



# Finding the Path of Cognitive Education for Remote High School Library in China



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**Kaili No. 1 High School Library**

# High School Libraries Around – General Status



Closed shelves @ Affiliated High School of Kaili University



Part-time librarian busy with shelving @ Zhenyuan High School



No book access in reading room @ Zhenhua High School



Borrowing by printed book list @ Wende High School

# Pathfinding – The Case of Wende High School



- History, school size, and staff:
  - Public high school founded in 2003
  - # of students ~1700
  - Teachers: mostly new college grads
- ➔ **Lowest in local high school ranking**

- Status of students: bottom students in high-school entrance exams, 80% from rural areas
- Academic performance: college admission rate 5%, junior college admission rate 40%



Studying hard for good grades



# Wende High School Library



- Established in 2003  
1 stack room, 1 reading room, each 80m<sup>2</sup>  
~20K volumes of books, ~50 newspapers & magazines
- Development guided by Evergreen since 2005



*Advanced ideas and intellectual inputs from external;  
Cultivate seed teachers*

## 2 developmental phases:

1. Circulation automation  
(completed August 2006)



Librarian in cataloguing



# Wende High School Library

## 2. Service development and capacity building

Annual EEF workshop or conference => Ideas and Methodology



Prof. Louise Robbins leading the discussion (2009 EEF workshop)

EEF small projects for service development (since 2009)



- Outcome-based project design and evaluation
- Cognitive abilities focused: analyze, evaluate, create
- Experiential learning



# Wende High School Library



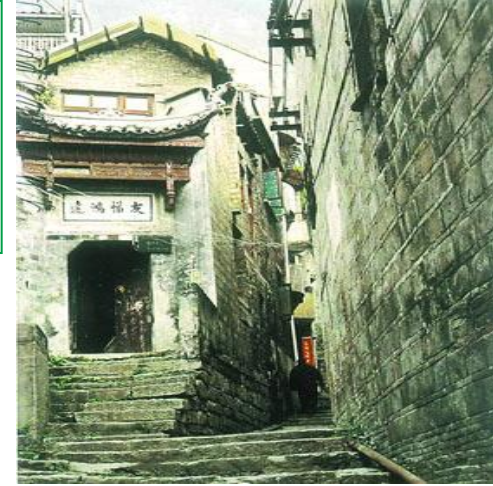
*Inquiry-based Learning*

*=>cognitive education*

*Teacher-librarian Collaboration*

*=>soil for long-term development*

## 1. Humanity project ex.- Zhenyuan Local History



Deviated doors and slanting alleys



Story told by old photos –  
Changes of a family and a town



*Heavenly No. 1* Iron made by  
The first modern iron works in China



# Wende High School Library

## 2. Science Project Ex. – Study of Peach flower Jellyfish



Observe the freshwater jellyfish



Collect samples from local river



Peach flower jellyfish in close-up



Study the jellyfish in lab



# Wende High School Library



*EEF and seed teachers failed to gain support from the top management*



*Failed to advance library team building and environment building*



1 librarian + a few volunteers



Closed shelves



# Pathfinding – The Case of Kaili No. 1 High School

- History, school size, and staff :
  - Founded in 1941
  - Provincial model high school
  - # of students ~5400
  - 15 prefecture-level teaching experts (65%)
- Students: top students in high-school entrance exams
- Academic performance: college admission rate >85%
- Facility: new campus funded by city government put into use in 2011



# Kaili No. 1 High School Library



- New library opening in 2011
  - 2 book stack rooms  $\sim 800\text{m}^2$
  - 3 reading rooms  $\sim 1000\text{m}^2$
  - E-reading room  $\sim 400\text{m}^2$

- Collection
  - 120K+ volumes of books
  - 150K+ volumes of e-books
  - 200+ newspapers and magazines
- Partnered with EEF in 2011



# Kaili No. 1 High School Library



*Pioneers connect the library with the external force for new ideas and knowledge*



*Seeking support from the top school management from early on*



First small project (2011-2012)–  
Study of Local Ancestral Temple Culture



Librarian from Taipei Sun Yat-sen High School for Girls  
introducing collaborative learning classroom  
(2012 EEF Taiwan library tour)

# Kaili No. 1 High School Library



*Advance team building, environment building and service development;  
Strengthen the support from the school management by performance*

## 1. Team Building

- Librarians: service spirits, career incentives, use one's strength (2=>5)
- Student volunteers: service spirit, working skills (a few => 120+)
- A blog, and a social network group to connect librarians, teachers and students



