MASTER TEACHERS AS CONDUITS OF CHANGE IN THE EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

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Teaching as a profession is not simple as it seems. Other people look down at this profession because they think that being a teacher is easy but little did they know that after a teacher graduated and passed the Licensure Examination for Teachers, that was only the time that his or her journey is just about to start. Even they already graduated with bachelor's degree, they also have to study again in able to attain their master's degree which can gear them with different capabilities, upgrade the knowledge that they have and be more than just a teacher teaching inside the classroom.

Natalie Masters (2013), a teacher, educational consultant, and curriculum designer said that a master teacher is one who has mastered the basics of teaching, one who goes above and beyond to ensure a positive learning experience for each student, and one who shares his or her knowledge with the broader learning community. Being a master teacher opens a lot of opportunity not only to improve one’s self but also to extend help and be a part of change in the educational community.

One of the assets of master teachers is being instructional leaders. Aside from being committed in teaching students inside the classroom, they also carry out instructions to their fellow teachers. They are the ones who serve as leaders in their schools by mentoring new teachers in able for them to be guided in the different situations that they may encounter in the field of teaching. Master teachers are also the ones who develop new faculty members and support them in their teaching endeavours.
Besides the roles of master teachers that have been mentioned above, they also take part in conducting different workshops and seminars to nurture more teachers in which they can share the knowledge and skills that they gained. They can also take part in refining the curriculum in able to give students the knowledge, skills and capabilities that they deserve in able to have a holistic development. These mean that indeed, a master teacher can extend his or her capabilities not only inside the classroom but also in the educational community as well.

Deborah Renee Moore in her study entitled "Master Teachers as Instructional Leaders: An Instrumental Case Study" (2015) asserted that master teachers must not only support the teachers but also the administrators and the mentor teachers, as well as assisting the principal in creating agendas. She also stated that ensuring that the staff members feel supported while upgrading their knowledge with the best teaching practices must also be their concern.

The more the master teachers enhance their knowledge and gear themselves with different capabilities for the betterment of the learning community, the greater their responsibilities become. They dedicate a large amount of time and exert extra efforts for them to acquire new knowledge and skills in which they will share among their fellow teachers. They are also becoming catalysts of change who bring innovative teaching strategies that their fellow teachers can use in cultivating young minds.

Master teachers must keep in mind that they are not getting the degree for self-entitlement and for salary raise. They must bear in mind the responsibilities that they should perform and accomplish not for the self-betterment but for the educational community where they belong to. The true master teachers would not keep their wealth of knowledge to themselves but rather share it to the people who are also in the same field because their common goal must be the welfare of the youth who will soon to build a better nation.
References:

http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/doctoral/1035/