21ST CENTURY TEACHERS: LEADING THE WAY, THE LIFE AND THE FUTURE

by:
Florinda L. Bantog
Master Teacher I, Lamao Elementary School

As soon as we heard the word "teacher," we imagined right away the long and the unending characteristics of a "traditional maestra or maestro" we once had. But in this time and age, teachers have been characterized by a more distinct quality that leaves a mark to every learner he touches. It is the quality of a teacher in leading the way for a preferable life and for an upright future for every learner.

One of the most important challenges for teachers is that their starring role within the school management has also upgraded. The school needs them as individuals, who can make decisions and deal with the pressure of the changing world of schools. At the same time teachers need to be able to work in teams, co-operate with colleagues, stakeholders and parents. They have to propose different projects for establishing the school programs, they have to be PR experts and need to do all these things for professional growth and development.

Leading the way. As one enters the classroom, he becomes the person who completes the life of a teacher. Day by day, teachers help, guide, support, give and teach every learner in his best possible ways to impart all the necessary knowledge and experiences to his learners. Bestowing and enrooting the right way on becoming a good and useful citizen in the next phase of their lives.

Leading the life. As the teacher leads the way of his children, one becomes the holder of his own path. However, teachers, still have a bigger impact and contribution on how a certain student chooses his own life. They can be the footprints children always wanted to follow. They can also be the leader children wanted to be. The caring hand and
the soft heart children wanted to feel. Or the giver, listener and encourager one always
dreamt of. Thus, these give the learners the life they wanted.

Leading the future. As the teacher helps shape the future of children, he gives
encouragement on them to continue and pursue their dreams. He gives words of wisdom
on how to become the captain of their own ship. On how to be a person with morally
straight character. And how to be the person they wanted to be and to become.

Along with the new circumstances, new expectations are headed for our schools.
Nowadays schools got to teach their learners the way to gain information and the way to
pick and use them appropriately. This happens so quickly that pupils find out how to use
the web along with their teachers. Parents, as well, are involved in decision-making in
order that they participate within the lifetime of the long-learning process. Parents should
have a view of what is happening in the educational institution. Another difference
between the past and present tasks of teachers is represented by the technical background
they have to be prepared to use and handle effectively (computer, photocopier, power
point, projectors, etc). Instead of teaching chalk face, they have to be fully informed on
how to become a technology expert, a technician or / and a photocopy master.

Today, teachers are not just vessels of wisdom and knowledge, but they are now
the 21st teachers, who are leading the way, the life and the future of children who mold
and touch the lives of today’s hope, the youth.

References:

https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/what-is-the-role-of-teachers-in-preparing-
future-generations/?__hstc=43953530.828cc916128c7c4ad374fb1ce0525b4f.1613220565461.16132
20565461.1613220565461.1&__hssc=43953530.1.1613220565464&__hsfp=4001775144

https://www.gettingsmart.com/2017/04/empowering-students-21st-century-skills/

https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1322&context=education_etd