Velez, Lee Anne MiT Elementary Education Prompt C

The concept of educating and learning is positive when educating and learning are for good intentions. We learn to read, write, speak, do mathematics and apply all of these tools to survive in our world. We learn to utilize these academic and workforce skills in occupations that make us better citizens of our world- to be mechanics. scientists, professors, politicians, newscasters, etcetera. We learn social studies, the arts, and participate in sports and clubs. We offer these things to be well rounded students that make up the social and emotional part of academia. But we need to value that as we also need the varying workers and professionals to be good citizens that make our world productive, which is why education is a social good. However, you can't have the good without the "bad" or unjust because what can define good without the bad or unjust? Structurally unjust refers to the systems in place. First off, America does offer free, public education, while some countries do not. But what makes up that education and how is public education funded? How are students made accessible to school and resources? Why are some states' schools modernized and have access to technology while others are not? Why do many schools have free/reduced lunch and others are not? Why are teachers underpaid and leaving the workforce at a high rate? This is the unjust side of the education structure and needs to be addressed.

The contradiction between the two rely heavily on funding. We encourage education as a key to an optimistic outlook to the future. But are there resources to fund the needs it takes to supply a good education system? Are the teachers getting paid for their work, along with the equipment and tools needed? Yes there are physical structures, but are their cognitive and systematic, stable structures in place? Most of the time, I feel like more and more educators are "flying by the seat of their pants" because of all the unknowns. Teachers become robots to provide curriculum and teach to achieve high state, standardized test scores, however we need to address more of the social and emotional learning and overall wellness of our students so not only are they healthy in mind, body and spirit, but also have the initiative to question issues and be free from judgment or even harm. We can also address communities and their part in helping the youth by being mentors and/or volunteers. That way, the youth can respect the professionals and leaders and become stronger leaders and professionals of the future.