A CALL FOR RESILIENT LEADERSHIP IN VUCA WORLD

by:

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In this time when we are experiencing drastic and unpredictable changes in every aspect of our educational system, the call for resilient school leadership is indeed significant to ensure that the delivery of educational services will not be hampered. These sudden changes are the manifestation that we are living in a VUCA world, that we are in a world where there is Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity. This concept of VUCA is seen as negative, but it can also be answered or transformed in a positive way pertaining to Vision, Understanding, Clarity, and Agility.

As an educational leader, we are experiencing a world that is very volatile, that each day unexpected situation happens. Change is constant and therefore, visionary leadership is necessary. Being visionary is a good characteristic where a leader is able to have a clear idea of what step will be taken if unpredictable change happens in the future. In addition to this, proper planning will enable us as a leader to have a clear vision by means of identifying possible threats and risks to formulate planned interventions.

Leaders are also facing an uncertain world where we are not certain of what will happen next. This only means that this time is more challenging since we are not able to rely on past situations. However, to counter-attack uncertainty, we need to spend time properly understanding the world and looking for information to form an understanding. The COVID 19 pandemic brought uncertainty and we do not know what will happen next in terms of the delivery of education, but due to a deeper understanding of the problem, we are able to create solutions to ensure the continuity of education.
Moreover, these unpredictable changes tend to lead us to a more complex world because of the interconnectedness of the causes and effects that affect us. With this, there is a need for clarity and to define as simply as possible the solutions that we need to implement. Due to the pandemic, the processes in our educational system became more complex and new modalities of learning were implemented to adapt to the said changes. The clarity in instructions and directions enables our teachers to implement the new normal education.

Due to Volatility, Uncertainty, and Complexity, Ambiguity arises because of the multiple interpretations of everything that happens to us. With this, it creates confusion and, therefore, we cannot easily interpret situations due to some misleading information. Ambiguity can be countered by agility. Agility is about learning to be more adaptive.

We are truly in a world where there are unpredictable changes beyond our control. Understanding the concept of VUCA is important for us to be prepared for the changing landscape of leadership. It also intends to call for new management strategies which are responsive to potential VUCA situations.

References:
