A form of communication between school and family, developed by the group of people responsible for the education of a child with special needs
## Individualized Educational Plan Goals and Objectives

**Student:**

**ID Number:** 2073303

### Present Performance Related to Annual Goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Arts Standards</th>
<th>Oral English Language Conventions</th>
<th>8th Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 2</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### 1.1 Student will use simple, compound and complex sentences with effective coordination and subordination of ideas to express complete thoughts.

#### 2.0: Annual Goal  
By December 18, 2003 Ryan will demonstrate significant growth in his use of compound and complex sentences during a classroom role play of making an appointment. I.e. “If you have an appointment available this Friday, I would like to bring Baxter in for his rabies shot.”

- **Criteria and Documentation:**
  - 80% Criteria as measured by:
    - Formal Tests
    - Informal Tests
    - Work Samples
    - Charts
    - Records of Teacher Obs.
    - Others (specify)
  - Provider: D.I.S. 01 Speech/Language

#### 3.0: Annual Goal
By May 18, 2003 Ryan will use at least 20 conjunctions to express the relationships between two or more events.

- **Criteria and Documentation:**
  - 85% Criteria as measured by:
    - Formal Tests
    - Informal Tests
    - Work Samples
    - Charts
    - Records of Therapist’s Obs.
    - Others (specify)
  - Provider: D.I.S. 01 Speech/Language

#### Progress Report
- Progress toward annual goal is sufficient:
- Date(s) of Marking Periods:
  - 1st Qr 2nd Qr 3rd Qr 4th Qr
- Yes No
- Comments:

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*WADSWORTH CENGAGE Learning*
Chronosystem Influences
Chronosystem

- Adaptations to Social Change
- Technology
Health and Safety

- Educational systems have changed over time in response to issues such as substance use/abuse and violence.
Mesosystem Influences
Mesosystem

- School-Child Linkages
  - **Learning Style**
    - A consistent pattern of behavior and performance by which an individual approaches educational experiences
Mesosystem

- School-Family Linkages
  - Three types of family involvement
    - Decision-Making
    - Participation
    - Partnership
Mesosystem

- School-Peer Group Linkages
  - Children’s attitudes about learning influenced by the peer group

- School-Media Linkages

- School-Community Linkages
Class Size

- **Large class** (more than 25 students)
  - Less interaction with teacher
  - Less frequent interaction in discussion

- **Small class** (less than 20)
  - More opportunities for interaction;
    Increase in cooperative behavior