Study on Disaster Education at High School

Role of Education of the Environment and Disaster Mitigation Course at the Maiko High School

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1. INTRODUCTION

Hyogo prefectural Maiko High School has established the Environment and Disaster Mitigation course (hereinafter referred to as the EDM course) in order to teach high school students disaster management since 2002. The classes and activities which the EDM course is carrying out are investigated in this thesis. The thesis consists of an introduction of the classes in the EDM course and the comparison of the students' awareness toward earthquakes disaster with other schools', using the questionnaire survey. The purposes of this thesis are 1) To understand the features of the disaster education of the EDM course. 2) To grasp the differences of awareness using a questionnaire survey.

2. DISASTER EDUCATION

(1) The method of analysis of education

Analysis to grasp the features of the students' education from these three aspects: 1) The aspect of disaster management (mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery/reconstruction, and understanding of the environment), 2) The aspect of content (adopted contents of education), 3) The aspect of activity (the students' activities in classes).

(2) The features of classes of the EDM course

The EDM course makes much of mitigation and preparedness on the aspect of disaster management. On the aspect of contents there are many contents about The Great Hanshin–Awaji Earthquake. In addition to other earthquakes, floods, and meteorological disasters. There are two major aspects of student class activities: The first aspect pertain to the lectures which are given by teachers and guest lecturers; these are to listen to the lectures and to do the papers. The activity of these classes is <Listening – Understanding – Drawing conclusion>. The second aspect covers the classes focused on working. Teachers give students a theme, then each student or group of

students do the work accordingly. The activity of this class is <Listening – Understanding – Establishing the subject – Investigating – Drawing conclusion – Presenting/Evaluating>. Evaluating leads students to find next subject and the cycle of the activity of <Establishing the subject – Investigating – Drawing conclusion – Presenting/Evaluating – Establishing next subject>is constructed.

(3) The features of classes of other schools

The schools investigated consists of three schools in Shizuoka, two in Aichi, two in Osaka, three in Hyogo (including the General course of Maiko High School), and two in Wakayama. The disaster education at each school is focused on evacuation training and emergency drill, and they stress of response. There is no particularly reference for the aspect of content, and on the aspect of activity most of them are just listening to an instructions or reviews after training - this is the activity of <Listening - Understanding >.

4. RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY

The five stages awareness models <Perception – Searching (intention) – Searching (action) – Implementation (intention) – Implementation (action)>, were constructed and the questionnaire survey was carried out. The students of the EDM course have a high level of awareness, showing a different tendency from those of other schools. The EDM course tends to have both intention and action.

5. CONCLUSION

Looking into result of the analysis of education and the questionnaire survey, some roles of the EDM course are acquired. The roles of the EDM course are 1) to raise students' awareness, 2) to make sustainable disaster management, 3) to expand students' interest and disseminate to students' family.