



A Brief History of Progressive Education with Dr. Jason Edwards

Lesson 6: The Administrative Progressives

Outline:

“In the past the man has been first, in the future the system must be first.”
Frederick Winslow Taylor, Principles of Scientific Management

“Our schools are, in a sense, factories, in which the raw products (children) are to be shaped and fashioned into products to meet the various demands of life. The specifications for manufacturing come from the demands of twentieth-century civilization, and it is the business of the school to build its pupils according to the specifications laid down.”

Ellwood Patterson Cubberley

Frederick Winslow Taylor (“Father of Scientific Management”)

- He developed organizational strategies for factories in order to maximize efficiency; his big idea was to model the school based on the corporate factory system and to make human beings subordinate to an impersonal system.
- Large schools
- Grade levels
- Mental testing
- Tracking
- Vocational learning, especially in inner cities
- Classroom specialization (professionals trained for specific tasks)
- Classroom “management”