Librarian learning in Kaili University Library



Training student volunteers

# Kaili No. 1 High School Library

## 2. Environment Building

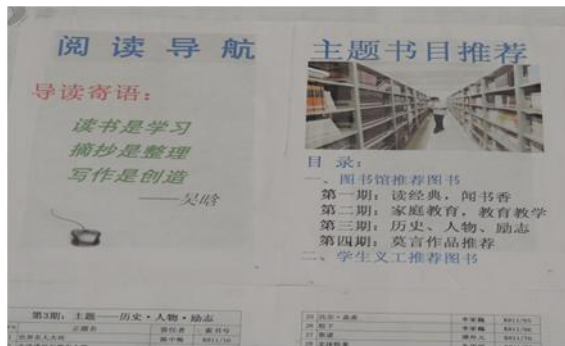




# Kaili No. 1 High School Library

## 3. Service Development

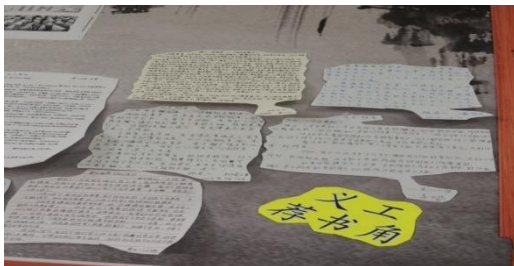
- Email and text message services for circulation and new book notices
- Collection building: ¥ 100k per year since 2013, selected by teachers and students
- Recommended reading and reading promotion



Recommended reading



Geography teacher recommending books in class



Recommended reading by volunteers



Student reading club

# Kaili No. 1 High School Library



*Inquiry-based Learning*

*=>cognitive education*

*Teacher-librarian Collaboration*

*=>soil for long-term development*



Plant identification and  
description plaque making



Students interviewing  
contemporaries in the tin  
embroidery village



Student interviewing storyteller of  
the Dong ethnicity

# Other Success Factors



## Leveraging policies and NGOs

1. Leveraging NGO: partnership with EEF for strategic guidance, attending trainings provided by various library NGOs



Exchange with world-wide professionals and researchers (EEF 2012 Conference)



Kaili No.1 High School attending The 1<sup>st</sup> Rural Library Development & Reading Promotion Workshop by Xingping Foundation



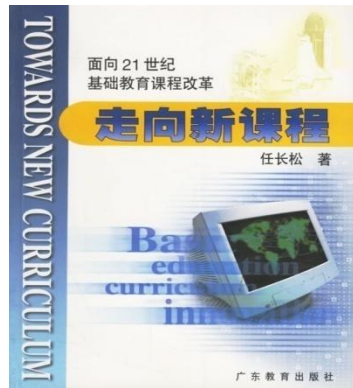
Group presentation of Kaili No. 1 High School teachers in Reading Training by Smiling Library





# Other Success Factors

## 2. Leveraging Policies



- New Curriculum Reform – 3D objectives (started 2010 in Guizhou)

- China Adolescent Science and Technology Innovation Contest (CASTIC, since 2000)



- National/provincial school library policies
- Better rating of school --- specialty in teaching



