

**ALWAYS
LEARNING**

Becoming a Teacher Ninth Edition

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Chapter 3

Today's Schools

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Focus Questions

1. What is the role of schools in today's society?
2. How can schools be described?
3. What are schools like as social institutions?
4. What are the characteristics of successful schools?
5. What social problems affect schools and place students at risk?
6. How are school addressing societal problems?
7. How can community-based partnerships help students learn?

What Is the Role of Schools in Today's Society?

School's primary purpose

- to provide student's with academics and skills needed beyond school.
 - This is the most universally agreed upon goal of schools
- Secondary Education Act
- Prosocial Values
- Socialization of Young
- Social Change

How Can Schools Be Described?

Curricula

- college prep., vocational or general

Organizational Structure

- alternative, charter or magnet

Metaphors for Schools

- Schools as factories
- School-as-family

How Can Schools Be Described?

Focus on Diversity: Social Class

- Schools reproduce the existing society by the curriculum presented
- Anyon's 4 Types of School
 - Working Class School
 - Middle Class School
 - Affluent Professional School
 - Executive Elite School

What Are Schools Like as Social Institutions?

The School as a Reflection of Society

- Rural
- Urban
- Suburban
- **The Culture of the School**
 - network of beliefs, values and traditions and ways of thinking and behaving.

What Are Schools Like as Social Institutions?

Three Dimensions of Schools Affect School Culture

- Physical Environment
 - Formal Practices
 - Self Contained
 - Open Space
 - Departmentalization
- School Traditions
- Culture of the Classroom
 - Quality of student – teacher interaction influenced by:
setting and social dimensions

What Are the Characteristics of Successful Schools?

- Students achieve and complete graduation requirements.
- Results surpass those of comparable schools
- A history of improvement

Research on School Effectiveness

- Strong Leadership
- High Expectations
- Emphasis on Basic Skills
- Orderly Environment
- Frequent Evaluation
- Sense of Purpose
- Collegiality and Sense of Community

What Social Problems Affect Schools and Place Students At Risk?

Risk Factors:

- Poverty
- Family Stress
- Substance Abuse
- Violence and Crime
- Bullying
- Cyberbullying
- Teen Pregnancy
- Suicide

How Are Schools Addressing Societal Problems?

- Peer Counseling and Peer Mediation
- Full-Service Community School
- School-Based Case Management
- Compensatory Education
- Elementary & Secondary Education Act
 - Title I
- Alternative Schools and Curricula
 - Out of School Time Activities
 - Alternative Curricula
- Expanded Learning Time (ELT) Schools

How Can Community-Based Partnerships Help Students Learn?

Community Resources

- Civic Organizations
- Volunteer Mentor Programs
- Corporate-Education Partnership
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLCs)

Schools as Resources for Communities

- Beyond the School Day
- Social Services