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Paradox

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Keywords

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Paradox¹

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Should education . . .

develop people or economies?
be standardized or individualized?
enhance individual potential or societal needs?
attend to the ends or the means?

Schooling's missteps leverage...

economies over students.
standardization over individuation.
easily measurements over rich curricula, responsive pedagogy.
impositions on society over individual potential.

As if...

standards are equality,
pass rates teaching and test scores learning,
global ranking quality.

It's easy to...

Choose one and ignoring another,
Seeking middle ground, an average, the median, or compromise,
Pushing both sides continuously in opposition to each other,
Destroying a part to make the other seemingly
The only option.

But if we could hold the questions...
in all their complexity and contradictions...

long enough to breathe,
supportive enough to walk,
persistent enough to notice
how each benefits
and when it harm

¹ This poem, *Paradox*, is in communication with the article, *Paradox, protest, and wise communities: Responses to the common core state standards* (Huckaby, 2014).

References

Huckaby, M. F. (2014). Paradox, protest, and wise communities: Responses to the common core state standards. *Journal of Curriculum and Pedagogy* 11(1), 25-29.