

BOOSTING THE TEACHING PROFESSION

by:

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Things that are simple to teach and test are now also simple to digitize and automate in our modern environment. Technology has always favored education, but there is no guarantee that this will continue to be the case. Growing up with a smartphone but inadequate education will expose students to previously unheard-of risks.

Teaching content knowledge and routine cognitive abilities was at the forefront of education at a period when we could still expect that the lessons, we learned in school would last a lifetime. Because Google knows everything, the world now pays us for what we can do with our knowledge rather than just what we know. Teaching our students what we know can be sufficient to remind them to follow in our footsteps. But the only way learners will be able to navigate an increasingly complicated, unstable, and unclear world is if we assist in creating a trustworthy guide. The difficulty lies in changing the way that knowledge is taught from transmission to collaborative thinking, from summative evaluation to formative monitoring, and from learning abstractions from textbooks to experimentation.

All of this is, of course, far easier than one might think, and the path to educational reform is paved with excellent concepts that were inadequately carried out. The laws, rules, institutions, and structures that are typically the focus of educational reform are like the tiny, outwardly visible tip of a massive glacier. Moving school systems is extremely difficult because of the considerably greater unseen portion beneath the waterline. The views, abilities, motives, and anxieties of those working in education are the subject of this invisible component.

Additionally, teachers who are involved in the review procedure will be more open to the approach. Developers of evaluation systems must therefore collaborate with professional associations for educators as well as exceptional educators from within the system. Teachers, like other professionals, ultimately have a sincere interest in preserving the reputation and standards of their field.

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