MASTER TEACHERS TAKING THE RISKS OF PARADIGM SHIFTING

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As what almost everyone is always saying, teaching is a very challenging profession because teachers encounter diverse learners which obliges them to critically think of what appropriate activities and teaching styles they should employ to their students. They say that the life inside the classroom is like a jungle and only the ones who survive and stay are those who are very passionate in this profession. Everyday, they encounter challenging situations and those become part of their daily lives as teacher.

However, there are some of them who still want to challenge themselves and are planning to have a paradigm shift from being a teacher who teaches inside the classroom to being a master teacher whose job is to educate not just the students but his/her co-teachers as well. Master teachers also perform the duty of becoming a school leader which involves them in decision-making, policy-making, evaluating the performance of faculty members and other administrative duties.

According to a blog by Concordia University – Portland (2012), master teachers go beyond what their job descriptions require. While other teachers may work in a single group of students and do only what they must, a master teacher works toward the improvement of the entire school. The master teacher may influence students through extracurricular activities or he/she may share teaching strategies with his/her colleagues.

Aside from building strong relationship between their students, master teachers should also create harmonious relationship with their co-workers because their duties
are not only limited inside the classroom. They can also be obliged to evaluate other teachers’ performance and may give suggestions on how they can improve their teaching strategies and proposing some school activities that will add to the learning of the students in the things that are not taught inside the classroom.

In addition, they are expected to be flexible and adaptive to whatever changes may come so that they will always be prepared and wise in making appropriate decisions in dealing with the challenges that their school may encounter. Master teachers’ roles can be quite different from a teacher teaching inside the classroom because they have a wider range of responsibilities that they need to fulfill. Being regarded as one is not actually a promotion or a glory but rather a tougher job to deal with and those who are willing to challenge themselves even more are the ones who are taking the risks of becoming a master teacher.

Those teachers who are planning to become master teachers should know what awaits them because once they are already there, there is no backing out. Paradigm shift requires a crucial decision-making because they must be willing to accept all the hardships that are awaiting you. Teachers must keep in mind that they aim to become master teachers not for the salary increase but for the service they could give to the students and to the school as a whole.

Hence, those teachers who are aiming to be master teachers must be strictly filtered in order to assure that those who will be given this title will be able to perform their duties. They must be resilient, competent, wise and devoted to their work and the topmost priority is the betterment of school community for the learners and not the compensation and benefits that they will be receiving once they already achieved of being master teachers. After all, the performance of the students will reflect what the teachers and school are actually giving them.
References:

https://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/leaders-link/what-to-consider-before-becoming-a-master-teacher/