Mann's Six-Point Plan



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In order to create a new school system, Horace Mann had to develop a plan. He knew how important it was to communicate his ideas to others, so he started a biweekly publication called the *Common School Journal*.

Using this journal to communicate his ideas—such as the concept that the more-educated people are, the more likely such individuals will benefit society, the economy and themselves—Mann had a vehicle with which to share his objectives. Beyond advocating for better teacher-training and pay, he pointed-out the need for state governments to control the curriculum and to authorize teacher licensing.

Today, almost every American student still benefits from Mann's ideas and concepts. His insights have helped people to communicate better and to develop an appreciation for the connection a good education has to a better future.

Mann also developed six main principles of education. They are:

- (1) Citizens cannot maintain both ignorance and freedom;
- (2) This education should be paid for, controlled, and maintained by the public;
- (3) This education should be provided in schools that embrace children from varying backgrounds;
- (4) This education must be nonsectarian;
- (5) This education must be taught using tenets of a free society; and
- (6) This education must be provided by well-trained, professional teachers.

These six points remain part of the overall goals of America's effort to publicly educate the country's children.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Mann-s-Six-Point-Plan-Horace-Mann-Father-of-Public-Education0

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