



The Age of Learning, Wellbeing and Identity: In Search of Educating the Whole Person?

Professor Andy HARGREAVES

Thomas More Brennan Chair

Lynch School of Education, Boston College, USA

February 27, 2018 (Tuesday)

12:30 – 14:00

Room 408 – 410, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

Abstract:

Wellbeing first entered the global vocabulary with the World Health Organization in 1948. More and more countries have policies and strategies on wellbeing or socio-emotional learning. There are global ranking scales of national happiness and wellbeing that have moved from the fringes of popular culture to the center of educational policy. Well-being is the new frontline of educational improvement.

Learning is also changing. From being concerned with measured achievement and achievement gaps, there is more focus on deeper learning that is more creative, innovative and addresses the whole person.

Improvement of wellbeing receives strong advocacy from experts and researchers in positive psychology on the one hand and is also being criticized for promoting ways of being that urge calmness and compliance and that may express aspects of cultural bias against particular identities and ways of being in how we define happiness or wellness on the other. Wellbeing matters for children and for the adults who teach and lead them.

How are wellbeing, learning and identity connected? What are the relationships among them? This presentation draws on just-completed research in 10 Canadian school boards where wellbeing was one of four system priorities. It sets out the findings and explores possible implications for other systems.

About the Speaker:



Andy Hargreaves is the Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College and Distinguished Visiting Professor at The University of Hong Kong. He is President of the International Congress of School Effectiveness and Improvement, Founding Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Professional Capital and Community, and Adviser in Education to the Premier of Ontario and the First Minister of Scotland. His Outstanding Writing Awards include the 2015 Grawemeyer Award in Education for Professional Capital (with Michael Fullan), as well as awards from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the American Educational Research Association, the American Libraries Association and the International Leadership Association. He has been honored with the 2016 Horace Mann Award in the US and the Robert Owen Award in Scotland for services to public education. He has been ranked by *Education Week* in the top 10 scholars with most influence on US education policy debate. In 2015, Boston College gave him its Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

~ ALL ARE WELCOME ~

Please register at: https://hkuems1.hku.hk/hkuems/ec_reqform.aspx?quest=Y&ueid=54716

For enquiries, please contact the Office of Research at 3917 8254.