Wende High School project winning the CASTIC

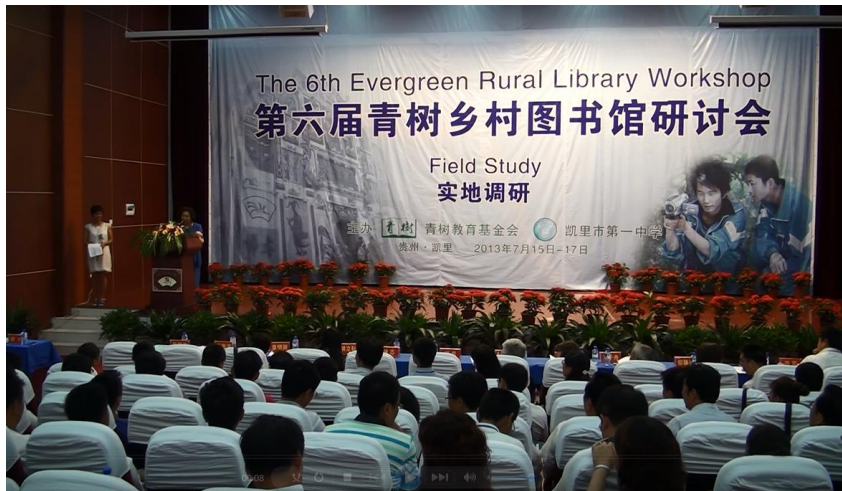


# Other Success Factors



*Trial and error - The key is start action*

Learn lessons from failures



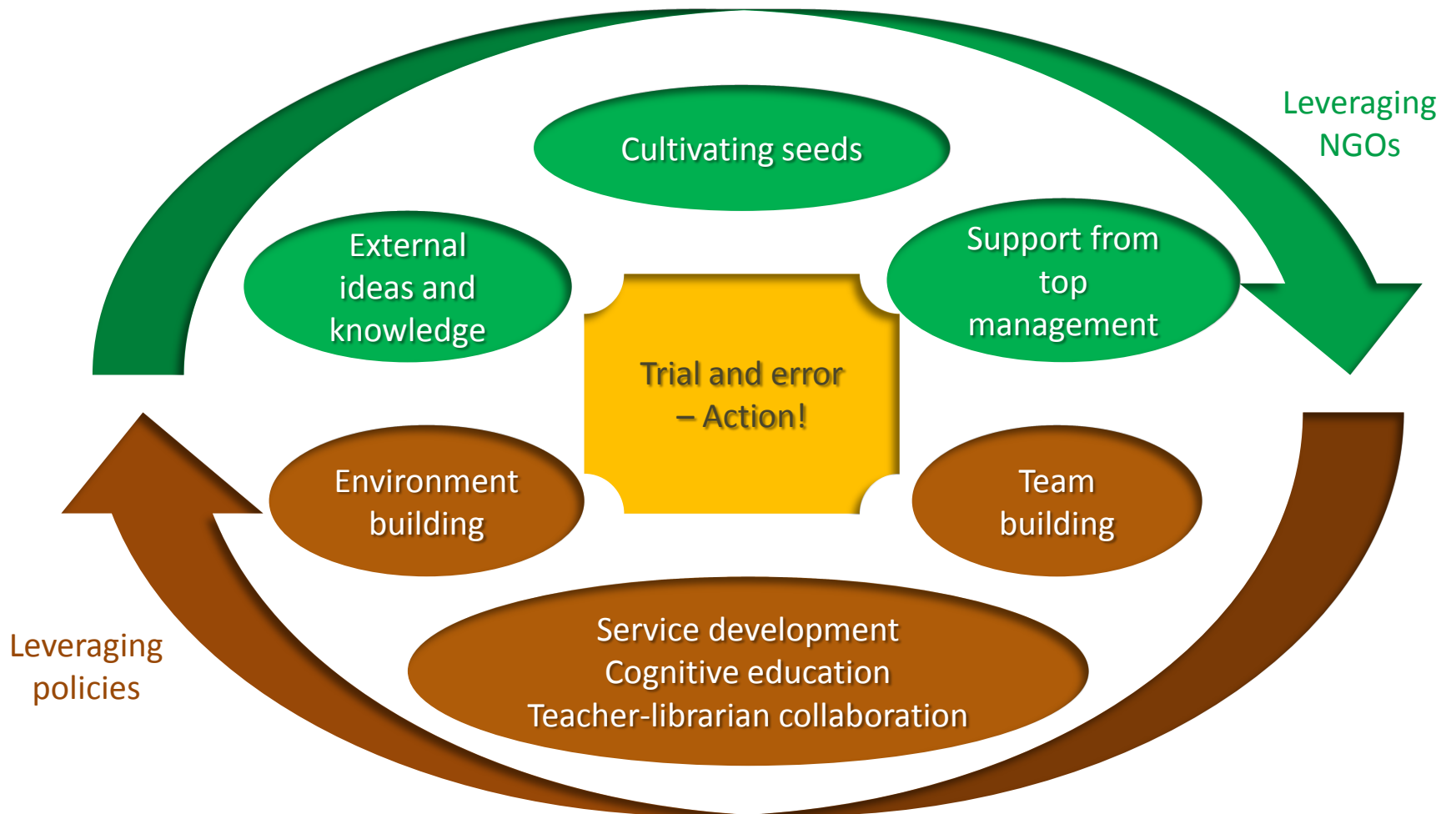
Strategic lessons learned – gain support from top management (2013 workshop hosted by EEF and Kaili No. 1 High School)



Meeting of students, teachers and librarians



# Summary





# Thanks and Questions



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